

**ST CATHERINE'S MUN**



**SCMUN**  
**Handbook**

## **Debate Modes**

There are two debate modes in SCMUN. Open Debate is when the Quorum is Debating on a Resolution as a whole, while closed Debate is when the Quorum is in time in favour or time against Amendments.

## **Points**

### Point of Personal Privilege

- Refers to a person's well-being and comfort
- May only interrupt a speaker if it refers to audibility (no contextual reference)
- Is not debatable
- Does not require a second

### Point of Parliamentary Inquiry

- Point of Information to the Chair referring to the procedure
- Cannot interrupt a speaker

### Point of Information to the Speaker

- A question directed to the Delegate, who has the floor
- Needs to be recognised by the Chair to speak
- Should only be ONE question to the speaker
- Needs to remain standing while the speaker is answering your question

### Point of Information to the Chair

- A question to the Chair, which does not fall under the categories of Point of Order and Point of Parliamentary Inquiry
- Cannot interrupt a speaker

### Point of Order

- Refers to procedural matters
- Can NOT interrupt the speaker
- Is not debatable

### Right of Reply

- A short statement after a Delegates speech whose integrity has been put into question
- Can NOT interrupt the speaker

## **Motions**

### Motion to Move to the Previous Question

- Requires a “second”
- Can be overruled by an objection
- The Chairs can overrule it
- Refers to moving into voting procedures
- If this motion is raised during time in favour during amendments, the house moves to time against

### Motion to Divide the House

- If there is an overwhelming number of abstentions, delegates can raise this motion to re-vote without abstentions
- Does not require a second

### Motion to Extend Debate Time

- Needs a second
- Can be overruled by the Chairs

### Motion to Reconsider a Resolution

- Can be introduced at the end of debate when no other resolutions are ready to be debated upon
- Re-debate and re-vote of a resolution that has been previously debated upon
- Is not debatable
- Needs a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority

### Motion to Follow Up

- When a delegate’s question to the speaker has not been answered or they would like to ask for further clarification on the point that has just been made
- Cannot interrupt a speaker
- Only the delegate that has just raised a Point of Information to the Speaker is able to move the motion
- The motion is up to the Chair’s discretion

## **Amendments**

### Amendment of the First Degree

- Amendments are debated in closed debate mode
- The Chair must set Debate time and recognise speakers in favour and against
- Chairs prioritise constructive amendments
- If an amendment passes, the necessary changes need to be done by both the Chairs and delegates

### Amendment of the Second Degree

- An amendment of the second degree can only be introduced during time against the initial amendment
- It should change something to the amendment of the first degree
- It follows the same procedure as the Amendment of the first degree
- If the Amendment of the second-degree passes, the initial amendment also passes
- If the amendment fails, the debate in the initial amendment is continued

## **Voting**

- Only Member States of the UN can vote
- Both Resolutions and Amendments can be voted in favour, against or be by abstained
- Procedural matters can't be abstained
- Guests are not allowed to be present while voting
- Resolutions and amendments need a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority to pass, meaning if the number of votes in favour and votes against are the same the resolution or amendment fails
- Clapping is only in order if a Resolution passes

## **The Question of Funding**

In SCMUN funding is not an issue. One can assume the UN has an unlimited amount of money. Funding can be included in Resolutions; however, it should not state amounts of money.

## **Note passing**

- Notes should always be written in English
- The content of the Notes should be always regarding debate
- Bullying is prohibited; If the Chairs notice bullying they will let the delegates advisors know
- Note passing can be suspended by the Chairs

## **Policy Statements**

Policy statements are written documents outlining a delegations' country's stance on a specific issue being discussed within the committee. They provide a clear and concise representation of a delegation's position and often serve as a basis for negotiating and drafting resolutions. Policy statements serve as an important tool for delegations to communicate their interests and to negotiate solutions to international problems. Upon the chair's discretion, they will be read out at the start of committee work or can alternatively be used throughout debate as a basis for speeches.

## **Code of Conduct**

- The usage of phones is not allowed
- Smoking and drinking are prohibited
- “Less economically developed countries” and “More economically developed countries” are the correct phrasings
- Eating and drinking during debate is not allowed; Water is an exception

## **Dress code**

Formal dress, i.e., the kind of clothes that real UN diplomats might be expected to wear when attending UN sessions, is required at all meetings. In order not to cause offence to other delegates, national dress, military uniforms, and armbands are forbidden. Participants should not wear distracting clothing, jewellery, or accessories, inappropriate or that may call attention to themselves either individually or as a group.

Inappropriate dress includes, but is not limited to:

- Team accessories such as scarves, hats;
- Sport shoes and denim clothes;
- National costume or military attire;
- Short skirts, low necklines, and stiletto heels
- Men should be dressed in a formal suit, shirt, tie, or similar alternative i.e. Blazer or jacket with formal trousers.

Women should be dressed equally formally in suits, smart separates (whether trousers or skirts) or dresses.

## Resolution Writing

### Preambulatory Clauses

Acknowledging	Noting with approval	Noting with deep concern
Acting	Expressing concern also	Noting with regret
Affirming	Expressing concern	Noting with satisfaction
Alarmed by	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Alarmed	Expressing its satisfaction	Reaffirming
Anxious	Expressing satisfaction	Reaffirming also
Appreciating	Firmly convinced	Realizing
Approving	Fulfilling	Recalling
Aware of	Fully alarmed	Recalling also
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Recognizing
Believing	Fully believing	Recognizing also
Cognizant	Further deploring	Recognizing with satisfaction
Concerned	Further recalling	Referring
Confident	Guided by	Regretting
Conscious	Having adopted	Reiterating
Considering	Having considered	Reiterating its call for
Contemplating	Having considered further	Reminding
Convinced	Having devoted attention	Seeking
Declaring	Having examined	Seized
Deeply concerned	Having heard	Stressing
Deeply conscious	Having received	Taking into account
Deeply convinced	Having reviewed	Taking into consideration
Deeply disturbed	Having studied	Taking note
Deeply regretting	Having adopted	Taking note also
Deploring	Having approved	Taking note further
Desiring	Having considered	Underlining
Determined	Having decided	Viewing with appreciation
Emphasizing	Keeping in mind	Welcoming
Encouraged	Mindful	
Expecting	Noting	
Expressing appreciation	Noting further	

Note: Clause starters can be reused by adding “further” or “deeply”. For instance “Noting” could be reused as “Further noting” and “Concerned” could be reused as “Deeply concerned”.

## Operative Clauses

(Bolded Phrases are reserved solely for the UN Security Council)

Accepts	<b>Demands</b>	Recalls
Acknowledges	Deplores	Recognizes
Adopts	<b>Designates</b>	Recommends
Advises	Directs	Regrets
Affirms	Draws the attention	Reiterates
Also calls for	Emphasizes	Reminds
Also recommends	Encourages	Repeats
Also strongly condemns	Endorses	<b>Requests</b>
Also urges	Expresses its appreciation	<b>Requires</b>
Appeals	Expresses its hope	Solemnly affirms
Appreciates	Expresses its regret	Stresses
Approves	Further invites	Strongly advises
<b>Authorizes</b>	Further proclaims	Strongly condemns
Calls	Further recommends	Strongly encourages
Calls for	Further reminds	Suggests
Calls upon	<b>Further requests</b>	Supports
Commends	Further resolves	Takes note of
Concurs	Has resolved	Transmits
Condemns	Instructs	Trusts
Confirms	Introduces	Underlines
Congratulates	Invites	Underscores
Considers	Notes	Urges
<b>Decides</b>	Notes with satisfaction	Welcomes
<b>Declares</b>	Proclaims	
<b>Declares accordingly</b>	Reaffirms	

Note: Clause starters can be reused by adding “further” or “strongly”. For instance: “Requests” could be reused as “Further requests” and “Asks” could be reused as “Strongly asks”.

## Sample Resolution

<p><b>This column and the table format are designed for instructional purposes and should not appear on the resolution.</b></p>	<p><b>Either UK or US English is permissible, provided there is consistency throughout the document.</b></p> <p><b>A list of suggested clause openings is included at the end of this document.</b></p>
<p>The statement of the committee and the question should be exactly as written in the SCMUN handbook. Please note that the main submitter part is removed after the resolution is passed.</p>	<p><b>FORUM:</b> Disarmament and International Security Committee (GA1)  <b>QUESTION OF:</b> The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts  <b>SUBMITTED BY:</b> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  <b>CO-SUBMITTED BY:</b> (countries' usual names in <u>alphabetical</u> order)</p>
<p>The commission must be clearly stated in capital letters before the resolution begins its text section.</p>	<p>THE DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE,</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The opening of preambulatory clauses should be italicized.</li> <li>● No clause opening should be repeated in its exact form.</li> <li>● Preambulatory clauses <u>must</u> end in commas.</li> <li>● All acronyms must be listed in full before appearing in abbreviated forms.</li> <li>● Grammatically the resolution is one sentence so that no clause may contain a full stop (period) or begin a new sentence.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Noting</i> that the smuggling of illicit rough diamonds accounts for over 50 percent of the diamond trade and it is estimated by the Government Gold and Diamond Office that the total production of rough illicit diamonds amounts to 100 million USD per year,</p> <p><i>Further noting</i> rough diamonds as diamonds that are uncut and unpolished are used as “blood diamonds” to finance conflicts to overthrow governments,</p> <p><i>Aware</i> that 4% of diamonds produced are classified as “ conflict or blood diamonds”, which is enough to purchase weapons for the whole destabilization of Africa,</p> <p><i>Defining</i> “blood and conflict diamonds” as gems which are found in regions that are not under the control of the democratically elected ruler or government, or diamonds used by business or non-states forces to fund movements of human rights abuses against civilians,</p> <p><i>Recognising</i> the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) as an internationally recognized certification system for rough diamonds to establish national import and export standards,</p> <p><i>Further recognizing</i> that the KPCS is lacking a sufficient system for monitoring where diamonds are mined, how they are mined, what the proceeds are going to and how diamonds are domestically transported, which influences the government’s control over conflicts and can possibly be a promotion of illicit diamond trading,</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No operative clause opening phrases should be repeated in their exact form.</li> <li>● Operative clauses <u>must</u> end in semicolons (;).</li> <li>● Operative sub-clauses and sub-sub-clauses must have commas at their end.</li> <li>● A full-stop (period) <b>only</b> appears at the end of the <b>last</b> operative clause.</li> <li>● Operative numbers should align with the first letter of the preambulatory clause.</li> <li>● Following lines of operative clauses must align with the first word of the first line.</li> <li>● Sub-clauses should be marked with a <b>letter and a bracket</b> and have single indentation (one press of tab).</li> <li>● Sub-sub-clauses should be marked with a <b>lowercase roman number followed by a full-stop (period)</b> and have double indentation (two presses of tab).</li> <li>● Acronyms must be listed in full at the first time before appearing in abbreviated forms.</li> <li>● Ensure that there is a line-space between the end of one operative clause and the beginning of the next.</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Calls for</u> all relevant states to sign and ratify the KPCS as created in 2003 by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly which will help promote cooperation and awareness of the illicit diamond trade;</li>   <li>2. <u>Further calls for</u> all relevant nations which are currently withholding signature and ratification of the KPCS due to financial reasons, to request from intergovernmental organizations (IGO) such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, funds or low interest loans, while recognizing the ability of these IGO's to reject applicants so that creditable member states may be provided with necessary finances to comply with this resolution;</li>   <li>3. <u>Asks for</u> the creation of the Collation for the Stopping Conflict Diamonds (CSCD), a United Nations Organization (UNO), which would work with the relevant member states, as well as the United Nations Verification and Inspection Committee (UNMOVIC), the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), African Union (AU), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and World Diamond Council (WDC), enabling the monitoring of the implementation of the KPCS in countries that have already ratified it, so as to verify that it is fully respected, in order to catch illicit diamond trading within their member states as well as working with other member states to stop illicit diamond transportation on an international level by:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) monitoring in their respective countries who is buying and selling the diamonds,</li> <li>b) ensuring the methods the diamonds are bought and mined from are legal according to the KPCS's definition of "clean" diamonds as well as ensuring that the Geneva Convention is being implemented,</li> <li>c) sending a submitted proof of each country's and mining companies diamond proceeds to ensuring that they are not funding armed conflicts,</li> <li>d) sending a member of the CSCD and of the UNMOVIC to nations having ratified the KPCS, so as to observe the changes made within a year's time, thus ensuring transparency;</li> </ol> </li>   <li>4. <u>Urges</u> that the monitoring system of CSCD and member states that have signed the KPCS allow and implement a customs checking system in each country including:       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a monitoring system using modern measuring and weighing instruments, financed if needed by the IMF in order to:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. check that the certificate's stated amount and quality of "clean" diamonds is received,</li> <li>ii. also make sure that the certificates received are genuine and include all the information needed,</li> <li>iii. confiscate any unregistered diamonds and the revenue of the illegal sales which will then be used for the CSCD,</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Last clause ends with a full stop (period)</li> </ul>	<p>b) the cooperation between the custom checking system, member states and International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL), in order to allocate a punishment for offenders who are illegally smuggling diamonds by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. withholding certificates for international and domestic transportation of the businesses and member states,</li> <li>ii. investigating other past certificates by the business or persons that sent the certificate in order to prevent more illegal smuggling,</li> <li>iii. implementing other penalties suggested by the CSCD and any other relevant body;</li> </ol> <p>5. <u>Promotes</u> the broadcasting of verified investigations and sanctions run by the CSCD on multi-national corporations engaged in the purchase of blood diamonds, in order to jeopardize their reputations;</p> <p>6. <u>Suggests</u> the creation of an online database under the UNIDIR with all the relevant IGOs and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which can be used to monitor the rough diamonds transportation internationally as well as domestically to organize the information and the forms collected throughout the importing and exporting process by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) using serial numbers from the KPCS Certificates and other relevant information such as origin, carat weight and grade</li> <li>b) considering mining targets and mining capacities from diamond exporting states</li> <li>c) verifying that import/export statistics are compatible with each other thereby allowing for the recognition of sources of illegal diamond trade</li> <li>d) providing mechanisms for small diamond mining and refining companies to receive low interest loans from local enterprises thereby providing them with the means to adopt, access, register with, and update the database;</li> </ol> <p>7. <u>Further suggests</u> an internationally accepted KPCS form, at the next KPCS peer review session, that will be used for domestic transfer of diamonds involving information such as but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any specific details or causes needed to be monitored by that individual nation due to its present state and history of diamond smuggling and trading,</li> <li>b) information including origin and destination of the diamonds that are being sent as well as the date and time of arrival and departure with the approved signature needed on a KPCS certificate,</li> <li>c) strict monitoring laws where imports and exports must include all of this information and the checking system.</li> </ol>
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