

How to Write a Resolution

The main aim of resolution writing is to put down ideas in a clear and concise manner in accordance with the United Nations format.

The format includes separate sections including a heading identifying the committee, the topic, the perambulatory clauses that refer to the existence of such a problem, and the operative clauses that dictate the actions desired to solve the problem in hand.

A regular UN resolution has three components:

- [HEADING](#)
- [PREAMBLE](#)
- [OPERATIVE CLAUSES](#)

You may also wish to look at a [sample resolution](#), and learn about [Amendments](#).

The Heading

The heading should have the following information:

1. The name of the committee (e.g. The United Nations Security Council, Security Council or simply UNSC)
2. The topic of the resolution (e.g. UNSC Reform)
3. A list of the nations sponsoring the resolution (the sponsors - e.g. France, UK, USA)
4. A list of the nations signing onto the resolution (the signatories - e.g. China, Russia)

The Preamble

The preamble states the problem and makes references to it from several sources including the UN Charter, past UN resolutions and statements by the Secretary General or a relevant UN body or agency, recognition of the work or efforts of regional organizations in dealing with the issue, and general statements on the topic, its significance and its effects.

The perambulatory clauses always start with verbs like:

Acknowledging ...	Declaring ...	Grieved...	...with grave concern...
Affirming ...	Deeply disturbed...	Guided by...	...with regret...
Alarmed ...	Desiring ...	Having...	...with satisfaction...
Anxious ...	Determined ...	...adopted...	Observing...
Approving ...	Emphasizing ...	...approved...	Reaffirming...
Aware ...	Encouraged ...	...considered...	Realizing...
Bearing in mind ...	Endorsing ...	...examined further...	Recalling...
Being convinced ...	Expressing ...	...received...	Recognizing...
Believing ...	...appreciation...	...reviewed...	Referring...
Cognizant ...	...deep appreciation...	Keeping in mind...	Regretting...
Concerned ...	Expecting ...	Mindful...	Reiterating...
Confident ...	Fulfilling ...	Noting...	Seeking...
Conscious ...	Fully ...	...further...	Stressing...
Considering ...	...aware ...	...with approval...	Welcoming...
Contemplating ...	...believing...	...with concern...	
Convinced ...	...bearing in mind...	...with deep concern...	

Operative Clauses

Operative Clauses state the solution the committee is offering to solve the problem at hand. All the operative clauses are numbered and should be listed in a logical order that proposes a single idea in every number. Each clause ends with a semicolon with the exception of the very last one, which finishes with a period.

The operative clauses start with verbs such as:

Accepts...	Declares...	... concurs...	Recognizes...
Adopts...	Deplores...	... invites	Recommends...
Affirms...	Designates...	...proclaims...	Regrets...
Appeals...	Directs...	...reminds...	Reiterates...
Appreciates...	Emphasizes...	...recommends...	Renews its appeal
Approves...	Encourages...	...requests...	Repeats...
Authorizes...	Endorses...	...resolves...	Suggests...
Calls upon...	Expressing...	Instructs...	Strongly...
Commends...	...its appreciation...	Invites...	Supports...
Concurs...	...its conviction...	Notes...	Takes note of...
Condemns...	...its regret...	...with appreciation	Transmits...
Confirms...	...its sympathy...	...with approval...	Urges...
Congratulates...	...its thanks...	...with interest...	Welcomes...
Considers...	...the belief...	...with satisfaction...	
Decides...	...the hope...	Reaffirms...	
...accordingly...	Further...	...its belief...	

Amendments

During the course of negotiation and cooperation, draft resolutions will alter through changes known as amendments. The guidelines for these amendments are less strict since many arise during the course of the activity itself: however, the style, wording and intent of the amendment should complement the original draft resolution. Amendments follow the pattern already stated in the document and simply present new viewpoints or suggestions for action on the same topic. Most conferences have two forms of amendments:

- **Friendly amendment:** is a change to the resolution that all of the sponsors feel is appropriate.
- **Unfriendly amendment:** is an amendment that not all the sponsors of the resolution do not support.