



HANDBOOK FOR DELEGATES



**Committee on Economic,
Social, and Cultural Rights**

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1. Message from the Secretary General

Dear Delegates, Chairs, Staff Members and Press:

With great joy and deep commitment, we warmly welcome you to the 2025 edition of ULSACMUN, which will take place on May 20, 21, and 22. It is an honor for us, as the Secretary General, to be able to accompany you in this experience that not only represents an academic exercise, but also a space for personal and collective transformation.

This Model United Nations has been created with the firm conviction that young people have the power to bring about real change in the world. Through leadership, commitment, diplomacy, respect, service, and justice, we seek to build an environment where all voices are heard, ideas are highly debated, and teamwork is the foundation of sustainable and humane solutions.

Throughout these three days, each of you will be a fundamental part of an exercise that goes beyond the role of delegates or Chair members: you will be agents of change, leaders in training, and living examples of what it means to build bridges instead of walls.

We encourage you to give yourselves with passion, empathy and responsibility. Do not be afraid of error, because it is part of learning; and do not forget to enjoy every moment, because every word spoken, every agreement reached, and every bond created, will leave a mark in your own history.

Thank you for believing in this project. Thank you for being part of ULSACMUN 2025.

Indivisa Manent, united we remain



Paulina Leyva Lara

Secretary General of ULSACMUN 2025



Héctor Santiago Blanquel Barajas

Secretary General of ULSACMUN 2025

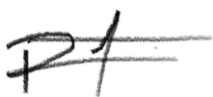
2. Message from the Chair

Dear Delegates:

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that we welcome you to the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR) at ULSACMUN 2025. We truly appreciate your participation and dedication in taking part in this Model United Nations. CESCR provides a platform for meaningful debate and collective action on fundamental human rights, such as the right to education, adequate living standards, fair labor conditions, health care, and cultural participation. These issues are central to global equity and justice, and your role as delegates will be essential in addressing them with empathy, responsibility, and diplomacy.

The organizing committee and the Chair have worked diligently to bring this edition to life, with the hope that it becomes an unforgettable and enriching experience for each of you. We trust that this space will inspire you to express your ideas, overcome the fear of public speaking, improve your formal language, and strengthen your skills in negotiation, analysis, and drafting, while always contributing something new to your MUN journey. In the coming days, you will represent the voices of countries from all over the world. We urge you to remain consistent with your assigned delegation positions, to present your proposals clearly and objectively, and to stay engaged and attentive throughout all discussions. This committee will challenge you to think critically and act diplomatically for the benefit of the global community.

Should any questions or concerns arise, please don't hesitate to approach any member of the board. We are here to support you and will do our best to assist you promptly. Once again, welcome to ULSACMUN 2025. We wish you success in your deliberations and hope this experience marks a meaningful step forward in your growth as a global citizen. Warm regards from the Chair of the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.



Anna Renata Toledo Ayala
Moderator



Natalia Durán Segura
President



Abril Michelle Flores Arteaga
Conference Officer

3. Purposes and Principles of the United Nations

Article 1: The Purposes of the United Nations are:

1. To maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace.
2. To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace.
3. To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion; and
4. To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.

Article 2: The Organization and its Members, in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1 shall act in accordance with the following Principles.

1. The Organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its members.

2. All Members, to ensure to all of them the rights and benefits resulting from membership, shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the present Charter.
3. All Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered.
4. All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.
5. All Members shall give the United Nations every assistance in any action it takes in accordance with the present Charter and shall refrain from giving assistance to any state against which the United Nations is taking preventive or enforcement action.
6. The Organization shall ensure that states which are not Members of the United Nations act in accordance with these Principles so far as may be necessary for the maintenance of international peace and security.
7. Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter; but this principle shall not prejudice the application of enforcement measures under Chapter VII.

4. About the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

4.1 Background of the Committee: The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) is a body that oversees the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) by its States Parties. It was established in 1985 with the purpose of overseeing the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1966.

This agreement symbolizes a worldwide commitment by nations to ensure essential rights such as education, health, decent work, social protection and cultural enjoyment. It is the responsibility of all States Parties to send regular reports to the Committee on the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights. Initially, the States must report every two years from the adoption of the Covenant and, subsequently, every five years. Each report is analysed by the Committee and its concerns and suggestions are transmitted to the State Party in the form of "concluding observations".

The Committee serves as a space for global debate and cooperation, addressing current challenges in economic and social rights, such as financial crises, increasing inequalities and obstacles to sustainable development. In a world where millions of individuals continue to struggle with poverty and exclusion, the CESCR plays a crucial role in promoting public policies that give priority to the most disadvantaged communities.

4.2 Functions of the committee: The main objective of the CESCR is to ensure the effective observance of the economic, social and cultural rights established in the ICESCR. To this end, the Committee monitors and assesses the progress and challenges of States Parties through the review of their regular reports, fosters conversation to promote the exchange of ideas and tactics to address global problems such as inequality and social exclusion, and provides general observations to guide the implementation of effective public policies. In addition, it gives priority

to safeguarding vulnerable communities by ensuring their access to education, health, employment and social protection. With these functions, the CESCR aspires to build a more just international system, in which everyone has access to economic, social and cultural rights.

4.3 Structure of the committee: The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR): It is the main body responsible for ensuring compliance with the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). CESCR operates within the United Nations and was established in 1985 by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to ensure compliance with the obligations agreed upon in the Covenant.

Main organs

1. **The Committee (CESCR):** It is composed of 18 independent members, elected by the States Parties for four-year terms, renewable. They are elected for their academic and professional experience in the field of human rights and related disciplines, and act in their individual capacity, not as government representatives.
2. **The Chair:** It is composed of a Presidium, three Vice-Presidencies and a Rapporteur, elected by the members of the Committee themselves to direct the activities and sessions.

a) Reporting and review mechanism: States parties are required to submit periodic reports describing actions taken to enforce the ICESCR. These reports are considered in public meetings, at which the Committee holds a constructive dialogue with government representatives. CESCR then issues Concluding Observations, with specific recommendations for improvement.

b) Communications and inquiries: Under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (in force since 2013), the Committee is authorized to receive and consider individual communications alleging violations of the rights enshrined in the Covenant. It may also conduct investigations in cases of serious or extensive violations.

Sub-agencies or specific tasks:

i) *Pre-sessional Working Group*: Prepares future sessions with the prior analysis of state reports and the determination of primary issues.

ii) *Follow-up Rapporteur*: Monitors and evaluates the measures taken by States as a result of the Committee's recommendations.

iii) *General Comments Drafting Team*: Responsible for drafting General Comments, interpretative documents clarifying the scope and content of the rights of the Covenant.

iv) *Secretariat (OHCHR)*: Provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, it provides administrative and technical assistance to the Committee.

Topic A: Narrowing the Digital Divide to promote economic inclusion in emerging economies

Related SGD's:



5.1 Abstract: The *digital divide* in developing economies is a complicated challenge that underpins large socioeconomic inequalities globally. It is expressed in the intersection between access to technology, economic progress and the possibilities for progress. Currently, only 35% of people in developing countries have access to digital connectivity, compared to 87% in developed countries.¹ Technological marginalization has a significant impact on rural communities, women

¹ Estos son los lugares del mundo donde el acceso a Internet sigue siendo un problema. (2023, September 9). Foro Económico Mundial. <https://es.weforum.org/stories/2023/09/estos-son-los-lugares-del-mundo-donde-el-acceso-a-internet-sigue-siendo-un-problema-y-por-que/>

and low-income groups, generating economic losses estimated at between 4 and 7% of GDP, in addition to limiting around 500 million job opportunities in sectors that are undergoing digitalization.²

The most affected areas, such as Sub-Saharan Africa (where only 22% have internet access)³, The most affected areas, such as Sub-Saharan Africa (where only 22% have internet access)⁴ and rural areas of Latin America, require a strategic investment of around \$653 million.⁵ This investment would focus on the creation of technological infrastructure, the implementation of digital education programs and the establishment of inclusive public policies. The goal is not only to increase connectivity, but also to structurally modify the circumstances of inequality, favouring access to digital resources and breaking the historical cycles of economic and social exclusion.

5.2 Historical background: The emergence of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the second half of the twentieth century gave rise to the phenomenon known as the "digital divide". At first, only government and academic organizations had access to digital information, but as the Internet grew in the 1990s, disparities in connectivity between diverse demographic segments and geographic areas became apparent.

Developed nations spearheaded the growth of connectivity in the early years of the internet, while poor nations encountered obstacles such as high infrastructure costs, low levels of digital literacy, and a lack of government regulations to promote technological inclusion. The World Summit on the Information Society sponsored by the United Nations in 2001 recognized the importance of bridging the digital divide to promote social and economic progress. Since

² La exclusión digital, una barrera que golpea el trabajo de las mujeres rurales. (n.d.). BID.

<https://www.iadb.org/es/noticias/la-exclusion-digital-una-barrera-que-golpea-el-trabajo-de-las-mujeres-rurales>

³ Efe. (2024, January 31). Sólo el 28 % de la población del África subsahariana tiene acceso a internet. SWI swissinfo.ch. <https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/s%C3%B3lo-el-28-de-la-poblaci%C3%B3n-del-%C3%A1frica-subsahariana-tiene-acceso-a-internet/47419518>

⁴ Rodríguez, E., & Rodríguez, E. (2025, January 15). La competencia en el sudeste asiático | Telos. Telos | Archivo. <https://telos.fundaciontelefonica.com/archivo/numero034/la-competencia-en-el-sudeste-asiatico/>

⁵ Roitner-Fransecky, I. (2024, December 19). Explorando el Estado Global de la Pobreza en Internet en 2024. Internet Society Pulse. <https://pulse.internetsociety.org/es/blog/exploring-the-global-state-of-internet-poverty-in-2024>

then, several programs have been developed to close this gap, including the United Nations 2030 Agenda, which includes digital inclusion in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the World Bank's Global Connectivity Program (Zhao, 2011).

Even with these initiatives, there is still a big problem with the digital divide. Internet connectivity remains poor in emerging countries, mainly affecting low-income groups, women, and rural populations. These disparities were worsened by the COVID-19 epidemic, which made it clear that funding for digital infrastructure and technology education is desperately needed to ensure social and economic inclusion in the digital environment of the twenty-first century.

5.3 Current situation: The digital divide remains a major barrier to progress in emerging economies today. Internet access is only 35% in underdeveloped countries, compared to 87% in developed countries. This disparity reinforces existing economic and social inequalities by limiting access to technological innovation, job opportunities, and education (La Información, 2023).

This digital inequality disproportionately affects rural and low-income populations. According to estimates, the digital divide restricts access to more than 500 million job prospects in digitalizing industries and causes economic losses of between 4% and 7% of GDP in some nations. The COVID-19 epidemic, in turn, brought these disparities to light and made them more pronounced, underscoring the need to intensify measures to ensure fair digital inclusion (Zazueta, 2025).

Several international organizations, including the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Telecommunication Union, have supported initiatives to close this gap. These initiatives include digital education schemes, subsidies for electronic devices and investment programs in technological infrastructure. However, progress remains uneven and depends on each nation's ability to implement successful policies, given its political will and financial resources.

5.4 Basic guide to postures

5.4.1 Regional and bloc positions

European Union: It has promoted global digitalization through investments in technological infrastructure in Africa and Latin America. It believes that connectivity should be a basic right and seeks regulations to ensure equitable access.

Latin America and the Caribbean (CELAC): Recognizes the digital divide as a structural problem and seeks to expand infrastructure and digital education in vulnerable populations. Some countries have adopted strategies of free internet access in public spaces.

Asia-Pacific (APEC): The region is divided between highly digitized countries (Japan, South Korea, Singapore) and emerging economies with major connectivity challenges (India, Indonesia, Philippines). Investment in infrastructure and digital education is key to reducing inequality.

Africa (African Union): Faces the greatest challenge in terms of access to the internet and technology. It requires international cooperation to develop telecommunications networks and ensure affordable access to digital connectivity.

Developing nations: In many countries with high levels of poverty, digitalization is seen as a key tool for development, but the lack of public and private investment in infrastructure limits its potential.

5.4.2 Key Country Positions

United States of America: Advocates for expanding digital access as a means to strengthen trade and innovation. Its approach prioritizes the participation of the private sector in the development of digital infrastructure.

People's Republic of China: Through the Belt and Road Initiative, it has invested in telecommunications in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. Its model of digital expansion generates debates about access to information and the regulation of content.

Brazil: It has implemented digital inclusion programs, especially in rural areas and indigenous communities. It supports the idea that access to the internet is a fundamental right.

India: It has developed initiatives such as "Digital India" to improve connectivity and digital education, but it still faces large gaps between urban and rural areas.

France and Germany: Promote regulations that ensure equity in digital access and data protection. They promote international cooperation policies in the field of digital inclusion.

Sub-Saharan Africa (Nigeria, Kenya, Senegal): Their governments seek partnerships with the private sector and international organizations to develop digital infrastructure. In many cases, lack of electricity and access to devices limits progress.

5.5 Points of consensus and discussion

Access to the internet as a human right: There is debate about whether connectivity should be recognized as a fundamental right and whether it should be included in international treaties.

Role of the private sector: Companies such as Google, Microsoft and Huawei have invested in digital infrastructure in developing countries, but there is debate about whether their participation should be regulated to avoid monopolies or control of sensitive data.

Digital education and technological literacy: Ensuring connectivity is not enough; it is also necessary to invest in digital training programs so that vulnerable populations can benefit from technology.

Infrastructure in rural and remote areas: Strategies to finance and develop internet networks in areas with low population density, where private investment is limited, are analyzed.

Technology as a tool for poverty reduction: It is questioned to what extent digitalization can close economic gaps or if, on the contrary, it could generate new inequalities between those who have access to digital education and those who do not.

Regulation of access to information: Some countries restrict digital content and access to the internet for political or security reasons, leading to debates about freedom of expression and the right to information.

Points to debate:

- Can access to technology be considered a human right in the twenty-first century? Should it be included in international treaties?
- What role should large technological companies play in reducing the digital divide? Is their current action enough, or should they make binding commitments?
- How can inclusive and sustainable technological infrastructures be designed in rural and remote areas?
- Is access to the Internet and technology a key tool to eradicate extreme poverty in the coming decades?
- How can governments ensure that emerging technologies do not perpetuate new social and economic inequalities?

6. Topic A Questionnaire

1. How does the digital divide affect economic inclusion in emerging economies and which sectors are the most impacted?
2. What is the position of the delegation you represent regarding access to the internet as a fundamental right? Should this right be included in international treaties?
3. What measures have been taken by the delegation you represent to reduce the digital divide in terms of infrastructure and digital education?
4. What is the role of the private sector in reducing the digital divide and what is the position of the delegation you represent regarding the regulation of large technological companies in this area?
5. How could international cooperation help bridge the digital divide in the region, and what role has the delegation you represent played in this effort?

7. Topic B: Impact of governmental austerity policies over economic, social and cultural rights

Related SGD's:



7.1 Abstract: Spending on vital areas such as health, education and social programmes is often cut through austerity measures adopted in response to economic crises. This negatively affects access to essential services, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, the elderly, indigenous communities and those living in extreme poverty (1.1 billion people).⁶

Cutting health and education budgets (as in Greece during the 2010 crisis), freezing public sector wages (as in Spain after 2008), eliminating social subsidies (as in Portugal during the financial bailout), increasing indirect taxes (as in Italy during the fiscal crisis), privatising state services (as in the UK under conservative governments), reducing public administration staff (as in Argentina during economic adjustments), cutting social protection programmes (as in Brazil during recent economic reforms) and reducing investments in infrastructure and development are all specific examples of austerity policies.

Even though these policies seek to balance public finances and reduce fiscal deficits, they frequently exacerbate inequality, jeopardise employment and impede sustainable human development. It also has an impact on the capacity of States to fulfil their commitments under

⁶ 1.100 millones de personas viven en situación de pobreza multidimensional y, de estas, casi 500 millones se encuentran en contextos de conflicto. (n.d.). UNDP. <https://www.undp.org/es/comunicados-de-prensa/1100-millones-de-personas-viven-en-situacion-de-pobreza-multidimensional>

international human rights law, particularly those outlined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

7.2 Historical background: In the past, fiscal and economic crises have been addressed with austerity measures. Its contemporary beginnings date back to the Great Depression of 1929, when some governments implemented severe budget cuts to stabilize their economies. But these measures worsened the situation and led to an increase in poverty and unemployment (Belini, 2021).

Many nations implemented economic models based on the welfare state after World War II, which increased spending on social security, health care, and education. However, international institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) supported austerity-based structural adjustment measures in response to the oil crisis of the 1970s (Aburto, 2022) and the debt crisis in Latin America in the 1980s (ECLAC, 2023).

The economic and social rights of the population were significantly affected by these policies, which included cuts in public spending, privatization of state-owned enterprises, and elimination of subsidies. One of the most recent examples of the effects of austerity is the situation in Greece after the 2008 financial crisis (Arnal, 2023). Health, education and social protection services deteriorated because of reduced public spending by the European Union and the IMF, which disproportionately affected the most disadvantaged sectors. Times of austerity in Latin American countries such as Argentina and Brazil have sparked demonstrations and debates about the need to strike a balance between ensuring economic stability and protecting fundamental rights.

The debate on austerity is still ongoing in the 21st century. International organizations and human rights defenders warn about the dangers of these policies in terms of inequality and access to basic services, even when some governments argue that it is necessary to control the public deficit. Some nations have re-examined the implementation of severe austerity measures because of the COVID-19 epidemic, which once again drew attention to the value of public investment in health and social welfare. In addition, the development of economic protection systems that

mitigate the adverse effects of austerity on the most vulnerable sectors has been a topic of discussion in recent years. To strike a balance between social development and financial stability, some governments have begun to implement stimulus measures and progressive fiscal reforms.

7.3 Current situation: Austerity measures remain a major concern in international economic policy today. These policies have been shown to have a negative impact on access to basic services such as social security, health care, and education, even though they were implemented with the intention of stabilizing economies in times of crisis and reducing budget deficits. Cuts to the public budget have disproportionately impacted vulnerable groups in Latin America, restricting access to social protection services and increasing economic disparity. At times, fiscal adjustments have weakened the region's health and education systems, jeopardizing the region's ability to develop sustainably.

Globally, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund still advocate austerity policies in highly indebted nations, even as some groups are beginning to suggest more adaptable strategies that put social investment first. Some governments have responded by adopting different tactics, such as boosting public investment in key areas and enacting progressive tax reforms to lessen adverse effects on the population.

The need to strike a balance between maintaining financial stability and defending social and economic rights is at the heart of current debates on austerity. Some economists argue that fiscal moderation is essential for long-term prosperity, while others counter that ill-thought-out austerity policies can exacerbate inequality and impede economic recovery.

7.4 Basic guide to postures

7.4.1 Regional and bloc positions

European Union: The EU has pushed austerity policies in countries with high levels of debt, such as Greece, Spain, and Italy. While Germany and France support spending controls, southern

European countries have suffered severe cuts in health and education, with serious social and economic consequences.

Latin America and the Caribbean: Austerity has been applied at different times and with different impacts. Argentina and Brazil have implemented adjustment programs with consequences for employment and poverty. Mexico has reduced public spending on health and education in recent years, generating internal debates.

Asia-Pacific: Japan and South Korea have adopted measures to control public spending without drastically affecting social rights. In contrast, countries such as India have prioritized investment in key sectors, avoiding strict austerity policies.

Africa: Some countries have implemented adjustment programs dictated by the IMF, which has generated social unrest. Nigeria and Kenya have experienced crises stemming from cuts in welfare programs and subsidies.

Developing nations: Many countries with high levels of poverty depend on international aid, but economic constraints imposed by financial agencies have limited their ability to implement effective social policies.

7.4.2 Key country positions

United States of America: Has adopted austerity measures in certain periods, but maintains limited social assistance programs. The reduction of taxes for large corporations and the reduction of public spending have generated internal inequalities.

Britain's United Kingdom: It has implemented severe austerity policies under Conservative governments, with cuts in state services that have mainly affected vulnerable sectors.

Greece: It is one of the countries most affected by the austerity imposed by the EU and the IMF. Cuts in pensions, health and employment have generated humanitarian crises and social protests.

Argentina: It has faced recurrent economic crises, with periods of austerity alternating with expansion of social spending. Reducing the fiscal deficit has been a priority, but with high social costs.

Brazil: Austerity has limited assistance programs such as Bolsa Familia, affecting millions of people in poverty. The debate between economic growth and spending control is still ongoing.

France: While promoting fiscal discipline within the EU, it has avoided severe cuts in social spending, betting on a balance between economic stability and social welfare.

7.5 Points of consensus and discussion

Impact on human rights: There are questions about whether austerity policies violate international commitments on economic, social and cultural rights.

Economic alternatives: The possibility of implementing inclusive growth strategies instead of austerity is being debated, promoting investments in key sectors such as education, health and employment.

Role of international financial organizations: The IMF and the World Bank have been criticized for conditioning loans to adjustment measures that affect the most vulnerable sectors. Some countries are advocating for reforms in these institutions to include more humanitarian approaches.

Effectiveness of austerity: While some governments argue that it is necessary to stabilize public finances, others argue that it reduces the capacity for economic growth and generates more inequality.

Successful and failed experiences: Countries such as Germany have managed to maintain fiscal stability without severely affecting social rights, while Greece and Argentina have suffered deep crises due to extreme austerity measures.

Points to debate:

- Are austerity policies a direct violation of the human rights commitments made by UN member states?
- What economic strategies could be adopted to avoid the implementation of austerity policies that affect the most vulnerable sectors?

- How can States ensure a balance between responsible public debt management and the protection of economic and social rights?
- Should international financial institutions like the IMF or the World Bank impose more humane conditions on lending instead of austerity?
- What role could developing countries play in creating an alternative economic framework in the face of global austerity?

8. Topic B Questionnaire

1. How have austerity policies affected economic, social and cultural rights in the region where your delegation is located?
2. What is your delegation's position on the relationship between austerity and human rights? Do these policies violate international commitments?
3. Has your delegation implemented austerity measures in recent years? If so, what have been their impact on the population?
4. What alternatives does your delegation propose to prevent austerity from affecting the most vulnerable sectors without compromising economic stability?
5. What should the role of international financial organizations (IMF, World Bank) be like in regulating austerity policies? Has your delegation been subject to these measures?

9. Summoned delegations

1. Argentina
2. Brazil
3. Canada
4. Chile
5. Colombia
6. Cuba
7. El Salvador
8. France
9. Germany
10. Guatemala
11. Haiti
12. India
13. Japan
14. Kenya
15. Mexico
16. Morocco
17. Nigeria
18. Norway
19. People's Republic of China
20. Peru
21. Puerto Rico
22. Republic of Korea
23. Senegal
24. United States of America
25. Venezuela

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11. Rules of procedure

1. **LEGALITY.** These rules of procedure are the unique protocol criterion of this simulation. These rules will apply for the following committees: Committee of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights; Council of the European Union, Peace Conferences of World War II; Star Wars Galactic Senate; UN Women; and World Health Organization. The ULSACMUN's Organizing Committee will have the final statement if there were any kind of misunderstanding or controversy about their meaning or application.

2. **OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.** English will be the official language, at any time during the sessions, in the committees mentioned in the heading of this document.

3. **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE.** The Organizing Committee is composed by the Executive Committee (Secretary General, Sub-Secretaries and Academic Advisor), and by each committee's Chair (President, Conference Officer and Moderator).

4. **STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARIAT.** The Secretary General, or a member of the Organizing Committee designated by them may, at any time, make either written or oral statements to the Committees. Those statements, for the purposes of this simulation, will be definitive.

5. **DELEGATIONS.** During each session, in any given committee, each delegation may be composed of one and only one delegate, representing just one state/company/organization/representation, and having the right to cast just one vote.⁷

6. **OBSERVERS.** They shall be considered as observers those who represent a state/company/organization that does not count on the Member status in the committee. Observers do not have the right to cast a vote during amendments and resolutions. However, they can

⁷ In some cases, a delegate can have a "double delegation". That will imply to represent a different state/company/organization/advisory in each of the topics of the Agenda. In those cases, the delegates will adjust their position papers and questionnaires to fulfill with the requirements of this simulation.

participate during the debate with the same rights of any member, and they must be recognized by the Chair of the committee.

7. **EXTERNAL VISITORS (teachers, faculties, relatives and friends).** External visitors must have the authorization of the Organizing Committee to be allowed to watch the debate. Under no circumstances can an external visitor interfere, in any way, during the simulation.

8. **POSITION PAPER/ QUESTIONNAIRES:** As part of his/her participation, each delegate must elaborate and deliver, to the Chair of the committee, a Position Paper document with the pertinent data and the official position of the state/company/organization represented. The delegates/representatives must also answer and deliver the questionnaires included in the Handbooks. Delegates must deliver their position paper in the designated due date established by the Organizing Committee and a printed copy during the first session of the simulation. Delegates/representatives that fail to comply with these requirements may be granted with a warning.

9. **USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:** The use of electronic devices (laptops, tablets, cellphones, etc.) is permitted if the Chair allows it.

10. **POWERS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE.** The authority during any given session of any given committee will fall on the Chair members, with the following precisions:

a) The highest level of authority is with the *President*, being her/his decisions unappealable. The President will declare the session opening or closing and can also suggest procedures that in her/his opinion will contribute to the fluency of debate.

b) The *Moderator* has the function of directing the debate, granting the word to delegates, and helping debate to be fluid and effective. In the absence of the President, the Moderator will assume the duties of the presidency.

c) The *Conference Officer* will help with President and Moderator tasks, during formal sessions. He/she will also register votes, resolve any inconvenience that may occur to delegates, and will help with communication between them through written messages, and personally.

Any member of the Chair will be able to assist delegates with the possible course of the debate and/or any other matters related to this simulation.

11. **MAJORITY CRITERIA.** There are 2 types of criteria to consider in a voting procedure. In both cases the totality of the present delegations/representations, present and approved are considered to participate in the session, excepting those occasions in which only members can vote. The use of each specific majority depends on the situation:

a) *Simple majority:* Implies 50% +1 (fifty percent plus one) of present delegations/representations. It is used in almost every procedure to vote, except for the closure of debate.

b) *Qualified majority:* 2/3 (two thirds) of present delegations/representations. To be used in case of voting on closing debate to pass into voting a resolution or amendment.

12. **QUORUM.** To declare a debate session officially opened, the President has to declare the existence of *quorum*. To do so, at least a simple majority of the total delegates/representatives summoned must be present. This requirement is also needed when voting for an amendment or a resolution.

13. **COURTESY.** All delegates/representatives must show, in every moment, respect and courtesy toward the Chair and all present delegates/representatives.

14. **DIPLOMATIC NOTES.** Unless the Committee is on the Open Floor or in any type of Caucus, delegates/representatives must maintain all communication exclusively in written form, through Diplomatic Notes. These notes must be sent through the members of the Chair of the Committee, who may be assisted by other members of the Organizing Committee of ULSACMUN. The improper use of Diplomatic Notes may cause the delegates/representatives to be subject to a warning.

15. **WARNINGS.** In case of breaking any rule, the Chair or any member of the Organizing Committee can give a warning to any delegate. When a delegate/ representative is given two warnings in the same session, he/she must leave the session, and he/she won't be able to come

back until the next one. If the delegate/representative receives three warnings during the model, her/his participation will be suspended permanently.

16. **OPEN FLOOR.** It is considered an open floor only when the Moderator or the President has expressed it to the committee. The floor must be open to establish any motion of procedure or point of parliamentary inquiry.

17. **AGENDA.** The first action of the committee will be to establish the order of the Agenda. To do so, delegates/representatives must follow the next steps:

- a) A motion should be made to put a topic first on the agenda. This motion requires a second.
- b) An extraordinary Speakers List of two delegates/representatives for and two delegates against the motion will be established and each one of those four delegates will state his/her arguments in a speech of no longer than 30 seconds.
- c) Automatically, after the speeches mentioned in the previous point, a voting will be made to open the debate with the proposed topic. If the voting has a positive simple majority, the debate will begin with the proposed topic. Otherwise, automatically the debate will begin with the other topic of the Agenda.
- d) A motion to proceed to the second topic area will only be in order after the Committee has adopted or rejected a resolution on the first topic. If a resolution on the first topic is accepted, the process to begin with the second topic will be automatic. In case the resolution is rejected, the motion to proceed to a second topic is open to debate, to the extent of one speaker in favor and one against. This motion requires a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting to pass. If the motion fails, the Committee will continue in the first topic, in the process of revising or amending the proposed resolution.

18. **SPEAKERS LIST.** Once the Committee has chosen the topic to begin the debate, the only acceptable motion will be the one to open the Speakers' List. This motion needs to be seconded; however, it doesn't need to be voted.

The speakers list will be opened with the delegations who have requested it. After that, any country can ask for its inclusion on the list by raising the placard and asking for a motion to be added or by a diplomatic note addressed to the Chair.

By decision of ULSACMUN's Organizing Committee, the Speakers List will be exclusively used for the time needed for the members of the Committee to present, in a unique participation per delegate/representative, their official position towards the discussed topic. After that has been accomplished, the Chair will have the power to manage the rest of the time assigned to the topic, through Simple and Moderated Caucuses.

19. **SPEECHES.** Delegates/representatives cannot address the committee without authorization of the Chair. Any Chair member can call a speaker to come to order if he/she is deviating from the topic of the discussion. Speeches must be made in such a way that it's clear that the delegates represent the position of a nation/enterprise/organization. That is why delegates must abstain in using the *first person* when establishing their speeches. Failing to fulfill this requirement may cause the delegate to earn a warning.

20. **SPEECHES TIME LIMIT.** The Chair will establish the time that every delegate must speak, inside a margin of 10 seconds as minimum and 3 minutes as maximum time. The Moderator will call the delegate to order if he/she exceeds the time limit to speak. A time limit change can also be proposed by any delegate; it must be seconded and approved by simple majority. The President can call out of order this motion and his/her decision will be unappealable.

21. **YIELDS.** A delegate/representative who has been accepted to speak about a topic on the Speakers' List must yield his/her time in one of the ways shown below. The delegate/representative must tell his/her decision to the Chair when he/she finishes his/her speech.

a) *To another delegate/representative:* The other delegate/representative can use the remaining time but can't yield it again. If the one that is receiving the time doesn't accept it, the yielder can be granted with a warning.

b) *To other delegates'/representatives' questions:* The delegates/representatives that will be asking the questions will be chosen by the Moderator and can only ask one question (with the right to a follow-up question). Time will be discounted from the answers of the speaker.

c) *To the Chair:* This option implies that the remaining time can no longer be used in any way. This option must be used even if the time has expired completely.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If the delegate/representative does not yield his/her remaining time in any of the above options, the Chair can give a maximum of two delegates the right to comment about the speaker's speech, and these comments can't be replied to by the speaker.

22. **EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF QUESTIONS.** As a decision of ULSACMUN's Organizing Committee, to keep the fluency of the debate, this resource won't be available during this simulation. The opportunity to question another delegate/representative will be present during Simple and Moderated Caucus.

23. **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.** Whenever a delegate/representative experiences personal discomfort which impairs his/her ability to participate in the proceedings; he/she may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege to request discomfort to be corrected. While a Point of Personal Privilege may interrupt a speaker, delegates/representatives should use this power with the utmost discretion, to avoid being granted with a warning for the abuse of it.

24. **POINT OF ORDER.** During the discussion of any matter, a delegate/representative may rise to a Point of Order to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure. The Point of Order will be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules of procedure. The President may rule "out of order" those points that are dilatory or improper; such a decision is unappealable. A delegate/representative rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. A Point of Order may only interrupt a speaker if the speech itself is not following proper parliamentary procedure.

25. **POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY.** When the floor is open, a delegate/representative may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the members of the Chair a question regarding the rules of procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker. Delegates/representatives with substantive questions about the topic should not rise to this Point but should rather approach the committee during caucus or in written form through a Diplomatic Note.

26. **RIGHT OF REPLY.** A delegate/representative whose personal or national integrity has been harmed by another delegate may request a Right of Reply through a Diplomatic Note addressed to the Chair. The Chair's decision whether to grant the Right of Reply is unappealable. A delegate/representative who has been granted a Right of Reply will not address the committee, and she/he will be granted a warning. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is out of order.

27. **SIMPLE CAUCUS (OPEN DEBATE).** A motion to open a simple caucus will be in order at any time when the floor is open. To open a simple caucus, the delegate/representative making the motion must briefly explain its purpose and specify a time limit for the caucus that, under no circumstances, will exceed thirty minutes. The motion will immediately be put to a vote. A simple majority of the present members is required for passage. The President may rule the motion as out of order and his/her decision is unappealable.

28. **MODERATED CAUCUS.** In a moderated caucus, the Chair will call on delegates/representatives to speak at his/her discretion, always under the authority of the Moderator.

A motion for a moderated caucus is in order at any time when the floor is open. However, the President may rule the motion as out of order and her/his decision is unappealable. The delegate making the motion must specify a time limit for the caucus, not to exceed twenty minutes. Once raised, the motion will be voted, with a simple majority of present members required for passage.

All speeches during the moderated caucus must be brief to promote the participation of all delegates, with a limit time of 2 minutes. The Chair can interrupt speeches that exceed the established limit, and that decision will be considered as definitive.

Also, with the purpose of facilitating substantive debate at critical junctures in the discussion, the Organizing Committee of ULSACMUN has decided to *allow direct contact and questioning between delegates/representatives*. In the same sense, delegates/representatives must abstain to establish any Point of Order related to the use of the first person in the speeches. That resource will be exclusive to the Chair, which could grant a warning to delegates/representatives that persist in that kind of behavior.

29. **ROUND ROBIN:** Delegates/representatives may propose the motion of a round robin during the time of the debate. During this time, *all* delegates/ representatives present in the forum must speak for a maximum of 1 minute on the current topic, the order of participation will follow the list of delegates/representatives managed by the Chair. Delegates have the right to pass during their turn in the Round Robin.

30. **APPROVAL COMMISSION.** A working paper or a draft resolution must be first revised by the Approval Commission, which will be composed by the President and the Conference Officer of each Committee. This Approval Commission will answer directly to the Secretary General and might suggest modifications of form, but not of content. Eventually any member of the Executive Committee may be part of the Approval Commission.

31. **WORKING PAPER/MINUTE.** A working paper/minute is a document in which the main ideas of solution are exposed. It is the background of a resolution paper/treaty. Working papers/minutes follow a very simple format (Watch the attachment: Sample Working Paper) and, even though they are not official documents, they do require the signature of at least 1/3 of present delegates/representatives and of the Approval Commission to be presented and discussed. A working paper/minute that doesn't present these requirements cannot be officially presented for its discussion.

32. **RESOLUTION PAPER/TREATY.** Every Resolution Paper/Treaty should include solutions to the topic the committee is discussing. A member of the Approval Commission must sign the Resolution Paper/Treaty, and this should be signed by at least 1/3 of the present members and follow the appropriate format (Watch the attachment: Sample Resolution). Once the Resolution Paper/Treaty is approved by the Approval Commission it will be presented to the committee so

they can debate about it. No Resolution Paper/Treaty written before the simulation can be presented nor debated. A Resolution/Treaty can only be presented when most of the speakers tell their opinion about the topic. The Chair will invite two delegates that, in 3 minutes maximum, should read the document.

32. **AMENDMENTS.** Delegates may amend any Resolution/Treaty which has been introduced. An amendment must have the approval of the Approval Commission and the signatures of at least 1/3 of the present members to be read and discussed. Amendments to amendments are out order; however, an amendment part of a resolution may be further amended. Preambulatory phrases may not be amended.

The final vote on an amendment is procedural: all present members must vote. An approved amendment may be introduced when the floor is open. The President will recognize two speakers against the motion to close debate, and a vote of two-thirds is required for closure. Amendments need a simple majority to pass.

33. **CLOSURE OF DEBATE.** Being the floor open, a delegate may propose a motion to close debate on the substantive or procedural matter under discussion. The President may, subject to appeal, rule such a motion dilatory. When closure of debate is proposed, the President may recognize up to two speakers against the motion. No speaker in favor of the motion will be recognized. Closure of debate requires the support of two-thirds of the members present. If the Committee is in favor of closure, the Moderator will declare the closure of the debate, and all resolutions and amendments on the floor will be brought to an immediate Roll-Call voting.

34. **ROLL-CALL VOTING.** After debate is closed on any topic, any delegate may propose a motion to begin a roll-call voting. In a roll call vote, the President will call countries in alphabetical order, to express their vote in three separated rounds:

a) First round: Delegates may vote “Yes,” “No,” “Abstain,” or “Pass.” A delegate who does not pass may request the right to explain his/her vote.

b) Second round: Delegates/representatives who asked for a right of explanation during the first round must explain their vote in a brief speech of no more than 30 seconds. Also,

delegates/representatives who passed during the first round of the roll call must vote during the second round. The same delegate may not request the right to explain his/her vote.

c) *Third round:* The President will call for any reconsiderations of vote.

Note: Delegates/ representatives under the *status* of “observers” won’t be considered for the roll call voting. However, they will be allowed to stay in the room.

35. **SESSION CLOSURE.** When the floor is open, a delegate may propose a motion to close the session until the next session or the definitive closure. A simple majority of the present members is required for passage. The President may rule the motion as out of order and her/his decision is unappealable.

These rules were revised and approved in March 2025 by:



Paulina Leyva Lara
Secretary General of ULSACMUN
2025



Héctor Santiago Blanquel Barajas
Secretary General of ULSACMUN
2025



Dana López Domínguez
Undersecretary of Protocol of ULSACMUN
2025



LRI. Luis Humberto Nava
Navarrete
Faculty Advisor of ULSACMUN
2025

12. About the Working Papers/Minutes

Structure of a Working Paper/Minute:

a) HEADING: The title should be centered, in capital letters, above the main body of the Working Paper. The title can be as simple as “WORKING PAPER”. On the left margin and two lines below the title should be the Committee, the Topic name, and the Sponsors of the working paper.

b) BODY: The Working Paper is written in the format of a list of concrete, detailed, with the following rules:

- The list of points is preceded by a short introduction phrase such as: “We are convinced that the solution to this topic must be based in the following points”:
- The points of list should be clearly numbered. Those numbers should be mentioned when presenting the approved Working Paper to the Committee, this to facilitate both the hearing and discussion of its content.
- All points should be thought up to help the committee find a solution to the topic. In this sense there should be propositional, positive points. Also, these points should be as concrete and detailed as possible.
- All points included should be well drafted, paying special attention to their grammar and spelling.

NOTE: As stated in Article 31 of the Rules of Procedure, a Working Paper/Minute requires the signature of 1/3 of present delegates and of the Approval Commission to be presented and discussed by the Committee.

SAMPLE WORKING PAPER

Committee: Security Council

Topic: Crisis in Burundi

Sponsors: Norway, Mexico and Russian Federation

The sponsors of this working paper are convinced that the solution to this topic must be based in the following points:

1. The coup d'état is to be identified as the main cause of the sudden and violent interruption of the democratic process in Burundi.
2. It is necessary to realize the pertinent legal reforms.
3. An immediate cease fire is urgent, as well as the return of all armed forces to their headquarters.
4. It is also mandatory an immediate restoration of democracy and of a constitutional regime.
5. Support to the peace efforts realized by the UN Secretary General, the African Union and the countries in the region, as well as promoting an ordered return to constitutional regime and the respect to democratic institutions in Burundi.
6. Acknowledgement of the special envoy of the UN Secretary General to the zone.
7. Emergency humanitarian aid to Burundi (from either member of the UN or NGO's).
8. To keep the debate, open at the Security Council until a real and effective solution to this topic is reached.

13. About the Resolution projects

STRUCTURE OF DRAFT RESOLUTION:

a) HEADING: The title should be centered, in capital letters, above the main body of the resolution. The title can be as simple as “DRAFT RESOLUTION”. On the left margin and two lines below the title should be the committee and topic name.

NOTE: There are no sponsors of a resolution. The signatures are only there to show that the committee wants to discuss the resolution. The names of “sponsors” should not be included.

b) BODY: The resolution is written in the format of a long sentence, with the following rules:

- The resolution begins with The General Assembly for all GA committees and with The Economic and Security Council for all ECOSOC committees. The Specialized Agencies use their own names as the introductory line. The rest of the resolution consists of clauses with the first word of each clause underlined.

- The next section, consisting of Pre-ambulatory Clauses, describes the problem being addressed, recalls past actions taken, explains the purpose of the resolution, and offers support for the operative clauses that follow each clause in the preamble begins with an underlined word and ends with a comma.

- Operative Clauses are numbered and state the action to be taken by the body. These clauses all begin with present tense active verbs, which are generally stronger words than those used in the Preamble. Each operative clause is followed by a semi-colon except the last, which ends with a period.

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

Committee: Science and Technology Commission (ECOSOC)

Topic: Free flow of information.

- 1) The Economic and Security Council:
- 2)
- 3) *Recalling* its Resolution A/36/89 of 16 December 1981, “The Declaration on
- 4) Fundamental Principles Concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to
- 5) Peace and International Understanding,”
- 6) *Recalling also* Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- 7) “Everyone has the right to receive and impart information and ideas through any
- 8) media and regardless of frontiers,”
- 9) *Recognizing* that the problem of news flows imbalance is that two-way
- 10) information among countries of a region is either non-existent or insufficient
- 11) information exchanged between regions of the world is inadequate,
- 12) *Realizing* the need for all Sovereign Nations to maintain their integrity and still
- 13) play an active role in the international system.
- 14)
- 15) Proposes the following points:
- 16)
- 17) **1) Recommends** that a three-level information interchange system be

- 18) established on the National, Regional, and international levels to ameliorate
- 19) the current problems of news flow imbalance, with the three-level system
- 20) operating as follows:
- 21) a) Each region's member nations will report their national information and
- 22) receive information of other nations in their region from the regional level 23) of this interchange system.
- 24) b) Nations will decide the character of the news flow media best suited to the 25) need of their sovereign territory, be this printed, audio, or audio-visual.
- 26) c) Regional News Gathering Agencies will serve to gather information from the
- 27) nations in their region, and these boards will have no editorial discretion and
- 28) will serve to forward all information to the International Board.
- 29) d) Each regional agency will be composed of representatives from every
- 30) member nation of the region.
- 31) e) The primary function of the International Board will be to translate
- 32) information accumulated from the regional news gathering agencies.
- 33) f) The secondary purpose will be to transmit all information gathered back to
- 34) the member nations via the regional news gathering agencies;
- 35) **2) Urges** the establishment of the University of International Communications,
- 36) with main branch in Geneva, Switzerland, and additional branches located in 37) each of the regions, to pursue the following aims:
- 38) a) The University and branches will be established with the express purpose of
- 39) bringing together world views and facilitating the transfer of technology;
- 40) b) All member nations of the United Nations will be equally represented at the

41) University.

42) c) Incentives will be offered to students of journalism and communications at

43) the University to return to their countries to teach upon completion of

44) instruction;

45) d) The instructors of the regional education centers will be comprised of

46) multipartisan coalition of educators from throughout the world.

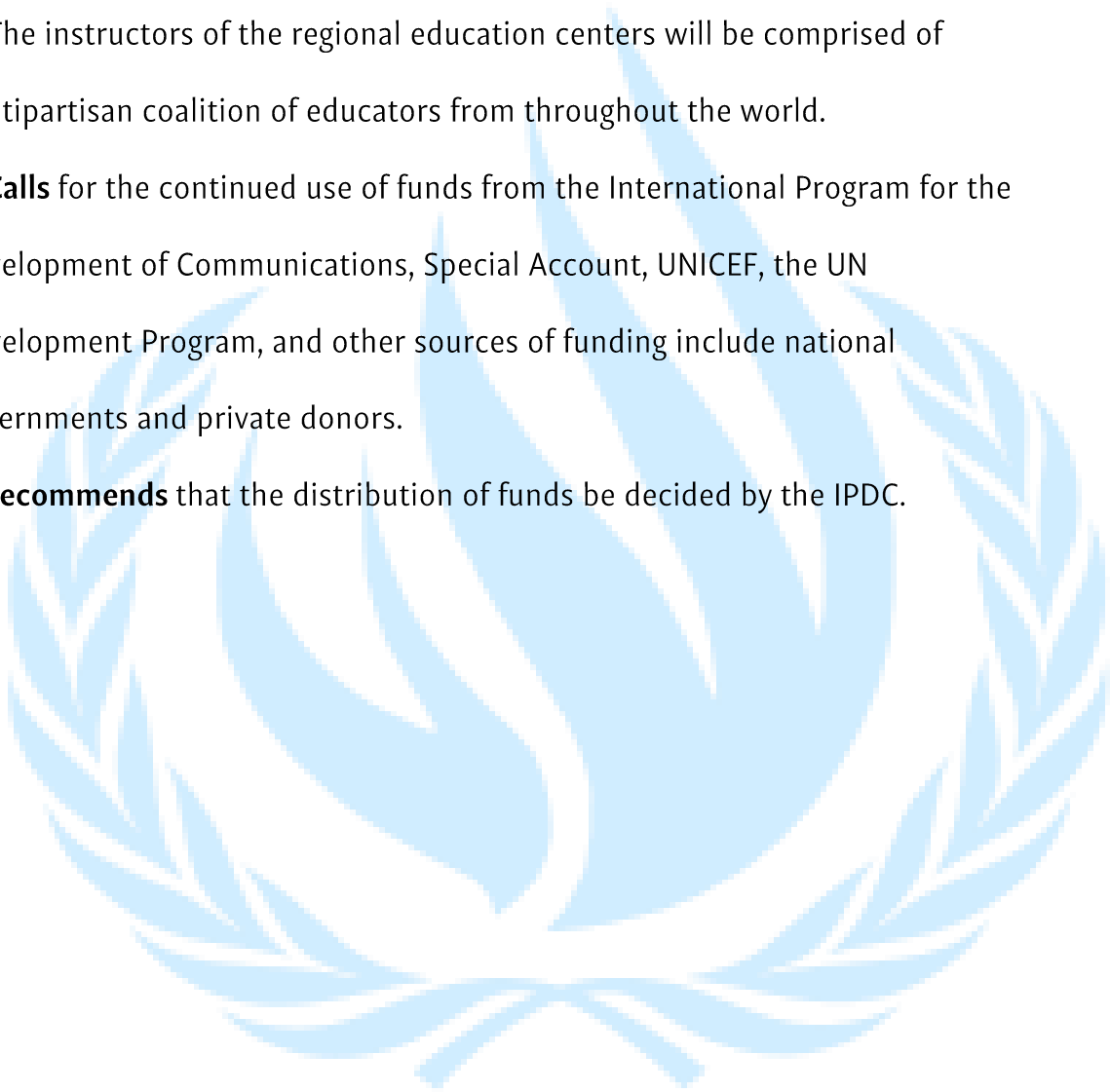
47) **3) Calls** for the continued use of funds from the International Program for the

48) Development of Communications, Special Account, UNICEF, the UN

49) Development Program, and other sources of funding include national

50) governments and private donors.

51) **4) Recommends** that the distribution of funds be decided by the IPDC.



14. Preambulatory and operative clauses

PREAMBULATORY AND OPENING CLAUSES

Affirming
Alarmed by
Approving
Aware of
Believing
Bearing in mind
Cognizant of
Confident
Contemplating
Convinced
Declaring
Deeply concerned
Deeply conscious
Deeply convinced
Deeply disturbed
Deeply regretting
Desiring
Emphasizing

Expecting
Expressing its appreciation
Expressing its satisfaction
Fulfilling
Fully aware
Fully alarmed
Fully believing
Further developing
Further recalling
Guided by
Having adopted
Having considered
Having considered further
Having devoted attention
Having examined
Having Heard
Having received
Having studied

Keeping in mind
Noting further
Noting with regret
Noting with satisfaction
Noting with deep concern
Noting further
Noting with approval
Observing
Realizing
Reaffirming
Recalling
Recognizing
Referring
Seeking
Taking into account
Taking note
Viewing with appreciation
Welcoming

OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Accepts
Affirms
Approves
Authorizes
Calls for
Calls upon
Condemns
Congratulates
Confirms
Considers
Declares accordingly
Deplores
Draws attention
Designates

Emphasizes
Encourages
Endorses
Expresses its
appreciation
Expresses its hope
Further invites
Further proclaims
Further reminds
Further recommends
Further requests
Further resolves
Has resolved
Notes

Proclaims
Reaffirms
Recommends
Reminds
Regrets
Requests
Resolves
Solemnly affirms
Strongly condemns
Supports
Takes note of
Trusts
Urges

15. Schedule

Martes 20		Miércoles 21		Jueves 22	
7:00-7:50	Registro	7:00-7:50	Séptima sesión	7:00-8:20	Decimoquinta sesión
7:50-8:30	Inauguración	7:55-8:45	Octava sesión		
8:30-9:40	Conferencia	8:50-9:40	Novena sesión	8:30-9:40	Panel de testimonios
9:40-10:10	Receso	9:40-10:10	Receso	9:40-10:10	Receso
10:10-11:00	Primera sesión	10:10-11:00	Décima sesión	10:10-11:00	Decimosexta sesión
11:05-11:55	Segunda sesión	11:05-11:55	Undécima sesión	11:05-11:55	Premiación en comités
11:55-12:15	Receso	11:55-12:15	Receso	11:55-12:15	Receso
12:15-13:05	Tercera sesión	12:15-13:05	Duodécima sesión	12:15-13:05	Clausura
13:05-14:00	Cuarta sesión	13:05-14:00	Decimotercera sesión	13:05-14:00	Premiación
14:00-16:00	Comida	14:00-16:00	Comida		
16:00-16:55	Quinta Sesión	16:00-16:55	Decimocuarta sesión		
16:55-17:10	Refrigerio	16:55-17:10	Refrigerio		
17:10-18:00	Sexta sesión	17:10-18:00	Presentación artística		