Position Papers & Resolutions

SALMUN 2014
**Position Paper - Format**

**Heading:**
- Committee
- Topic
- Country
- Delegates

**Purpose:**
- State your country’s position in regards to the issue being discussed.
- “Introduction” to resolution
- Persuade (basis of speech)

**Paragraph 1: Introduction to issue**
- outline of main problems (according to the country you’re representing) associated with issue

**Paragraph 2: Country’s perspective**
- give and explain your country’s policy regarding the issue
- past and current information on the issue to support your position

**Paragraph 3: Solutions**
- list your solutions (according to your country’s position) to the problems you presented above
Position Paper - Tips

❖ **Keep it short**: a position paper does not need to be any longer than **two pages**!
❖ Your focus needs to be on the **present**, use background information only to support your claims (this is particularly related to your second paragraph)
❖ On your second paragraph, include:
  • *why* the problem arose according to your country
  • *why* is it of *international concern*
  • *Previous actions* taken to try and solve the problem (if any) → successes and failures
  • *Problems that continue to exist*
❖ On you last paragraph, make sure to be **specific** (*how* will each proposal be implemented) and have a well-rounded solution to the issues at hand & include what will be the impact of what is being proposed
The Hamburger Method of Organization

Contents - The country's background on the topic including:

- Top Bun (Introduction) - A brief introduction to the country and its history regarding the topic and/or UN body.
- Lettuce: The country’s actions on a national level, including political and/or foreign policy and/or UN body
- Tomato: The country’s actions on the international level, including resolutions, conventions and declarations that the country supports
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard, pickles, etc.): Counterargument and Rebuttal, the debater’s SPIKE! (Yes, But!)
- Burger - Quotes taken from speeches made by heads of the government and/or government representatives.
- Burger 2 (optional) - Statistics regarding the issue
- Bottom Bun (Conclusion): The country’s recommendation for a resolution for the topic.

Think about the importance of ordering things logically (e.g., the hamburger shouldn’t be on the top of the bun!).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>INFORMATION</th>
<th>SOURCE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro</td>
<td>Brief introduction to your country</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Its history concerning the topic and/or UN body</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issue</td>
<td>How the issue affects your country</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Your country’s policies with respect to the issue and your country’s justification for these policies</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Quotes from your country’s leaders about the issue</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Statistics to back up your country’s position on the issue</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>UN actions that your country supported or opposed</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Resolutions</td>
<td>What your country believes should be done to address the issue</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What your country would like to accomplish in the committee’s resolution</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Counterarguments and rebuttal! (Yes, BUT!!!!)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How the positions of other countries affect your country’s position</td>
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</table>
#1

Given the religious differences and history of animosity between Israelis and Palestinians, many human rights violations have occurred in the Gaza Strip against both Middle Eastern nationalities. Though one side might claim that it’s only the other side that is attacking or maybe that the violence is just retaliation, there is substantial evidence blaming both Israel and Palestine for the attacks. At different moments within the last few decades, both Israel and Palestine have disrupted the peace and tried to illustrate their power and mightness through the use of force. Unfortunately, while Palestine has perturbed the Israeli administration and the Israel defense through violence, Israel is responsible for attacking with ammunition, beatings and mass. On top of that, Israel has enforced a blockade of the Gaza Strip. All of these are direct infringements of the human rights, particularly Article 3, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person”. Therefore, given the mounting number of victims, including fatal ones, it’s vital for the Human Rights Committee to discuss this topic in order to find a feasible solution.

Though Argentina has better relations with Israel historically, its relations with Palestine are improving, and it realizes that both countries have violated human rights. Thus, the ultimate goal of Argentina is to achieve peace and save lives. Regardless of the strong Argentina-Israel ties, Argentina recognized the independent Palestinian state in 2010, which Israel obviously didn’t appreciate. Furthermore, in 2012, Cristina Kirchner, the president of Argentina back then, stated that Argentina was determined to reinvigorate the peace process between Israel-Palestine. In addition, Argentina has sent “humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip which consists of food aid, medicines, tents and water treatment tablets” in 2009, which indicates Argentina’s willingness to alleviate the suffering and violations of human rights.

Thus, Argentina believes that the UN should consider addressing this issue through many facets, including negotiations, humanitarian aid and buffer zone. Firstly, regardless of all disagreements and quarrels, Israel and Palestine must continue dialoguing in order to agree upon a truce, like the one in 2005. Though only the two nations can decide upon a complete ceasefire and respecting the human rights of the citizens, such talks should be mediated and encouraged by a third party, like Argentina. Secondly, other aspects important to reestablish the borders and buffer zones as Israel has occupied many areas that it shouldn’t have. An UN-sponsored ceasefire and reestablishment of borders should have a deadline. Thirdly, humanitarian aid sent to the Gaza Strip should be continued, as well as UN personnel in order to assure the protection of all people, regardless of birthplace.

#2

The United States is currently facing a grave situation in relation to Iran. There are 52 American hostages being held captive at the embassy in Tehran and the Iranian government demands $32 billion to be paid in exchange for the release of the hostages. President Carter had given up on diplomatic means, performing operation Eagle Claw in April 1980, but this was a failure, and therefore, Ronald Reagan (the new president) has decided to return to diplomacy.

The United Kingdom recognizes that they have helped in the overthrow of the Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh, together with the government of the United States in the coup d’etat of 1953, which led to the instalment of Reza Pahlavi, the Shah of Iran, to rule as an absolute monarch. The Shah lived a life of excess, and the people starved and lived in constant fear. In 1979, the people of Iran overthrew the Shah – the Iranian Revolution - and caused the return of the previously exiled Ayatollah Khomeini to rule the country. Reza Shah Pahlavi was granted asylum in the US, since he was dying of cancer, and the people of Iran were outraged on the 4th November 1979 when they stormed the US embassy in Iran, took 90 people hostage, and demanded that the Shah be returned to Iran to face a trial in return for the hostages.

The United Kingdom believes it is crucial to get the hostages to safety, either by removing them from Iran or reaching a peace agreement between the USA and the Iranian government. This delegation thinks a peace treaty would be the best way to do this, and would suggest the Iranian government to deliver the hostages back to the USA as soon as possible, without paying anything for exchange, since the UK considers this unreasonable. If consent is not reached, the UK suggests military action from the USA and is prepared to help with supplies if it is needed.
United Nations resolutions are formal expressions of the opinion or will of United Nations organs. They generally consist of two clearly defined sections: a preamble and an operative part. The preamble generally presents the considerations on the basis of which action is taken, an opinion expressed or a directive given. The operative part states the opinion of the organ or the action to be taken.
Resolution - Purpose

❖ a formal text adopted by a United Nations (UN) body
❖ can be issued by any UN body, though in practice most resolutions are issued by the General Assembly and the Security Council
❖ includes recommendations that UN member states are expected to follow
❖ binding resolutions can only be issued by the Security Council
  ❖ decisions taken under Chapter VII (involving "threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, or acts of aggression")
  ❖ e.g.: economic sanctions
Resolution - MUN

- basis of debate
  - unmoderated caucus: merge resolutions and find co-submitters
  - moderated caucus: speeches against or in favor, amendments, voting
Resolution - Components

❖ Heading (MUN):
  COMMITTEE: American Caucus
  QUESTION OF: Deciding upon the Internationalization of the Amazon Rainforest
  MAIN SUBMITTERS: Brazil
  CO-SUBMITTERS: Mexico, Chile, USA*

“The (committee),”

❖ Preambulatory clauses
❖ Operative clauses

United Nations
A/RES/68/65
Distr.: General
11 December 2013

General Assembly

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 102

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013
[on the report of the First Committee (A/68/414)]

68/65. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(57)/RES/15, adopted on 20 September 2013,
Tips

Reference official UN documents
❖ adopted resolutions
Preambulatory:
❖ Written points of information
❖ Arguments in favor of your country’s perspective
❖ Reasons for your proposed solution
❖ Ends with a comma

E.g.:
My country wants to get rid of slavery:
❖ Deeply disturbed by the cruel and degrading manner in which slaves are treated,
❖ Noting that slavery violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
### Sample Preambulatory Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affirming</th>
<th>Expecting</th>
<th>Having studied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alarmed by</td>
<td>Expressing its appreciation</td>
<td>Keeping in mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approving</td>
<td>Expressing its satisfaction</td>
<td>Noting with regret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of</td>
<td>Fulfiling</td>
<td>Noting with deep concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing in mind</td>
<td>Fully alarmed</td>
<td>Noting with satisfaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believing</td>
<td>Fully aware</td>
<td>Noting further</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confident</td>
<td>Fully believing</td>
<td>Noting with approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemplating</td>
<td>Further deploring</td>
<td>Observing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convinced</td>
<td>Further recalling</td>
<td>Reaffirming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaring</td>
<td>Guided by</td>
<td>Realizing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deeply concerned</td>
<td>Having adopted</td>
<td>Recalling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deeply conscious</td>
<td>Having considered</td>
<td>Recognizing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deeply convinced</td>
<td>Having considered further</td>
<td>Referring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deeply disturbed</td>
<td>Having devoted attention</td>
<td>Seeking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deeply regretting</td>
<td>Having examined</td>
<td>Taking into account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desiring</td>
<td>Having heard</td>
<td>Taking into consideration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emphasizing</td>
<td>Having received</td>
<td>Taking note</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Viewing with appreciation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Welcoming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resolution - Format

Operative:
❖ Country's proposed solution to the problem
❖ Specific measures other countries and organizations should take to resolve the issue
❖ Operative clauses may have subclauses (a, b, c...) and subsubclauses (i, ii, iii...)
❖ Ends with a semicolon, final one with a period:
  ➢ "Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

E.g.:
My country wants to get rid of slavery:
❖ Encourages all countries to ban slavery;
❖ Expresses its appreciation for the countries that have taken measures to stop slave trade;
❖ Calls upon all countries to ensure all slave traders are sent to prison.
### Sample Operative Phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accepts</th>
<th>Encourages</th>
<th>Further recommends</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affirms</td>
<td>Endorses</td>
<td>Further requests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approves</td>
<td>Expresses its appreciation</td>
<td>Further resolves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorizes</td>
<td>Expresses its hope</td>
<td>Has resolved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls</td>
<td>Further invites</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calls upon *</td>
<td>Deplores</td>
<td>Proclams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condemns</td>
<td>Designates</td>
<td>Reaffirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirms</td>
<td>Draws the attention</td>
<td>Recommends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congratulates</td>
<td>Emphasizes</td>
<td>Regrets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considers</td>
<td>Encourages</td>
<td>Reminds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declares accordingly</td>
<td>Endorses</td>
<td>Requests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deplores</td>
<td>Expresses its appreciation</td>
<td>Solemnly affirms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designates</td>
<td>Expresses its hope</td>
<td>Strongly condemns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draws the attention</td>
<td>Further invites</td>
<td>Supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emphasizes</td>
<td>Further proclaims</td>
<td>Takes note of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Further reminds</td>
<td>Transmits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Trusts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*only Security Council: Condemns, Demands*
Resolution - Example #1

COMMITTEE: Security Council
QUESTION OF: Crimean Crisis
MAIN SUBMITTER: Russian Federation
CO-SUBMITTERS:

The Security Council,

Recognizing the right of self-determination of people,
Acknowledging the importance of the respect for international law,
Seeking Crimean people’s territorial integrity and sovereignty,
Stressing the legitimacy of the rights and interests of all ethnic groups in Crimea,
Noting with regret the United States’ financial manipulation of the new Ukraine government,
Noting with deep concern the persecution of ethnic Russians in Crimea,
Noting with satisfaction that the Crimean parliament member Vladimir Konstatinov stated on March 13, 2014 “Russia and Georgia should take care of the oil and gas production” in the region,

Recognizing that Ukraine and Russia have historical ties of mutual cooperation,

1. Declares the legality of Crimea’s annexation to the Russian Federation considering the following documents or statements regarding international law:
   a. Article 1 of the United Nations Charter,
   b. Article 2 of the United Nations Charter,
   c. A 2010 advisory opinion of the United Nations International Court of Justice asserting the legality of Kosovo’s declaration of independence despite the lack of a proper referendum or approval from Serbia which included the following statement: “General international law contains no prohibition on declarations of independence”
   d. Written Statement of the United States of America on April 17, 2009 which included the following statement: “Declarations of independence may, and often do, violate domestic legislation. However, this does not make them violations of international law”
   e. The United Kingdom’s public willingness to recognize a separatist region to obtain independence if the results of the referendum justify it;

2. Requests that all United Nations member-states recognize the unconditional and inalienable right to self-determination by the Crimean people by officially acknowledging the results of the legitimate Crimean referendum and the region’s subsequent legal accession to the Russian Federation;

3. Condemns the following countries for placing arbitrary trade and economic sanctions upon Russian and Crimean individuals, leading to the interruption of global economic trade and cooperation:
   a. United States of America,
   b. United Kingdom,
   c. Canada,
   d. France;

4. Calls upon all economic sanctions, imposed on Russian financial institutions and citizens to be immediately and permanently lifted since they entail a coercive and aggressive action, contrary to any form of diplomatic dialogue, including but not limited to Executive Order 13660 by American President Obama;

5. Emphasizes the importance of legitimate and speedy democratic elections to occur in the Ukraine which should be closely monitored by Amnesty International members along with UN officials for incidences of anti-Semitism, Neo-Nazi and Russophobia by:
   a. Immediate establishment of multiple political parties,
   b. Monitoring of voting places throughout the nation,
   c. Counting of ballots,
   d. Ensuring the secure representation of all Ukrainian citizens,
   e. Safeguarding the smooth implementation of the new democratic and legitimate government;

6. Demands formal apology from Ukraine for:
   a. Destroying 2 pro-Russian military bases in close proximity to the Russian border on May 15, 2014
   b. Attempting to revoke the official status of the Russian language in Ukraine
   c. The continuous threats against the Black Sea Fleet whose establishments date back to the 18th century

7. Urges that the Ukraine educational system be remodelled within a span of 5 years by UNESCO to account for tolerance and appreciation of ethnic minorities, in order to:
   a. Reduce the perpetuation of Neo-Nazi, Russophobia, and anti-Semitism,
   b. Halt the persecution of ethnic minorities such as but not limited to;

8. Declares that if Ukraine complies with the aforementioned terms, Russia will:
   a. Reduce once more the price of natural gas supplied to Ukraine from $485 per 1000 cubic meters to $260 per 1000 cubic meters,
   b. Establish Tatar, Russian and Ukrainian as official languages of Crimea, as promised by President Putin, in order to recognize the ethnic minorities still inhabiting Crimean territory;
   c. Resume Trade Treaty with Ukraine,
   d. Agree to reopen the G8 summit;

9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
COMMITTEE: Historical Security Council

QUESTION OF: NATO Invasion of Afghanistan

MAIN SUBMITTERS: Afghanistan

CO-SUBMITTERS:

The Historical Security Council,

Reminding that in December 17, 1984 the UN General Assembly passed resolution A/RES/39/159 which states "that all States take no actions aimed at military intervention and occupation, especially in order to undermine the socio-political system of States, destabilization and overthrow of their Governments and, in particular, initiate no military action that end under any pretext whatsoever and cease forthwith any such action already in progress."

Emphasizing that according to the UN Charter, it is strictly forbidden the use of force by any country to topple foreign governments,

Pointing out that Article 52 of the UN Charter restricts agencies such as and including NATO, to activities that follow the purposes and principles of the United Nations which results in the impossibility of NATO’s actions to contradict the authority of the UN Charter,

Alarmed by the fact that the United States of America and the United Kingdom launched unwarned airstrikes on many locations in Afghanistan, including the city of Kabul, the national airport, Kandahar, and the city of Jalalabad, starting on October 7, 2001 and still ongoing, killing up to 20,000 civilian Afghans until now,

Convinced that the airstrikes can be classified as terrorism according to The Convention to Suppress Terrorist Bombings, signed and ratified by the UK and signed by the US on January 12, 1998 as expressed in Article 24 describing the characteristics of a terrorist bomber: "...unlawfully and intentionally delivers, places, discharges or detonates a bomb, explosive, lethal or incendiary device in, into, or against a place of public use, a state or government facility, a public transportation system or an infrastructure facility with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury or the destruction of such a place resulting in major economic loss."

Deeply disturbed by George W. Bush’s and his allies’ ironic decision to utilize destructive war actions against Afghanistan in order to combat alleged terrorism,

Taking into account that the United States provided funds to the Northern Alliance, supporting an offensive against the Taliban which goes completely against The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (February 25, 2000), according to Article 2 which makes it an offence to directly or indirectly provide funds to be used to carry out: "...any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in the hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act."

Fully aware that on October 1, 1985 Israel bombed the headquarters of the PLO in Tunisia and defended its action arguing that the bombing was justified by Tunisia having knowingly harbored terrorists who had targeted Israel, but The Security Council rejected this claim as expressed in Resolution 573, "[condemned] vigorously the act of armed aggression perpetrated by Israel against Tunisian territory in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and norms of conduct."

Taking into consideration the many wide spread suspicions that incriminate the United States of self-committing the attacks occurred on September 11, 2011, which include the fact that the United States’ aerospace is entirely protected by the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), which should have sent jets to shoot down the hijacked airplanes, the fact that it has been proven by scientists and architects that a plane’s fuel cannot produce enough heat to melt the steel frame of both buildings that collapsed, the impact holes on the Pentagon after the plane crash were much smaller than a commercial American Airlines plane, the plane was not shot down and the section hit was vacant, passports and identification of the alleged terrorists surprisingly survived the explosions and were found after the attacks, and the fact that cell phone calls made by passengers and flight crew of the supposed hijacked airplanes could not have been realized since scientists guarantee that cell phones could not have received reception at 32,000 feet of altitude,

Declaring that Osama Bin Laden officially denied any responsibility or involvement with the September 11 attacks,

Deeply convinced that Osama Bin Laden and Afghanistan were targeted due to George Bush’s enormous business interest in the Middle East, providing reason for an invasion.

1. Condemns the United States of America and NATO for violating the Charter of the United Nations by deliberately invading Afghanistan’s territory and orchestrating airstrikes on multiple locations within the same territory, resulting in the death of more than 20,000 unarmed civilians;

2. Urges the United States and NATO to withdraw its troops from Afghan territory and cease all the airstrikes directed to Afghanistan under the conditions that:
   a. The withdrawal process shall be completed in 15 days,
   b. If this timeframe is broken, economic sanctions and military actions shall be applied on NATO and American troops in Afghan territory;
3. Requests the United States to immediately stop providing funds and support to the Northern Alliance as the group threatens the integrity and legitimate rule of the Taliban in Afghanistan;

4. Calls upon the signing and ratifying of the Muhammad Treaty which establishes as follows:
   a. The payment of 500 million dollars by the United States of America in reparations to the Afghan government in order to finance the reconstruction of the infrastructures damaged by the airstrikes and eternally marked by innocent Afghan blood
      i. This set amount should be paid annually by the United States and may include other forms of payment such as:
         1. Armaments,
         2. Nuclear technology to be used as an energy alternative,
         3. Jets,
      ii. Economic and/or diplomatic sanctions will be applied to the United States if annual payments are not fulfilled,
   b. Calls for a formal letter from President George W. Bush addressed to the Taliban, Osama Bin Laden and the Afghan people apologizing for his disrespectful and barbaric actions towards Afghanistan,
   c. The construction of a monument in Kabul, Afghanistan by the United States and its allies honoring all of the civilians and Afghan soldiers killed during the invasion,
   d. The creation of the Islamic Nations Organization (INO), a military alliance in which:
      i. Any Middle Eastern county is welcome to join,
      ii. Is recognized by the United Nations under the same standards as NATO,
      iii. Any member nation involved in a conflict will receive military or economic aid by the other nations,
      iv. Afghanistan and Iraq are to be named permanent chains of the Organization and determine and control all aspects of it, including but not limited to:
         1. Acceptance of member nations,
         2. Organization’s social, political and military interests around Middle East,
         3. Construction and maintenance of Headquarters in Kabul and Baghdad;

5. Welcomes the aid of all nations, especially but not limited to the Middle East such as Iraq, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to aid Afghanistan if any other attack is executed by NATO or the United States in order to preserve the safety and integrity of Middle Eastern nations;

6. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
Each delegation:

- 1 resolution on main topic
- 2 position papers
  - regional caucus delegates: 1 position paper
  - special committee delegates: 2 position papers

- 2 posts per week per delegate
  - 1 reply
  - 1 with new information
Questions?

http://salmun2014.weebly.com