

The vast majority of UN bodies express decisions in the form of resolutions. A resolution is drafted in a committee by one or more nations. Nations that are writing a resolution are said to be sponsoring it. Numerous resolutions may circulate around a committee or be discussed at any time. Each resolution usually describes or outlines a different way to solve the topic. Each individual committee will also require a certain number of signatories. Signatories do not necessarily support the resolution but agree that it should be voted upon.

SAMPLE RESOLUTION*

Resolution GA/3/1.1

General Assembly Third Committee

Sponsors: United States, Austria and Italy

Signatories: Greece, Tajikistan, Japan, Canada, Mali, the Netherlands and Gabon

Topic: "Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies"

The General Assembly,

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, **[use commas to separate preambulatory clauses]**

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,

Noting with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,

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; **[use semicolons to separate operative clauses]**
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. **[end resolutions with a period]**

* The following pages are from the UNA-USA MUN preparation guide on www.unausa.org

Preambulatory and Operative Clauses

The preamble of a draft resolution states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a preambulatory phrase) and ends with a comma. Preambulatory clauses can include:

- References to the *UN Charter*;
- Citations of past UN resolutions or treaties on the topic under discussion;
- Mentions of statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;
- Recognition of the efforts of regional or nongovernmental organizations in dealing with the issue; and
- General statements on the topic, its significance and its impact.

Operative Clauses

Operative clauses identify the actions or recommendations made in a resolution. Each operative clause begins with a verb (called an operative phrase) and ends with a semicolon. Operative clauses should be organized in a logical progression, with each containing a single idea or proposal, and are always numbered. If a clause requires further explanation, bulleted lists set off by letters or roman numerals can also be used. After the last operative clause, the resolution ends in a period.

Some Preambulatory Clauses

Affirming	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with regret
Alarmed by	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with deep concern
Approving	Fulfilling	Noting with satisfaction
Aware of	Fully alarmed	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Noting with approval
Believing	Fully believing	Observing
Confident	Further deploring	Reaffirming
Contemplating	Further recalling	Realizing
Convinced	Guided by	Recalling
Declaring	Having adopted	Recognizing
Deeply concerned	Having considered	Referring
Deeply conscious	Having considered further	Seeking
Deeply convinced	Having devoted attention	Taking into account
Deeply disturbed	Having examined	Taking into consideration
Deeply regretting	Having heard	Taking note
Desiring	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Emphasizing	Having studied	Welcoming
Expecting	Keeping in mind	

Some operative clauses:

Accepts	Draws the attention	Notes
Affirms	Emphasizes	Proclaims
Approves	Encourages	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Endorses	Recommends Regrets
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Reminds
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Requests
Condemns	Further invites Further	Solemnly affirms
Confirms	proclaims	Strongly condemns
Congratulates	Further reminds	Supports
Considers Declares	Further recommends	Takes note of
accordingly	Further requests	Transmits
Deplores	Further resolves	Trusts
Designates	Has resolved	