

BOMUN 2017

Rules and terms

Terms:

General:

1. **Chairs**: The chairpersons are seated in the front with their gavel and facilitate the debate. They call on speakers, time speeches, and maintain the rules of procedure. If the conference gives awards, they will also evaluate your performance.

2. **Decorum**: order in committee. The chair may call decorum if delegates are loud or disrespectful, in order to ask for their attention during committee.

3. **Motion**: a specific action made by delegates to direct debate in a certain direction:

- *Motion to enter/close/extend formal/informal debate*

- *Motion to enter/extend unmoderated caucus*

- *Motion to set/extend speech time per delegate*

- *Motion to suspend/adjourn the meeting*

- *Motion to overrule the decision of the Chair*

4. **Speaker's List**: a list that contains the order of speakers in the committee. The specific way that the order is determined varies by conference. The Speaker's List is the default format of debate and committee will proceed with speeches until a delegate makes a motion to change up the debate format.

5. **Yield**: this is when a speaker decides to give up the remaining time in his or her speech. Typically, the three types of yields are:

- 1) *Yield to the Chair* (meaning you give up the rest of your time),
- 2) *Yield to another delegate* (meaning you give up the rest of your time to another delegate),
- 3) *Yield to questions* (from other delegates) or *Yield to comments* (to your speech by other delegates). Questions are also sometimes called *Points of Information*.

Points:

6. **Point of Inquiry**: used when a delegate has a question about something that is not clearly understood in committee. Use this to ask a question if you don't understand a term or get what's going on in committee.

7. ***Point of Personal Privilege***: used when a delegate experiences personal discomfort that hinders their ability to participate in committee. Examples: temperature of room, distractions during committee, can't hear another delegate, etc.

8. ***Point of Order*** (also called *Point of Parliamentary Procedure*): used when a delegate believes that there was a mistake made regarding the rules of procedure

Caucus:

9. ***Moderated Caucus***: A debate format that allows delegates to make short comments on a specific sub-issue. Typically, delegates who are interested in speaking will raise up their placards and the Chairs will call on delegates to speak one at a time. In order to move into a moderated caucus, the motion must include the overall speaking time, the time per speaker, and the sub-issue to be discussed. Example: *Italy moves for a 5 minute moderated caucus with 30 second speaking time per delegate for the purpose of discussing solutions to women's rights.*

10. ***Unmoderated Caucus*** (also called *Informal Caucus* or *Lobbying Sessions*): a debate format in which delegates can leave their seats to go and talk to others freely and informally. This is usually when delegates find allies and work on draft resolutions. In order to move into an unmoderated caucus, the motion must include the overall caucus time and preferably the purpose of the unmoderated caucus. Example: *Senegal moves for an unmoderated caucus for 10 minutes to complete draft resolutions.*

11. ***Blocs***: different groups that have similar ideas and opinions about the topics. In the real United Nations, there are regional blocs, but delegates can choose to build their own blocs in Model UN. These blocs will typically work together to create a draft resolution.