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Hynek Melichar, Secretary-General; Amanda Williams, Director-General
Cyril Philip, Director; Nikol Ostianová, Assistant Director

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE association™

**Message from the Director-General Regarding Position Papers for the
2010 NMUN Conference**

At the 2010 NMUN Europe Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to. Delegates should be aware that their role in each committee impacts the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as representatives of Member States, some may also serve as observers, NGOs or judicial experts. To understand these fine differences, please refer to the Delegate Preparation Guide.

Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee.

International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as traditional position papers. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. ***The NMUN Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism.*** In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation's position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the sample paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are **required** for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the Background Guides
- Length must **not** exceed two single spaced pages (one double sided paper, if printed)
- Font **must** be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Margins must be set at 1 inch for whole paper
- Country/NGO name, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page; the use of national symbols is highly discouraged
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections
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To be considered timely for awards, please read and follow these directions:

> 1**. A file of the position paper** (.doc or .pdf) **for each assigned committee** should be sent to amanda@nmun.org.

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than **November 1, 2010.**

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE, ASSIGNMENT AND DELEGATION NAME (Example: AU_Namibia_University of Caprivi)

- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

Sincerely yours,

Amanda Williams, LCSW
Director-General

amanda@nmun.org

Sample Position Paper

The following position paper is designed to be a sample of the standard format that an NMUN position paper should follow. While delegates are encouraged to use the front and back of a single page in order to fully address all topics before the committee, please remember that only a *maximum* of one double-sided page (or two pages total in an electronic file) will be accepted. Only the first double-sided page of any submissions (or two pages of an electronic file) will be considered for awards.

Delegation from   **Represented by**
Canada   **(Name of College)**

Position Paper for General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict; the Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy; and the Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa. Canada is dedicated to collaborative multilateral approaches to ensuring protection and promotion of human security and advancement of sustainable development.

I. Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict

Canada endorses the Kimberly Process in promoting accountability, transparency, and effective governmental regulation of trade in rough diamonds. We believe the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is an essential international regulatory mechanism and encourage all Member States to contribute to market accountability by seeking membership, participation, and compliance with its mandate. Canada urges Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2007 Kimberley Process Communiqué to strengthen government oversight of rough diamond trading and manufacturing by developing domestic legal frameworks similar to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. We call upon participating States to act in accordance with the KPCS's comprehensive and credible systems of peer review to monitor the continued implementation of the Kimberley Process and ensure full transparency and self-examination of domestic diamond industries. We draw attention to our domestic programs for diamond regulation including Implementing the Export and Import of Rough Diamonds Act and urge Member States to consider these programs in developing the type of domestic regulatory frameworks called for in A/RES/55/56. Canada recognizes the crucial role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the review of rough diamond control measures developed through the Kimberly Process and encourages States to include NGOs, such as Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada, in the review processes called for in A/RES/58/290. We urge Member States to act in accordance with A/RES/60/182 to optimize the beneficial development impact of artisanal and alluvial diamond miners by establishing a coordinating mechanism for financial and technical assistance through the Working Group of the Kimberly Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers. Canada calls upon States and NGOs to provide basic educational material regarding diamond valuation and market prices for artisanal diggers, as recommended by the Diamond Development Initiative. Canada will continue to adhere to the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and is dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and effective regulation of the rough diamond trade through the utilization of voluntary peer review systems and the promotion of increased measures of internal control within all diamond producing States.

II. The Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy

Canada is dedicated to integrating alternative energy sources into climate change frameworks by diversifying the energy market while improving competitiveness in a sustainable economy, as exemplified through our Turning Corners Report and Project Green climate strategies. We view the international commitment to the promotion of alternative sources of energy called for in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Control (UNFCCC) as a catalyst to sustainable development and emission reduction. Canada fulfills its obligations to Article 4 of the UNFCCC by continuing to provide development assistance through the Climate Change Development Fund and calls upon Member States to commit substantial financial and technical investment toward the transfer of sustainable energy technologies and clean energy mechanisms to developing States. We emphasize the need for Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2005 Beijing International Renewable

Energy Conference to strengthen domestic policy frameworks to promote clean energy technologies. Canada views dissemination of technology information called for in the 2007 Group of Eight Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy Declaration as a vital step in energy diversification from conventional energy generation. We call upon Member States to integrate clean electricity from renewable sources into their domestic energy sector by employing investment campaigns similar to our $1.48 billion initiative ecoENERGY for Renewable Power. Canada encourages States to develop domestic policies of energy efficiency, utilizing regulatory and financing frameworks to accelerate the deployment of clean low-emitting technologies. We call upon Member States to provide knowledge-based advisory services for expanding access to energy in order to fulfill their commitments to Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Canada urges States to address the concerns of the 2007 Human Development Report by promoting tax incentives, similar to the Capital Cost Allowances and Canadian Renewable and Conservation Expenses, to encourage private sector development of energy conservation and renewable energy projects. As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Canada is committed to accelerating the development of renewable energy projects, information sharing mechanisms, and energy efficient systems through the voluntary carbon offset system. We are dedicated to leading international efforts toward the development and sharing of best practices on clean energy technologies and highlight our release of the Renewable Energy Technologies Screen software for public and private stakeholders developing projects in energy efficiency, cogeneration, and renewable energy. Canada believes the integration of clean energy into State specific strategies called for in A/62/419/Add.9 will strengthen energy diversification, promote the use of cogeneration, and achieve a synergy between promoting alternative energy while allowing for competitiveness in a sustainable economy.

III. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Canada views the full implementation of the treatment and prevention targets of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Especially in Africa, as essential to eradicating malaria and assisting African States to achieve Target 8 of Goal 6 of the MDGs by 2015. We recommend Member States cooperate with the World Health Organization to ensure transparency in the collection of statistical information for Indicators 21 and 22 of the MDGs. Canada reaffirms the targets of the Abuja Declaration Plan of Action stressing regional cooperation in the implementation, monitoring, and management of malaria prevention and treatment initiatives in Africa. To fully implement A/RES/61/228, Canada believes developed States must balance trade and intellectual property obligations with the humanitarian objective of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. We continue to implement Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health into our compulsory licensing framework through the Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa Act. We urge Member States to support compulsory licensing for essential generic medicines by including anti-malarial vaccines and initiating domestic provisions to permit export-only compulsory licenses to domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, similar to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime. Canada calls upon Member States to establish advanced market commitments on the distribution of pneumococcal vaccines to developing States in cooperation with PATH and the Malaria Vaccine Initiative. We emphasize the need for greater membership in the Roll Back Malaria initiative to strengthen malaria control planning, funding, implementation, and evaluation by promoting increased investment in healthcare systems and greater incorporation of malaria control into all relevant multi-sector activities. Canada continues to implement the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) New Agenda for Action on Health to reduce malaria infection rates among marginalized populations in Africa, increase routine immunizations rates, and reduce infection rates of other neglected infections. Canada will achieve the goal of doubling aid to Africa by 2008-2009 by providing assistance to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We urge Member States to increase donations to intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that support malaria programming in Africa, exemplified by CIDA's contribution of $26 million to the Canadian Red Cross. We continue our efforts to provide accessible and affordable vector control methods to African States through the Red Cross' Malaria Bed Net Campaign and the African Medical Research Foundation Canada by supplying insecticide-treated mosquito nets and Participatory Malaria Prevention and Treatment tool kits.

History of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that defenses of peace must be constructed.[1]

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is founded upon the principle of "contributing to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science and culture" and is bound by a mandate that encourages universal respect for justice, rule of law, human rights, and fundamental freedoms for all peoples of the world.[2] An integral subsidiary body of the United Nations, UNESCO plays a vital role in the international promotion of "full and equal opportunities for education for all, in the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth and in the free exchange of ideas and knowledge."[3] In accordance with the UNESCO Constitution, the Organization dedicates its work to the collaboration of "advancing the mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples, [to] give fresh impulse to popular education and the spread of culture, [to] maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge, and [to] preserve the independence and diversity of the cultures and educational systems of the States Members of the Organization."[4] The overarching purpose of the Organization is to develop the objectives of international peace and stability via educational, scientific and cultural relationships between peoples around the globe.[5]

Prior to the ratification of its Constitution in 1945, three international bodies operated under information sharing and international cooperation auspices similar to that of UNESCO.[6] These bodies included The International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation (ICIC), which operated from 1922-1946, The International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation (IICI), the ICIC executive agency from 1925-1946, and the International Bureau of Education (IBE), which functioned from 1925 until its incorporation into UNESCO in 1968.[7] The Conference of Allied Ministers of Education (CAME) began attending IBE meetings in London in 1942.[8] CAME remained active in the work of the organization and in 1945 proposed a United Nations Conference for the establishment of an educational and cultural organization, which was referred to as ECO/CONF.[9] Within three years of CAME's activity in the parameters of the IBE, State participation increased from 18 in 1942 to 44 in 1945.[10] The increase in support for the work of the committee provided a solid foundation for the development and eventual ratification of the UNESCO Constitution on November 16, 1945.[11] As a result of the successful ratification of the Constitution, the first session of the General Conference of UNESCO took place in Paris from November 19 through December 10, 1946.[12] At this first session, participants from 30 governments took part in the preliminary work of the committee.[13] To date, the number of participating governments has grown to 193 Member States and 7 associates members.[14]

UNESCO is comprised of 3 bodies that function in cooperation to oversee the comprehensive work of the committee.[15] These divisions of UNESCO include the General Conference of Member States, the Secretariat, and the Executive Board.[16] The General Conference is comprised of representatives from each of its permanent delegations, as well as associate members, and is the primary decision making body of the Organization.[17] This body meets bi-annually and determines the policies and primary focus of the work of UNESCO.[18] The Conference discusses all issues concerning UNESCO's policy, adopts a two year budget and program, elects Members of the

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[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, 1945, Preamble.
[2] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002, 1.
[3] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002, 1.
[4] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, 1.
[5] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, Preamble.
[6] UNESCO. UNESCO 1945-2000: Background. 2002.
[7] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[8] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[9] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[10] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[11] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[12] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[13] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2002.
[14] UNESCO. *What is UNESCO.*
[15] UNESCO. *How It Works.*
[16] UNESCO. *How It Works.*
[17] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Organization.*
[18] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, IV.

Executive Board, appoints a Director General every four years, and adopts a six year strategy.[19] The General Conference welcomes observers from non-Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) to take part in its activities, although Member States are the only participants permitted to vote. The Secretariat is the Organization's Executive Branch.[20] This division is comprised of the Director General, as well as such staff that may be required to uphold the standards of the Organization.[21]

UNESCO's Executive Branch is comprised of 58 members and convenes twice a year.[22] The primary responsibilities of this part of the Organization are derived from the Constitution and "from rules or directives laid down by the General Conference."[23] Functions of the Executive Branch include: the preparation of the agenda of the General Conference; assessment of the program of work for the Organization; preparation of recommendations to the General Conference; and execution of the program adopted by the General Conference.[24] Other responsibilities of the Board include the approval of collaborative efforts of NGOs and other semi-governmental organizations, reporting findings of NGO conferences that pertain directly to the interests of the Committee, and the presentation of the Director General's reports to the General Conference.[25]

UNESCO is the only Organization in the Specialized Agencies department of the United Nations that provides for the establishment of a National Commission by each of its Member States.[26] Mandated by the UNESCO Constitution, these Commissions are comprised of members of the intellectual and scientific communities of each Member State and provide a valuable link between the diversity of these communities and the Organization.[27] These National Commissions distribute information and provide support for programs implemented by UNESCO.[28] Furthermore, they share information with other Members and participating organizations, and implement their own activities.[29] Communication is maintained between the National Commissions and UNESCO's Secretariat in order to keep the body informed of local, regional, and international needs.[30] Because the relationship between these Commissions and UNESCO is vital to the continued success of the Organization, capacity building between these branches has become "a priority investment."[31]

Since its inception, UNESCO has expanded its scope to include not only 73 field offices across the globe, but also to incorporate the assistance of 335 NGOs and 131 IGOs.[32] Over 100 committees, commissions, and councils have been established in order to ext end cooperation between these committees and the work of the Organization.[33] While the focus of these committees varies greatly, the concentration of their work greatly enhances UNESCO's agenda and overall mandate.

I. Preservation of the Right of Free Speech across Global Cultural and Religious Divides

Introduction

The increasingly global landscape, enhanced by technological advances in communication, has led to certain culture clashes as strict religious and cultural norms in one region have been tested or violated elsewhere. Driven by the expansion of the internet globally, culture clashes have been increasing and created a need for global discussion on this topic. In order to better ascertain the solution to this problem, it is important to examine several key topics

[19] UNESCO. *UNESCO General Conference Composition.*
[20] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Background.* 2.
[21] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, VI.2.
[22] UNESCO. *How It Works.* 2.
[23] UNESCO. *Executive Board Functions.*
[24] UNESCO. *Executive Board Functions.*
[25] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, V.4.
[26] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Organization.*
[27] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Constitution*, VII.
[28] UNESCO Division of Relations with National Organizations and New Partnerships. *What are National Organizations?*
[29] UNESCO Division of Relations with National Organizations and New Partnerships. *What are National Organizations?*
[30] UNESCO Division of Relations with National Organizations and New Partnerships. *What are National Organizations?*
[31] UNESCO Division of Relations with National Organizations and New Partnerships. *What are National Organizations?*
[32] UNESCO. UNESCO 1945-2000: Organization.
[33] UNESCO. *UNESCO 1945-2000: Organization.*

including the definition of free speech, current existing framework for preservation, and key issues pertaining to freedom of speech today.

The Definition of Free Speech

Freedom of Speech is defined in a multitude of ways comprising of various other rights as well including freedom of information and the freedom of expression. The right of freedom of speech has been reiterated in many UN documents however was best captured by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Article 19 below:

> "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."[34]

Freedom of Information

Freedom of Speech is interpreted in different ways. One part of this freedom is the freedom of information. Freedom of information is considered the right to information of public bodies upon request.[35] This right has evolved to also mandate that public bodies place information in the access of the public, even if not requested.[36] Concerns have consistently been voiced regarding the preservation of freedom of information. In 2000, the UN Special Rapporteur stated a "concern about the tendency of Governments, and the institutions of Government, to withhold from the people information that is rightly theirs."[37]

Freedom of Expression

Freedom of Expression (FEX), also known as freedom of the press, is essentially the creation of a legal and regulatory environment that allows the media/press to present accurate and unbiased information to the public.[38] The freedom of the press must be defined legally, as it is important to understand that without legal and regulatory protection a free press environment can not exist.[39] Freedom of the media will enhance the existing government structures by providing transparency and political discussion points promoting change.[40]

Existing Framework for the Preservation of Free Speech

There are several organizations that currently exist to help foster and grow the right of free speech across the globe. There are two key intergovernmental organizations that are a part of UNESCO which play a key role in preserving free speech: the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) and the Information for All Programme (IFAP).

International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC)

The IPDC is an Intergovernment Organization (IGO) which focuses on the promotion of free media across the globe.[41] The IPDC regularly submits reports to UNESCO after each of its sessions.[42] The IPDC's focus is currently on three main priorities based on UNESCO's New Communications Strategy, they are:(i) to encourage the free flow of information at international and national levels; (ii) to promote a wider and better balanced dissemination of information with no obstacle to freedom of expression, (iii) to strengthen communication capacities in developing countries.[43] The organization has launched several key projects globally which focus on expanding freedom of the press. One of the IPDC's key projects is the International Freedom of Expression Exchange Network (IFEX) which

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[34] United Nations General Assembly, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, 1948, Article 19
[35] Mendel, *Freedom of Information: A Comparative Legal Survey*, 2003, p. v
[36] Mendel, *Freedom of Information: A Comparative Legal Survey*, 2003, p. vi
[37] Mendel, *Freedom of Information: A Comparative Legal Survey*, 2003, p. 3
[38] UNESCO, *Freedom of Expression, Access and Empowerment,* 2008, p. 1
[39] UNESCO, *Freedom of Expression, Access and Empowerment,* 2008, p. 5
[40] UNESCO, *Freedom of Expression, Access and Empowerment,* 2008, p. 5
[41] UNESCO, *International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),* 2010
[42] UNESCO, *International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),* 2010
[43] UNESCO, *International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),* 2010

consists of a network of media personell that focus on protection of journalists/media professionals globally.[44] The last session of the IPDC was in March 2010, in this meeting the focus was on the theme of "Free, independent and pluralistic media: the enabling role of the State."[45]

Information for All Programme (IFAP)

The IFAP in a IGO that focuses on providing access to information through the embracement of internet and communication technology.[46] The organization has over 50 local committees which work with State institutions to provide assistance in fulfilling its goal of free publicly available information.[47] IFAP has five areas of priorities which most of its implementation efforts are focused: Information for Development, Information Literacy, Information Preservation, Information Ethics, and Information Accessibility.[48] IFAP currently has 36 funded active projects worldwide and 464 unfunded projects.[49] About one half of IFAPs funded projects are focused on providing information literacy.[50]

Issues concerning the Freedom of Speech due to Cultural and Religious Divides

There are many instances of the Freedom of Speech being challenged in the past, however recent times have bought new issues to the forefront. One such issue is the extent to which freedom of speech can impact religious laws as such has been defined by the cartoons of the Muslim prophet Muhammed.[51] Also another main issue is the censorship of the internet in certain global areas that restrict the freedom of information. Both of these issues lie at the heart of current discussion on free speech.

Case Study: Freedom of the Press and Reglion: The Cartoon Representations of the Prophet Muhammed

In September 2005, 12 cartoons were published in the Danish Newspaper Jyllands-Posten which represented the Prophet Muhammed.[52] The view of these cartoons hinged on two opposing arguments. On the Western/Danish side, the argument was clearly that of free speech and the strong belief that criticizing a religious figure is considered part of that right.[53] The argument posed by Islamic countries, specifically Egypt, is that caricatures of Muhammad were the equivalent of a hate crime against Muslims.[54] One key point is the difference of opinion held by both sides as what constitutes hate vs. critique/discussion .[55] If one takes a step back at European views on the use of the media as a medium for derogatory racial slurs, they strongly oppose according to Gallup information polls with under 10% accepting such actions.[56] In the eyes of many Muslims, it would be considered a "racial slur" to depict the Prophet Muhammed as a terrorist as some of these cartoons did infact do.[57] This creates a question of whether this cartoon free speech argument is really focused on free speech or more on the targeting of one group.[58] It is essential to understand what would be defined as "crossing the line" in terms of free speech and intolerance.

Case Study: Restrictions on the use of the Internet

Modern day governmental actions restricting the flow of information have been a rising issue challenging the Freedom of Information. On June 12, 2009 the day of the presidential election in Iran a wide range of information

[44] UNESCO, *International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),* 2010
[45] IPDC, *Provisional Agenda of the 27th Session*, 2010, p. 1
[46] UNESCO, *Information for All Programme,* 2010
[47] UNESCO, *Information for All Programme,* 2010
[48] UNESCO, *Information for All Programme,* 2010
[49] UNESCO, *Information for All Programme,* 2010
[50] UNESCO, *Information for All Programme,* 2010
[51] Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1
[52] Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1
[53] Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1
[54] Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1
[55] Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1
[56] Magali, Cartoons and Controversy: *Free Expression or Muslim Exceptionalism in Eruope.* 2008, p. 1
[57] Magali, Cartoons and Controversy: *Free Expression or Muslim Exceptionalism in Eruope.* 2008, p. 3
[58] Magali, Cartoons and Controversy: *Free Expression or Muslim Exceptionalism in Eruope.* 2008, p. 3

was being sent through the internet on the protests taking place against purported election fraud. [59] However in the ensuing days, the ability of the Iran government to survey and restrict its internet had led to arrests of dissidents a blackout period where the outside had little access to the situation in Iran.[60] This is just one example of a variety of freedom of information violations being implemented by certain States to curtail the impact of the internet in their localities. Governments have used advances in screening technology to not only impede foreign impact on their countries but also limit domestic damage from within.[61] Take for example how China has severely limited criticism of the government through its own domestic internet channels, which creates a lack of political alternatives and maintains the status quo.[62] Technology enabling government restriction is continually expanding. Using a complex, "multilayered" system a government can essentially control all content entering and within its domain.[63] The following quote summarizes the issues at hand that must be considered:

> "The internet offers the promise of a more open world, where citizens who live under authoritarian rule may find a space to speak their minds, to hold their government to account and to join fellow citizens in exploring political alternatives. Authoritarian rules are, however, determined to keep that promise in check. They have grown ever more sophisticated and effective in controlling the internet."

Conclusion

The Freedom of Speech is a key right recognized by several UN bodies and is stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Yet it is consistently met with issues from rising cultural, political and religious divides. European advocation of free speech in the cartoon controversy involving the Islamic prophet Muhammad is a key example of cultural/religious conflict. The restrictions of freedom of information by governments restricting or filtering access to the internet is another issue threatening Freedom of Speech. It is essential that UNESCO develop a framework to ensure Freedom of Speech is maintained in light of these ever increasing divides.

II. Establishing Framework to protect the Global Environment in the wake of catastrophic man-made and natural disasters

Introduction

Natural and man-made disasters have been an ever-increasing concern for the global community over the past several years. A disaster is best defined as "serious disruption of the functioning of society, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses which exceed the ability of affected society to cope using only its own resources"[64]. It is essential to understand how to deal with disasters on a global scale and develop frameworks to minimize the damage caused specifically to the environment. Recent disasters such as the Deep Sea Horizon Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico and the earthquake in Haiti are clear examples of disasters that could have been mitigated per an organized and effective crisis management plan and whose environmental and social effects are long-term.

Definition and Types of Disasters

There are many different types of disasters, however there are three key broad categories: natural, man-made, and hybrid. The first category is Natural disasters, which are large-scale catastrophic events which result from natural (external) elements. [65] Examples of Natural disasters include earthquakes, mudslides, weather-related, and biological phenomenom.[66] Natural disasters are far beyond human control and in many cases are far beyond human

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[59] Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 64
[60] Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 65
[61] Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 67
[62] Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 67
[63] Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 72
[64] Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007, p. 687
[65] Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,, p. 688
[66] Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,:2007, p. 687

prediction.[67] Man-made disasters are large-scale catastrophic events which are directly or indirectly caused by man.[68] The time scale for Man-made disasters varies from short to long term.[69] Short term disasters include plant/factory failures, transport failures, production failures.[70] Long term disasters refer to international and national conflicts and wars.[71] Hybrid disasters are a combination of the two forces.[72]

International and Regional Bodies Focusing on Disasters

There are several agencies and regional organization which are involved and act in the event of natural and man-made disasters. These agencies can be broken into two broad categories: international and regional/state-specific

Some key international agencies are: the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCRCS).[73] UNEP focuses primarily on natural disasters and the effect on the environment, however they are involved with certain man-made disasters including hazardous and nuclear material transport.[74] UNEP maintains databases which catalogue information on disasters throughout the world.[75] The WHO focuses on aiding international health organizations during times of disaster.[76] The end goal of the WHO assistance is to promote self-reliance in post-disaster regions as soon as possible.[77] The IFRCRCS's goal in disaster areas is to limit the initial damage and also predict the occurrence of disasters as best possible.[78] The IFRCRCS is a key participant in almost every major disaster relief effort in modern times.[79] Beyond these agencies several others also participate in disaster reduction and mitigation including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-Habitat and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).[80]

Beyond international organization there are dozens of regional and state-specific organizations. Two specific organizations which will be highlighted below are the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the United States and the Malaysian National Security Council. FEMA has been in many headlines in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters in the USA.[81] They focus on regional support to the United States in all forms of disaster and is a large organization.[82] Directive 20 of the Malaysian National Security Council orders the policy of the country's disaster management system.[83] Although not a specific organization, the directive outlines the other government organizations which are responsible in the case of a disaster and creates a framework on which a disaster response in formulated.[84]

UNESCO Action on Disaster Prevention and Relief

UNESCO plays a key role in the prevention of and management after disasters worldwide. In 2006, UNESCO launched the "Disaster Risk Reduction Begins at School" campaign which focuses on disaster prevention techniques

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[67]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 689
[68]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 670
[69]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 671
[70]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 688
[71]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 688
[72]Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*.2007,,:2007, p. 688
[73] Shaluf. *Disaster Types*. 2007, p. 704
[74] Shaluf. *Disaster Types*. 2007, p. 704
[75] Shaluf. *Disaster Types*. 2007, p. 705
[76] Shaluf. *Disaster Types*. 2007, p. 705
[77] Shaluf.*Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 706
[78]Shaluf.*Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 705
[79] Shaluf. *Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 708
[80] UNESCO, *Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role*, 2007, p. 17
[81] Shaluf.*Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 707
[82]Shaluf. D*isaster Types*.. 2007, p. 708
[83]Shaluf.*Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 710
[84]Shaluf.*Disaster Types*.. 2007, p. 710

inclusion in school curriculums and promotion of school building standards.[85] UNESCO aims to strengthen disaster management areas within member states through use of its expansive network.[86] Climate change is a specific concern for UNESCO disaster relief programs.[87] UNESCO interacts with the World Climate Research Programme, the Drylands and Desertification Programme and the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network in order to understand the effect of climate change including disaster scenarios.[88] UNESCO's strategy for post-disaster situations includes three main points: advocation of future disaster reduction through national infrastructure improvements and enhancement of local capabilities to respond to the needs of individuals and families post-disaster.[89]

Disasters and the Effect on the Environment

Disasters have a significant negative effect on the environment however they have been avoided in most discussion on the health of the global environment.[90] Disaster management aimed at preserving environmental integrity in a post-disaster environment is based on prevention of environmental damage through optimal planning.[91] Prevention is aimed at local municipalities focusing on proper land-use/zoning and ensuring the proper disposal of harzardous materials.[92] Environmental/Disaster experts can also play a key role in ensuring environmental health for pre and post disaster scenarios. Training and education to businesses and individuals on how to control waste management and hazardous materials is essentially to ensure that environmental health remains intact.[93] The last key component of maintaining environmental integrity is ensuring proper surveillance and regulatory action at the local level.[94] Although a framework at the regional level will be beneficial in the end it is the local areas which will need to act to preserve environmental health.

Case Study: Haiti Earthquake

The Earthquake in Haiti in 2010 can serve as a prime example of the effect of a natural disaster on the Global Environment. The Earthquake in Haiti was arguably the worst natural disaster in Haiti's and the Western Hemisphere.[95] The death toll of the quake was estimated at 200,000 but may have been much higher.[96] In the aftermath of the quake, Haiti was left in ruins and its environment and infrastructure badly damaged.[97] Large-scale deforestation prior to the quake coupled with the earthquake's strength created several danger areas which are at a high risk of mudslides.[98] Water supplies have been tainted for the most part in the post disaster area to the point where water purification tablets are the only recourse.[99] Many scholars attribute much of the post-disaster area Haiti problems with poor crisis management.[100]

Conclusion

Throughout the global community, natural and man made disasters have been increasing in scale and impact. With this rise also occurs a rise in the negative impact of disasters on the environment. It is important to develop a framework to enhance and maintain environment integrity in this age of disasters. A proper framework should take into account the wide ranges and types of disasters. Some questions to consider include: should man-made disasters

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[85]UNESCO, *Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role*, 2007, p. 17
[86] UNESCO, Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role, 2007, p. 19
[87] UNESCO, Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role, 2007, p. 30
[88] UNESCO, Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role, 2007, p. 30
[89] UNESCO, Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation, UNESCO's Role, 2007, p. 43
[90]Logue. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response*, 1996. pg. 1207
[91] Logue. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response*, 1996. pg. 1208
[92] Logue. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response*, 1996. pg. 1207
[93] Logue. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response*, 1996. pg. 1209
[94] Logue. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response*, 1996. pg. 12010
[95] Wade. *After Haiti.* 2010. p. 22
[96] Wade. After Haiti. 2010. p. 23
[97] Wade. After Haiti. 2010. p. 26
[98] Wade. After Haiti. 2010. p. 23
[99] Wade. After Haiti. 2010. p. 24
[100] Piotrowski. *Earthquake in Haiti: A Failure in Crisis Management,* 2010. p. 112

be treated differently as opposed to pure natural disasters in this framework? Does the framework put an emphasis on local involvement or more regional interaction? Does a framework use past examples (whether positive or negative) to prove its points?

Annotated Bibliography

Preservation of the Right of Free Speech across Global Cultural and Religious Divides

United Nations General Assembly, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, 1948, Article 19
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the most essential document when discussing human rights in general. It serves as the key UN document to be a basis for most human rights reports or resolutions. Understanding this document is essential to developing a key perspective on free speech and relationship to other rights.

Mendel, *Freedom of Information: A Comparative Legal Survey*, 2003, p. v
Mendel provides a very in-depth analysis of the right to Freedom of Information. He examines several key areas of the topic through statistical and qualitative discussion. The conclusion of the report consists of a State-by-State comparison of Freedom of Information and protection laws. This is a good starting point if delegates are not familiar with this particular right.

UNESCO, *Freedom of Expression, Access and Empowerment,* 2008, p. 1
This is a detailed report by UNESCO on the freedom of expression. It is equivalent to Mendel's discussion on Freedom of information and this is a great resource to understand this right. It is important to understand the nuances and limitations of free speech used globally to attain an understanding of the issue.

UNESCO, *International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC),* 2010.
Programs run by the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) are essential to understanding current action by UNESCO in the area of free speech. This website provides links and information to articles/publications about these projects. Delegates should have a clear understanding of the major programs run by the IPDC.

IPDC, Provisional Agenda of the 27th Session, 2010, p. 1
The last session of the IPDC highlights the latest issues under consideration by them. It is important to understand what is currently at issue in the global landscape and this document provides a key insight into that fact. It is essential for delegates to understand and be aware of current global discussion in the topic area.

Klausen, *The Cartoons that Shook the World.* 2009, Chapter 1.
Klausen's books is one of the first books to be written on the 2005 Danish cartoon controversy. It provides an unbiased view on the incidents and what occurred. Klausen suggests possible solutions or compromises towards the later part of the book and it is a good read ahead of the conference.

Magali, Cartoons and Controversy: *Free Expression or Muslim Exceptionalism in Eruope.* 2008, p. 1
This is a great article to understand the "other" side of the issue. Many muslims view the cartoon controversy as essentially spreading hate and this article goes a far way to explain their viewpoint. It is a great resource for delegates who are not familiar with both sides of the argument.

Calingaert, Authoritarianism vs the Internet, 2010, p. 64
This article is an essential primer to the current age of Internet censorship by governments. The articles focuses on the key regions and countries which have had examples of restirciton of freedom of information regarding the internet and provides an indepth analysis of possible policy changes which would circumvent these issues. This is an great first article for delegates beginning research in this topic.

Establishing Framework to Protect the Global Environment in the Wake of Catastrophic Man-Made and Natural Disasters

Ibrahim Mohamed Shaluf. *An overview on disasters*. Disaster Prevention and Management. Bradford:2007. Vol. 16, Iss. 5, p. 687
This is an essential primer to understand the global disaster landscape. Shaluf offers a breakdown of the types and effects of disasters worldwide. He also delves deep into involvement on a national and international level of various

disaster organizations. Leveraging knowledge from this article can provide delegates with potential partners in establishing a framework going forward for disaster management.

Ibrahim Mohamed Shaluf. *Disaster Types.* Disaster Prevention and Management. Bradford: 2007. Vol. 16, Iss. 5, p. 704
Shaluf's paper on disaster types delves very deep into the different effects and agencies involved in various types of disasters. It is important to have a grasp on which type of disasters exist and how they are currently handled. This article gives a great introduction to this topic and is a valuable read for delegates.

Chris Piotrowski. *Earthquake in Haiti: A Failure in Crisis Management?* Organization Development Journal. Chesterland:Spring 2010. Vol. 28, Iss. 1, p. 107-112 (6 pp.)
Haiti is a prime example of a natural disaster which has bought the effect of post-disaster management into focus. This article is a great insight into potential failures in the management of the Haiti earthquake disasters. Delegates will find it necessary to reference specific case examples and this article lends itself to that.

Jared Wade. *After Haiti.* Risk Management. New York:Mar 2010. Vol. 57, Iss. 2, p. 22-27 (6 pp.)
Wade's article focuses on potential lessons learned from the Haiti earthquake disaster. Along with the article by Piotrowski, this article can serve as a good primer for delegates wishing to learn more about potential areas of improvement in current disaster management frameworks.

UNESCO. *Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation.* Retrieved from:
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0015/001504/150435e.pdf
UNESCO's primer on its roles in disaster prevention and post-disaster management is very clearly highlighted in this resource. Delegates should list this as a priority to read over to truly understand this topic and the role of the committee. This guide highlights all key aspects of UNESCO's involvement in disaster management through explanation of programs, examples of implementation and statistics.

Logue, James N. *Disasters, the environment, and public health: Improving our response* American Journal of Public Health. Washington: Sep 1996. Vol. 86, Iss. 9; pg. 1207, 4 pgs
This is a great introduction to the effect of natural and man-made disasters on the environment. It introduces concepts including environmental health and the effect of past disasters on the environment. The article also has potential recommendations and ideas for a framework.

Rules of Procedure
UNESCO

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the UNESCO (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") and shall be considered adopted by the Commission prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Committee Director, the Assistant Director(s), the Under Secretaries-General, and the Assistant Secretaries-General, are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Director-General, and are collectively referred to as the "Secretariat".
3. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Director-General or his or her designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the National Model United Nations, and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, "President" shall refer to the chairperson, or acting chairperson of the Commission.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 - Dates of convening and adjournment
The Commission shall meet every year in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 - Place of Sessions
The Commission shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

II. AGENDA
Rule 3 - Provisional agenda
The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to members of the United Nations at least 60 days before the opening of the session.

Rule 4 - Adoption of the agenda
The agenda provided by the Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting in the Commission. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote.
For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting in the Commission" means those delegates,
including observers, in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda
During a session, the Commission may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Permission to speak on a motion to revise the agenda shall be accorded only to three representatives in favor of, and three opposed to, the revision. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Commission so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

For purposes of this rule, the determination of an item as of "important and urgent character" is
subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final. If an item is
determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Commission to be placed
on the agenda. The votes described in this rule are substantive votes, and as such, observers are not
permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, "the members present and voting" means members

(not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum
Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or his/her designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Commission.
2. The Secretary-General shall provide and direct the staff required by the Commission and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat
The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Commission, and shall distribute documents of the Commission to the Members of the United Nations, and generally perform all other work which the Commission may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat
The Secretary-General, or his/her representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Commission concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 10 - Selection of the President
The Secretary-General or his/her designate shall appoint, from applications received by the Secretariat, a President who shall hold office and, inter alia, chair the committee for the duration of the session, unless otherwise decided by the Secretary-General.

Rule 11 - Replacement of the President
If the President is unable to perform his/her function, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Secretary-General.

IV. LANGUAGES

Rule 12 - Official and working language
English shall be the official and working language of the Commission.

Rule 13 - Interpretation
Any representative wishing to address any United Nations body or submit a document in a language other than English must provide translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the translation must be within the set time limit.

Rule 14 - Quorum
The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Commission are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the body concerned shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, "members of the Commission" and "members of the body" are based on the number of total members (not including observers) in attendance for the first night's session

Rule 15 - General powers of the President
In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Commission, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Commission and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. She or he shall rule on points of order. She or he may propose to the Commission the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each member may speak on an item, the adjournment or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President's power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendment. Further, the President is to use his or her discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of the NMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the Conference. For purposes of this rule, the President's power to "propose to the Commission" entails his or her power to "entertain" motions, and not to move the body on his or her own motion.

Rule 16
The President, in the exercise of his or her functions, remains under the authority of the Commission.

Rule 17 - Points of order
During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President. Any appeal of the decision of the President shall be immediately put to a vote, and the ruling of the President shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte, during the speech. For purposes of this rule, "the members present and voting" mean those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 18
A representative may not, in rising to a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 19 - Speeches
1. No one may address the Commission without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.
2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Commission, and the President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him or her to order without delay.

In line with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, if the President determines that the Commission in large part does not want to deviate from the limits to the speaker's time as it is then set, and that any additional motions will not be well received by the body, the President, in his or her discretion, and on the advice and consent of the Secretariat, may rule as dilatory any additional motions to change the limits of the speaker's time.

Rule 20 - Closing of list of speakers
Members may only be on the list of speakers once but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate the President may announce the list of speakers and, with consent of the Commission, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the

same effect as closure by decision of the Commission.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the President and should not be the subject of a motion by the Commission. A motion to close the speaker's list is within the purview of the Commission and the President should not on his own motion move the body.

Rule 21 - Right of reply
If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit a right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that "impugns the integrity of a representative's State" is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All rights of reply shall be made in writing addressed to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point or motion. The Reply shall be read to the body by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose.

Rule 22- Suspension of the meeting
During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

Rule 23 - Adjournment of the meeting
During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Commission shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last session of the Commission.

Rule 24 - Adjournment of debate
A representative may at any time move the adjournment of debate on the topic under discussion. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives favoring and two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall be put to a vote immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. If a motion for adjournment passes, the topic is considered dismissed and no action will be taken on it.

Rule 25 - Closure of debate
A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his or her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Commission favors the closure of debate, the Commission shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 26 - Order of motions
Subject to rule 21, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

a) To suspend the meeting;
b) To adjourn the meeting;

c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 27 - Proposals and amendments
Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the representatives present who would like the Commission to consider the proposal or amendment. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Commission unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the body for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, "representatives present" is based on the number of total representatives (including observers) in attendance at the first night's session. For purposes of this rule, all "proposals" shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Commission by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of that working paper. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of the NMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution/report. After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution/report and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Commission. These draft resolutions/reports are the collective property of the Commission, and as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

Rule 28 - Withdrawal of motions
A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic
When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Commission, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately.

For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting" mean those representatives, including observers, in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

V. VOTING

Rule 30 - Voting rights
Each member of the Commission shall have one vote.

This section applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to "member(s)" do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Rule 31 - Request for a vote
A proposal or motion before the Commission for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Commission may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, "proposal" means any draft resolution/report, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution/report divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclimation, or a member may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclimation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without vote.

Rule 32 - Majority required
1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.
All members declaring their representative states as "present and voting" during the attendance role call for the session during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain.

Rule 33 - Method of voting
1. The Commission shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call, and one of its representatives shall reply "yes," "no," "abstention," or "pass."

Only those members, who designate themselves as "present" or "present and voting" during the attendance roll call or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote, and as such, no others will be called during a roll call vote. Any representatives replying "pass," must, on the second time through respond with either "yes" or "no."
A "pass" cannot be followed by a second "pass" for the same proposal or amendment, nor can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment

1. When the Commission votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by the show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll call. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Commission shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.
2. The vote of each member participating in a roll call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 34 - Explanation of vote
Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes after the voting has been completed. The representatives of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

All explanations of vote must be submitted the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President immediately after voting on the topic has come to an end.

Rule 35 - Conduct during voting
After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connections with the actual process of voting.

Rule 36 - Division of proposals and amendments
Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If objection is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those

present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are involved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

For purposes of this rule, "most radical division" means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is "most radical" is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 37 - Amendments
An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from or revise part of another proposal.

An amendment can add, amend, or delete operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect perambulatory clauses.

Rule 38-Order of voting on amendments
When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

For purposes of this rule, "furthest removed in substance" means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is "furthest removed in substance" is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 39 - Order of voting on proposals
If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Commission decides otherwise, be voted on in order in which they were submitted.

Rule 40 - The President shall not vote
The President shall not vote but may designate another member of his or her delegation to vote in his or her place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 41 - Credentials
The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

Rule 42
The Commission shall be bound by the actions of the General Assembly in all credentials matters and shall take no action regarding the credentials of any member.

VII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Rule 43 - Participation of non-Member States
1. The Commission shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Commission and any other State, to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.
2. A committee or sessional body of the Commission shall invite any State that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

3. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

If the Commission considers that the presence of a Member invited according to this rule is no longer necessary, it may withdraw the invitation again. Delegates invited to the Commission according to this rule should also keep in mind their role and obligations in the committee that they were originally assigned to. For educational purposes of the NMUN Conference, the Secretariat may thus ask a delegate to return to his or her committee when his or her presence in the Commission is no longer required.

Rule 45 - Participation of national liberation movements
The Commission may invite any national liberation movement recognized by the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that movement.

Rule 46 - Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies
In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the specialized agencies shall be entitled:
a) To be represented at meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary organs;
b) To participate, without the right to vote, through their representatives, in deliberations with respect to items of concern to them and to submit proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Commission or of the subsidiary organ concerned.

Rule 47 - Participation of non-governmental organization and intergovernmental organizations
Representatives of non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations accorded consultative observer status by the General Assembly and other non-governmental organizations/intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Commission on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, with the procedural right to vote, but not the substantive right to vote, in the deliberations of the Commission on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.