



# Guide to Draft Resolutions writing CILA 2018

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# Draft Resolution

The three organs that adopt Resolutions in the United Nations are:

The General Assembly



UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

The Security Council



UN Photo/JC McIlwaine

The Economic and Social Council



UN Photo/Kim Haughton

Source: United Nations

Retrieved on March 7, 2018, from <https://outreach.un.org/mun/content/drafting-resolutions>

# Draft Resolution

Nowadays, Resolutions are the direct result of informal consultations and negotiations.

- A Draft Resolution can be written by a single country or a group of countries with interests alike. They are called **Sponsor** or **Sponsors**.
- The main objective of each committee relies in the adoption of a single document, approved by the majority of the Member States.
- In the particular case of the General Assembly (GA), a Draft Resolution approved in the simulated committee (one of its 6 main committees) is then analyzed and put to the vote in the GA Plenary for its adoption as Resolution.



UN Photo/Mark Garten

Source: United Nations

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# Draft Resolution



UN Photo/Paulo Filgueiras

Before its formal adoption, there are two main practices used by the **Sponsors** for consulting other Member States on a Draft Resolution:

- Negotiations before *tabling* the Draft Resolution to the Bureau (Dais).
- Negotiations after *tabling* the Draft Resolution to the Bureau (Dais).

**\*Consulting and negotiating with other Member States ensures the success of a Draft Resolution.**

# Draft Resolution

## **Negotiations before *tabling* the Draft Resolution to the Bureau (Dais):**

The main **Sponsor** (country) consults with other Member States and holds informal negotiations on the Draft Resolution to obtain the “best version possible” to *table* it to the Dais. This allows immediate action following the formal presentation of an “L” document (component of the United Nations Document Symbols used for Draft Resolutions, it means “Limited distribution”). This is the normal practice in the GA Plenary. For **CILA**, Draft Resolutions will be classified as “PR” documents for Spanish committees and “DR” documents for English committees.

**Negotiations after *tabling* the Draft Resolution to the Bureau (Dais):** The main **Sponsor** (country) presents the Draft Resolution, “DR” document, without prior consultation with other Member States. After this procedure, informal negotiations among the countries take place, led by either the main Sponsor or by a facilitator designated by the Chair of the committee.

If consensus is achieved, the negotiated document will replace its predecessor. This takes place under two possible methods:

- The Sponsor withdraws the original “DR” document, and a new “DR” document is presented following its classification by the Dais of the committee.
- The Sponsor presents the negotiated document as a revision of the original “DR” document (classified as DR.xx/Rev.1).

\*In both cases, the resulting document is submitted to a vote, expecting to be adopted by consensus.

Source: United Nations

Retrieved on March 7, 2018, from <https://outreach.un.org/mun/content/drafting-resolutions>  
<https://research.un.org/en/docs/symbols>

# Draft Resolution

- If the negotiations do not result in consensus, the **Sponsor** can either request further action in the original “DR” document or in the negotiated “DR.xx/Rev.1”. In both cases the Draft Resolution is submitted to a vote, usually accompanied by amendment proposals and requests to vote by paragraph (Division of the Question).
- Drafting Resolutions and negotiation are closely related because normally the selection of the words that are used to describe an action that is to be taken on a particular item on the Agenda of the committee is included as part of the negotiation process.



UN Photo/Loey Felipe

Source: United Nations

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# Draft Resolution

## Structure of a Draft Resolution and often used clauses:

1. Each Draft Resolution consists of one long single sentence. It begins with the name of the main organ that is adopting it. For example: “The General Assembly” or “The Economic and Social Council”. This is the first element of a Draft Resolution.

### Source: United Nations

Retrieved on March 7, 2018, from <https://outreach.un.org/mun/content/drafting-resolutions>  
[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/297](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/297)  
<http://www.un.org/en/ga/second/72/editingguidelines.pdf>



### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 September 2012

*[on the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
(Fourth Committee) (A/66/428/Add.1)]*

#### **66/297. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

*Recalling in particular* its resolution 65/310 of 19 July 2011,

*Affirming* that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

*Convinced* of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,

*Considering* the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,

*Noting* the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries,

*Bearing in mind* the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 16 to 289 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all steps necessary to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

<sup>1</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/66/19).



# Draft Resolution

## Structure of a Draft Resolution and often used clauses:

2. The name of the main organ is then followed by several preambular paragraphs (the second element of a Draft Resolution). These are not really paragraphs, but clauses in a long single sentence that is the Draft Resolution. The clauses start with a verb ending in -ing (e.g., “Recalling”, “Taking in consideration”, etc.), they are capitalized and written in italics. The preambular paragraphs end with a comma (.). They serve to present the background to the action part (operative paragraphs) of the Draft Resolution. They are also used to build an argument and obtain support.

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,*

*Recalling in particular its resolution 65/310 of 19 July 2011,*

*Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,*

*Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,*

*Considering the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,*

*Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries,*

*Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,*

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<http://www.un.org/en/ga/second/72/editingguidelines.pdf>  
<http://research.un.org/en/docs/resolutions>

# Draft Resolution

## Preambular clauses:

Acting in virtue	Believing that	Observing with appreciation
Also lamenting	Realizing that	Observing with worry
Also remembering	Declaring	Thoroughly alarmed
Warning as well	Wishing for	Thoroughly conscious
Warning with grief	Remarking	Deeply repenting
Warning in worry	Emphasizing	Deeply conscious
Warning in satisfaction	Expecting	Deeply convinced
Affirming	Expressing its appreciation	Deeply worried
Alarmed by	Expressing its satisfaction	Reaffirming
Encouraged by	Guided by	Recognizing
Looking	Having adopted	Reminding
Celebrating	Having considered	Referring to
Conscious of	Having studied	Signaling
Considering	Having examined	Deeply Remarking
Contemplating	Having heard	Having in mind
Convinced	Having recieved	Having present
Thoroughly believing	Observing	Taking into account

# Draft Resolution

## Structure of a Draft Resolution and often used clauses:

3. The operative part has numbered paragraphs, unless there is only one. They begin with verbs in present tense, also capitalized, and finish with semi-colon (;) except for the last paragraph, which has a period (.) at the end of it.

The operative paragraphs state the actions that the organ, committee, commission, specialized organism or conference has decided to take. Precise clear language enhances political impact and facilitates implementation. Brief paragraphs are preferable, as they are politically much more powerful.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;<sup>1</sup>

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 16 to 289 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all steps necessary to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

4. *Reiterates* that those Member States that become personnel contributors to the United Nations peacekeeping operations in years to come or participate in the future in the Special Committee for three consecutive years as observers shall, upon request in writing to the Chair of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, become members at the following session of the Special Committee;

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

7. *Decides* to include in the draft agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects".

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# Draft Resolution

## Operative Clauses

Accepts	Consider	Regret
Affirms	Decide	It draws attention
Also invites	Declares	Notice
Also proclaims	Designes	Asks
Also recommends	Estimates	Also asks
Also remembers	Exhorts	Proclaims
Also solves	Demand	Reaffirms
Advices	Express the desire	Recommend
It states	Express its recognition	Remind
Encourages	Congratulates	Supports
Support	Finally sentence	Only affirm
Approve	It has been solved	Request
Authorizes	Emphasizes	Underline
Sentence	Calls to	Take into account
Trusts	Incites	Take note
Confirms	Invite	Transmit

# Draft Resolution

## Operative Clauses

Accepts	Directs	Notes with concern
Adopts	Draws the attention	Notes with satisfaction
Agrees	Emphasizes	Proclaims
Appeals	Encourages	Reaffirms
Approves	Endorses	Recommends
Authorizes	Expresses appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses hope	Reminds
Commends	Further invites	Repeals
Condemns	Further proclaims	Requests
Confirms	Further recommends	Resolves
Congratulates	Further reminds	Strongly condemns
Considers	Further requests	Suggests
Decides	Further resolves	Supports
Declares	Has resolved	Takes note
Deplores	Invites	Transmits
Designates	Notes	Trusts
Determines	Notes with approval	Urges

# Draft Resolution

## Structure of a Draft Resolution and tips on ordering paragraphs in the preambular section:

1. If any of the preambular paragraphs refers to the Charter of the United Nations, it should go to the beginning. The full name of the document must be written the first time it is mentioned.

*"The General Assembly,*

*Recalling Article 2, paragraph 1, and Articles 17, 18, 97 and 100 of the Charter of the United Nations, "*

2. References to previous Resolutions usually come in second place:

*"Also recalling its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 52/12 B, of 19 December 1997, ..."*

3. Next, it is proper to include general observations about the content and/or purpose of the resolution that will serve as basis for the rest of the text.
4. Finally, it is considered desirable to include a reference to a report on this topic, this will go last. It is not proper to include the classification or "symbol" of the document in the text, it would go in a footnote.

*"Having examined the Report of the Secretary-General entitled "'Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: ensuring a better future for all<sup>3</sup>,"*

# Draft Resolution

Name of the organ / committee

Source: United Nations

Retrieved on March 7, 2018, from

[http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/297](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/66/297)

United Nations

A/RES/66/297



General Assembly

Distr.: General  
24 September 2012

Sixty-sixth session  
Agenda item 54

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 September 2012

[on the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee  
(Fourth Committee) (A/66/428/Add.1)]

### 66/297. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

→ The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolution 65/310 of 19 July 2011,

Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,

Considering the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

1. Welcomes the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;<sup>1</sup>

2. Endorses the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee, contained in paragraphs 16 to 289 of its report;

3. Urges Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all steps necessary to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

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Preambular  
clauses

Operative  
clauses

Before *tabling* a Draft Resolution to the Bureau (Dais), you must ensure that:

- Your Delegation agrees that the Draft is ready to be submitted to the Bureau (Dais) and to be classified.
- The your Draft Resolution is supported by other Delegations. Be aware of the Draft's possibilities to be approved before it is *tabled*.
- Those delegations you want to co-sponsor the Draft Resolution have been consulted throughout, that they are happy with the final text and are willing to co-sponsor it.
- The wording is correct and the terminology used is accurate. This relates both to its content and how it is expressed.
- Your Draft Resolution has been submitted to the Bureau (MUN Secretariat) ahead of time so the document is duly shared with the rest of the Delegations before it is introduced on the floor (committee).

# Draft Resolution



UN Photo/Mark Garten

Source: United Nations

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# Thank you for your attention!



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