



# SEMMUNA Security Council Rules

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## S-2 Rules

The rules of procedure labeled herein as Security Council rules shall be the only rules of procedure used in the proceedings of the Security Council.

## S-4 Powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere in these rules, the President shall:

1. Serve as Chair, or appoint a delegate of a Security Council member nation to do so for a duration to be determined by the President. Appointments and their duration are not subject to appeal.
2. Act as legal counsel to the Chair, if the Chair is a delegate.
3. Declare the opening and closing of sessions.
4. Direct and control the proceedings of the Security Council, subject to these rules.

In order to facilitate the progress of the Security Council's work, the President may:

1. Declare recesses and limit time for debate on procedural matters.
2. Propose procedural motions to the body, which shall require a second from a Security Council member in order to be considered.

The President shall have no vote.

## S-5 Powers of the Chair

In addition to exercising those powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere in these rules, the Chair shall:

1. Ensure decorum and the observance of these rules.
2. Accord the right to address the body.
3. Put questions to a vote and announce decisions.
4. Rule on points of order.

The Chair, if a delegate, shall remain neutral in his/her conduct as Chair and shall clearly indicate whether he/she is speaking as the Chair or as the representative of his/her country. The Chair

may be overruled by the President on procedural matters.

## S-6 Authority of the President and the Chair

The President and the Chair, in the exercise of their functions, remain under the authority of the Security Council. A representative may appeal the ruling of either, subject to rule S-21.

## S-7 Statements by the Office of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General, or a member of his/her office designated as his/her representative, may at any time make oral or written statements to the Security Council.

## S-10 Provisional Agenda

The provisional agenda for the Security Council shall be drawn up by the President and approved by the Security Council. The first item of the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda. Items on the agenda may be deleted by the Security Council. Additional items of an important and urgent character may be placed on the agenda if the Security Council so desires.

## S-11 Priorities

The Security Council, taking into account the number of items on its agenda and the amount of time allocated for meetings, shall adopt its own priorities. Unless the Security Council decides otherwise, agenda items will be considered in the order in which they appear on the Council Agenda as provided by the Office of the Secretary-General.

## S-12 Order of Consideration

If two or more resolutions relate to the same question, the Security Council shall, unless it decides otherwise, discuss the resolutions in the order in which they were submitted to the President. This matter is not subject to debate.

### **S-13 Resolutions and Amendments**

All resolutions and amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Chair, who shall review them before permitting them to be considered by the body. The proposal must include the sponsor's name, sponsor's country, and the number of the resolution or amendment to be changed (if an amendment). An amendment containing changes to the preamble must also contain changes to at least one operative clause. An amendment may be moved from the floor; by doing so, the speaker immediately yields his/her remaining time to the Chair.

### **5-14 Dilatory Amendments and Proposals**

The Chair may rule out of order as dilatory any amendment which closely approximates an amendment upon which the body has already decided, or makes changes which would leave no rational proposition before the assembly, or is frivolous or absurd, or radically alters the focus and intent of a proposal. Secondary amendments must relate to the primary amendments as well as to the main motion. Tertiary amendments shall not be accepted. The ruling of an amendment as dilatory is subject to appeal.

### **S-15 Method of Voting**

The Security Council shall normally vote by a show of hands, but shall take a roll call vote upon the request of any nine members and at all times when deciding substantive matters. Each national shall have one vote in all matters, and no nation may cast a vote on behalf of another nation. The roll call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the member states. When the name of each member is called, that member shall reply only "yes," "no," "abstain," or "pass." The Chair shall then return to the nations which passed. If a nation passes a second time, it shall be recorded as an abstention. After each member nation has cast its vote, the Chair shall ask for any changes in vote. Adding the right of explanation is not considered a change in vote. No nation may change its vote more than twice. The results of the vote shall be announced by the Chair and inserted into the official record. After the announcing of the vote, no further changes in vote shall be accepted.

### **S-16 Voting on Procedural Matters**

Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.

### **S-17 Voting on All Other Matters**

Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an *affirmative* vote of nine members including the non-negative votes of the five permanent members. A vote in the amendment or resolution shall be taken when debate has been closed on the proposal through a successful motion for previous question, the exhaustion of the speakers' list, or the expiration of a limit on debate, provided there is no motion on the floor.

### **S-18 Conduct During Voting**

After the Chair has announced the beginning of voting procedure, no representative may interrupt the proceedings except with a point of order in connection with the actual voting procedure. During a roll call vote, the Chair may permit members to explain their vote. The right of explanation shall be given after voting is dosed but before the results are announced. The Chair may limit the time allowed for these explanations. Only those member nations who did not speak during debate on the resolution or amendment just voted upon may request right of explanation. Voting procedure is not ended until the vote has been announced by the Chair.

### **S-19 Reconsideration of Proposals**

When a substantive proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be considered at the same session unless the Security Council so desires. This motion shall be considered substantive, subject to rule S-17.

### **S-20 Speeches**

No representative shall address the body without the permission of the Chair. The Chair shall call upon member nations in a fair and unbiased order. The Chair shall call the representative to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject

under consideration of if he/she has exceeded his/her allotted time. If a representative completed his/her speech on a substantive proposal within the time limitation (if any), he/she may yield his/her remaining time to one other member. A representative may yield to a question only if he/she has enough time remaining. Multiple speakers from the same delegation shall not be considered as yielding. If one nation yields time to a second, only the second nation may answer questions. Once a delegate has finished speaking and has yielded to questions or made a motion, he/she may not then yield speaking time to another nation.

### **S-21 Right of Reply**

The Chair may, at its discretion, accord the right of reply to any member making such a request, if a speech delivered by another representative makes this desirable. It shall be the policy of the Chair to accord the right of reply when a preceding speech has contained extraordinary remarks bearing directly on the national or personal dignity of the delegate concerned. The right of reply shall not be subject to debate, vote, or appeal, and the Chair may limit the time accorded for the reply. Requests for the right of reply must be submitted in writing and specify the remark to which the delegate objects.

### **S-22 Points of Order**

A representative may rise to a point of order to call the chair's attention to an infraction or misapplication of these rules. The Chair shall immediately rule in accordance with these rules of procedure. A representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under consideration. Any representative may appeal a ruling of the Chair. The representative shall explain his/her position, and the Chair shall explain the original decision, and the body shall then vote on the appeal. The question shall be phrased, "Shall the decision of the Chair be overruled?" (A "no" vote supports the chair.) Appeals must be made immediately following the ruling in question.

### **S-23 Withdrawal of Procedural Motions and Resolutions**

A procedural motion or draft resolution may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that the motion or resolution has not been amended. A motion or resolution which has been thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any member.

### **S-24 Division of the Question**

After debate is closed, and before the voting procedure begins, a representative may move that parts of any substantive proposal be voted on separately. The motion must specify the method of division and is not amendable. If the motion for division is approved, those parts of the proposal which are subsequently approved will then be put to a vote as a whole. The preamble must stand as a whole. Only the operative clauses may be divided. The Chair may rule a motion of division dilatory, if he/she considers the motion an attempt to obstruct the progress of the body. The Chair shall rule out of order as dilatory any motion to divide that would leave no rational proposal before the body. Division of the question shall be carried out at the request of any representative unless there is objection. If an objection is voiced the motion shall be debated to the extent of one speaker in favor, one opposed, and put to a vote. A motion to divide must be submitted in writing to the Chair, who shall review it before permitting it to be moved from the floor. The Chair may announce deadline for the submission of divisions of the question: this deadline may be no earlier than the closure of debate.

### **S-26 Postpone Definitely**

During the discussion of any matter in the Security Council, a representative may move the postponement of debate on the item under consideration. The motion must clearly indicate when debate on the item is to be resumed. This is amendable only as to time stated for resumption of debate. The motion is debatable to the extent of one in favor, one opposed.

### **S-27 Invitation to Non-Members of the Security Council**

The Security Council shall invite non-members to participate in its discussions in accordance with Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter. Invitations shall normally be made

at the request of any member, but if challenged shall be subject to a vote under Rule S-16.

### **S-28 Proposals and Draft Resolutions of Non-Members of the Security Council**

Any members of the United Nations invited in accordance with Rule S-27 to participate in the discussions of the Security Council may submit draft resolutions and proposals. These draft resolutions and proposals may only be moved to the floor for discussion or put to a vote at the request of a Security Council member.

### **S-30 Parliamentary Short Form**

Appended to these rules is a parliamentary short form which provides information about the various points and motions and establishes the order of precedence for motions. This form shall be considered part of the Rules of Procedure.

### **S-31 Point of Inquiry**

This point is used to make inquiries concerning parliamentary procedure, the status of business, asking a delegate a question, or any other relevant question pertaining to the business of the body. The point of inquiry shall be directed to the Chair and shall be used for clarification only.

### **S-32 Point of Privilege**

This point relates to the rights and comforts of the members of the body. If the Chair judges that the representative's point is valid, an attempt shall immediately be made to rectify the situation.

### **S-33 Recess**

Any motion to recess the meeting must include the time when the body will reconvene. When the body reconvenes, business shall continue as it would have had the body not recessed.

### **S-34 Tabling**

Any representative may move to table a substantive motion. The purpose of the motion is to set aside the proposal currently

under discussion, in order to move on to the discussion of other matters. This motion is debatable to the extent of one in favor, one opposed.

### **S-35 Take from the Table**

Any representative may move to resume discussion of a proposal previously tabled by moving to take it from the table. This motion is in order unless substantive business has not been transacted since the proposal was tabled. It is in order only when there is no unfinished business on the floor. This motion is debatable to the extent of one in favor and one opposed.

### **S-36 Limited or Extend Limit of Debate**

Any representative may move to limit debate or to extend a limit on debate. The motion may limit the number of speakers, length of speeches, length of debate on a particular resolution and/or topic, or any combination of the above. This motion is debatable to the extent of one in favor and one opposed.

### **S-37 Committee of the Whole**

The body may move into a committee of the whole when informal but structured, debate appears beneficial. During committee of the whole, the Chair shall direct discussion and maintain reasonable order. This motion is debatable to extent of one in favor and one opposed.

### **S-38 Rise and Report**

This is the only motion in order during committee of the whole. It may be moved by any member at any time during committee of the whole. The Chair may rule as dilatory any attempt by a member to use this rule to obstruct the body's discussion. This motion is debatable to the extent of one in favor and one opposed.