



# Cambridge Model United Nations 2021

## New Chair Debate Format

### Starting a Session:

*Begin role call. Call out each delegate with their country title and ask if they are 'present' or 'present and voting'.*

present - they will be able to abstain from voting on resolutions (can't abstain on amendments)

present and voting - they must vote when it comes to the time to vote for a resolution

### Setting Reading Time:

Chair: 'The house will now come to order. I will set a reading time of ..... minutes for this resolution' (try to keep this brief as we will ask them to read resolutions before to maximise time)

### Starting the Debate:

Chair: 'We will now be moving onto/starting with this resolution on the topic of ....., submitted by ..... I will set an open debate time of .... minutes on this resolution. I will now call upon the delegate of..... to take the floor to read out the operative clauses.'

*Main submitter reads out operative clauses.*

Chair: 'You now have 2 minutes to speak for your resolution.'

*Main submitter presents opening speech.*

Chair: 'Thank you, do you open yourself up to any points of information?'

*Yes/n/No.*

### IF YES

Chair: 'The delegate has opened themselves up to any and all/n points of information, if there are any such points on the floor, please raise your placards now.'

*The chair selects either n or between 3 and 4 points of information (due to time constraints) to be entertained, in the order chosen, with the delegate remaining standing for the duration of the answer provided by the speaker (delegates often forget to do this!).*

Chair: 'The Delegates of ....., ....., ....., and .... have been recognised in that order. The Delegate of (country 1), you now have the floor.'

*The Delegate of country 1 states the point of information and the Delegate who the point is directed to replies to it, while both are standing up*

Chair: 'Thank you delegate. Do you yield the floor back to the chair?'

*The delegate yields the floor to the chair, or asks if it is in order to yield to another delegation.*

Chair: 'Delegate of (country 2) you now have the floor'

*(continue to call upon delegates in the order they were acknowledged and raised their placards to speak)*

**OR**

Chair: 'The delegate has not opened themselves up to any points of information.'

Chair: 'Thank you, do you yield the floor back to the chair?'

*The delegate yields the floor to the chair, or asks if it is in order to yield to another delegation.*

Chair: 'That will/not be in order.'

*Debate continues, with speakers for the resolution.*

Chair: 'We will now be moving into time for this resolution. Are there any delegates wishing to speak for this resolution? Please raise your placards now'

*(acknowledge them in order and create a speakers list. After each has spoken, ask them if they open themselves up to points of information and work through that list before moving on to the next speaker for the resolution)*

If there are none, move into time against the resolution

**EITHER**

Chair: 'Due to time constraints, we will now be moving into time against this resolution, if there are any speakers wishing to speak against this resolution please raise your placards now.'

**OR**

*A motion to move into open debate/time against is suggested. The decision whether or not to entertain this depends on this being seconded/objected to, and the discretion of the chair. The debate should not move into time against if the chair feels not enough points have been made in support of the resolution.*

Chair: '(Due to time constraints) We will now be moving into voting procedure on this resolution as a whole, could runners please suspend all note passing. Could all those delegates wishing to vote For this resolution please raise your placards now?'

*Tally the number of votes for the resolution.*

Chair: 'All those against?'

*Tally the number of votes against the resolution.*

Chair: 'And all abstentions?'

*Tally the number of abstentions, and give results to the chair.*

Chair: 'With n votes for, n against, and n abstentions, this resolution has passed/failed, clapping is/not in order.'

**NOTE:** *at any time in the debate, you can **open the floor to motions and points**. If there aren't many speakers or if there is a specific issue that should be discussed first, opening the floor to motions encourages and allows delegates to make motions for a moderated caucus (see below)*

Chair: I will now open the floor to motions and points

### Specific Situations

- **Amendments**

*An amendment is submitted (During open debate/time against).*

Chair: 'We will now be debating the amendment submitted by ....., could the delegate of ..... please take the floor to read out their amendment?'

*Debate of the amendment continues in identical fashion to resolution debate. Voting on amendments also follows the same format, except no abstentions are allowed (it is advisable to reiterate this).*

- **Points of Order**

*A delegate requests a point of order after a point of information/speech (it is not permissible at CamMUN to interrupt a speaker with a point of order).*

Chair: 'Please rise and state your point.'

*The delegate makes their point of order (eg. 'Is it in order for the delegate of ..... to advocate this resolution, given that their country has stated that they oppose nuclear proliferation?'). The chair then decides whether or not this is valid (use the internet or contact the secretariat if unsure).*

Chair: 'This is not in order, could the delegate of ..... please retract their statement.'

OR

Chair: 'This is in order, as ..... Could the delegate of ..... please apologise and take their seat.'

- **Points of Personal Privilege**

*A delegate requests a point of personal privilege.*

Chair: 'Please rise and state your point.'

*The delegate makes their point of personal privilege (eg. 'Could the delegate of ..... please speak more clearly?') This is the only case where a speaker may be interrupted at CAMMUN).*

Chair: 'Could the delegate of ..... please (eg. Speak more clearly).'

- **Points of Parliamentary Procedure**

*A delegate requests a point of parliamentary procedure.*

Chair: 'Please rise and state your point.'

*The delegate makes their point of parliamentary procedure (eg. Is it in order for the delegate of ..... to speak in the first person?). Entertaining this point is at the discretion of the chair, however care must be taken to ensure that less confident delegates are not discouraged by repeated points of parliamentary procedure.*

Chair: 'This is not in order, can the delegate of ..... please (eg. Refrain from speaking in the first person).'

- **Points of Inquiry**

*A delegate requests a point of inquiry.*

Chair: 'Please rise and state your point.'

*The delegate makes their point of inquiry (e.g. When will we recess for the lunch break?).*

Chair: (responds appropriately).

- **Caucus:** the floor must be 'open' for this to occur, which you can do by saying 'the floor is now open to motions and points' if you want to encourage a caucus

**IF** a delegate motions to move into a **moderated caucus:**

Chair: 'Please state the issue for discussion, the speaker time, and the overall time'

*Delegate (for example) : '3 minute moderated caucus with 30 seconds of speaker time per delegate with the purpose of discussing different methods of enforcing fishing quotas'*

Chair: Do a **vote** for simple majority and decide: 'That will/will not be in order' (not in order based on time constraints).

Chair: 'Are there any other delegates wishing to speak after the delegate of \_\_\_\_\_ (who motioned for the caucus) on the speakers list?'

*Record speakers list and time each delegate for the speaker time (eg 30 seconds each) within the maximum time (eg 3 minutes) and call upon each speaker in the list*

**OR** if a delegate motions to move into an **unmoderated caucus**:

*\*Because of the virtual style of 2021's conference, these are harder so please try to refrain from these, or if you do accept the motion, allow them to work more individually on amendments to save you from doing lots of breakout sessions*

Chair: 'Please specify the overall time and purpose of the unmoderated caucus'

Delegate: '8 minutes for the purpose of working on draft amendments/resolutions'

Chair: 'Please raise your placards now if you are voting for this motion' (this will pass by a simple majority = over half)

*Allow them to discuss and work amongst themselves, as they did in lobbying*