

The following is what Model UN-ers call the “flow of debate” – the order in which events proceed during a Model UN conference. During the conference, debate unfolds in several different parts. The chart below shows the various stages of debate that can be expected to take place.

### *Roll Call*

The Chairperson will announce each country’s name. After delegates hear their country, they should **raise their placards and answer “present”**.

### **Formal Debate**

Formal debate revolves around a speakers’ list. The Chair begins by asking all delegates interested in addressing the other members to **raise their placards**. The Chair then chooses delegates to be placed on the speakers’ list. A country may only be on the speakers’ list once, but delegates may again add their country to the list after their speech.

### *Debate*

#### **Formal Debate**

Formal debate revolves around a speakers’ list. The Chair begins by asking all delegates interested in addressing the other members to raise their placards. The Chair then chooses delegates to be placed on the speakers’ list. A country may speak multiple times but may not have their names twice on the speakers’ list at any one time.

- 1a. When the session begins, speeches focus on stating **country positions** and offering recommendations for action.
- 2a. After blocs have met, speeches focus on describing **bloc positions** to the entire body.
- 3a. Delegates now make **statements describing their draft resolutions** to the committee.



#### **Informal Debate**

Informal debate involves discussion outside of the speakers’ list. During moderated caucuses, the Chair calls on delegates one-by-one so that each can address the committee in short speeches. During unmoderated caucuses, the committee **breaks for a temporary recess** so that delegates may meet with each other and discuss ideas.

- 1b. After several countries state their positions, the committee breaks for caucuses (often in blocs) to **develop regional positions**.
- 2b. Writing begins as countries work together to **compose draft resolutions**.
- 3b. Countries and groups meet to gather support for specific **draft resolutions**.

4a. Delegates try **to garner more support** through formal speeches and invite others to offer their ideas.



4b. Delegates **finalize draft resolutions.**

5a. Delegates make statements supporting or disagreeing with **specific draft resolutions.**



5b. Draft-resolution sponsors **build greater support** for their resolution

6a. A delegate moves to **close debate.**

#### *Close of Debate*

Once a delegate feels that his or her country's position is clear to others and that there are enough draft resolutions on the floor, he or she may **make a motion to proceed into voting procedure by moving for the closure of debate.** This motion may be made even if there are still speakers on the speakers' list. However, if the speakers' list is exhausted, the committee will automatically move into voting procedures.

#### *Voting Procedures*

Once a motion to close debate has been approved, the committee moves into voting procedure. Each resolution is read aloud and displayed to the committee before voting. Every delegation will have **one vote per resolution.** Each delegation **must vote for each resolution** (either in favor or against), and **can vote in favor of as many resolutions as they wish.** Therefore, multiple resolutions may pass the committee and the outcome of any resolution has no effect on the other resolutions. A resolution requires **51% of the vote to pass.\***

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Voting procedures are different in the Security Council. Please refer to the Security Council Background Guide for more information.