

NWMUN 2009 Long Form Rules of Procedure

Introduction:

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the General Assembly Plenary (hereinafter referred to as “the Assembly”) and shall be considered adopted by the Assembly prior to its first meeting. These rules shall also apply to all other committees, except where superseded by a rules addendum for that body.
2. The Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council may also use these rules of procedure. The Security Council and Reformed Security Council shall use these rules of procedure except where they are superseded by the rules of procedure addendum for each of these Councils. Rules that apply solely to specific organs of the United Nations shall be noted as such.
3. For purposes of these rules, the Committee Director, the Assistant Director(s) and the Director-General are designates and agents of the Secretary-General, and are collectively referred to as the “Secretariat”.
4. Interpretation of the rules shall be reserved exclusively to the Director-General or her or his designate. Such interpretation shall be in accordance with the philosophy and principles of Northwest Model United Nations (herein referred to as “NWMUN”) and in furtherance of the educational mission of the conference.
5. For the purpose of these rules, “President” shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the body.

I. COMPOSITION

Rule 1 – Membership

1. The General Assembly shall consist of all members of the United Nations.
2. Each member shall have no more than one representative in each body.

II. SESSIONS

Rule 2 – Dates of convening and adjournment

The Assembly shall meet every year, when possible, in regular session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 3 – Place of sessions

The Assembly shall meet at a location designated by the Secretary-General.

III. AGENDA

Rule 4 – Provisional agenda

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to the Members of the United Nations at least sixty days before the opening of the session.

Rule 5 – Adoption of the agenda

The agenda provided by the Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. The order of the agenda items shall be determined by a majority vote of those present and voting. Items on the agenda may be amended or deleted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

The vote described in this rules is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “those present and voting” mean those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 6 –Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Assembly may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during a session. Permission to speak on a motion to revise the agenda shall be accorded only to two representatives in favor of, and two opposed to, the revision. Additional items of an important and urgent character, proposed for inclusion in the agenda less than thirty days before the opening of a session, may be placed on the agenda if the Assembly so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a committee has reported on the question concerned.

As the General Assembly Plenary determines the agenda for its Committees, this rule is applicable only to the Plenary body. Items cannot be amended or added to the agenda by any of the Committees of the Assembly. For purposes of these rules, the determination of an item of an “important and urgent character” is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final. If an item is determined to be of such a character, then it requires a two-thirds vote of the Assembly to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Assembly until a committee has reported on the question, or a second two-thirds vote is successful to keep the Plenary body seized of the matter. The votes described in this rules are substantive vote, and, as such observers are not permitted to case a vote. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” mean those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 7 - Explanatory Memorandum

Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents.

IV. SECRETARIAT

Rule 8 – Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or his/her designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Assembly.
2. The Secretary-General shall provide the Director-General, who will provide and direct the staff required by the Assembly. The Secretary-General will also be responsible for all the arrangement that may be necessary for its meeting.

Rule 9 – Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Assembly, and shall distribute documents of the Assembly to the Members of the United Nations and generally perform all other work which the Assembly may require.

Rule 10 – Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General, or his/her representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Assembly concerning any question under consideration, or concerning any matter they deem to warrant the Assembly’s attention.

Rule 11 - Selection and replacement of the President

The President shall be appointed prior to the first meeting of the Assembly. For the purposes of facilitation of debate, the President shall not be a delegate. This appointment shall be done by the Director-General, who will choose the President from applications received by the specified deadline. The President shall chair the Assembly for the duration of the conference, unless otherwise decided by the Director-General. If the President is unable to perform her/his functions, a new President shall be appointed for the unexpired term at the discretion of the Director-General.

Rule 12 - Security Council and Reformed Security Council representatives

The Director-General reserves the right to pull a representative of a member of the General Assembly to fill a vacant spot of that same member in the Security Council or Reformed Security Council. The Security Council will have priority over the Reformed Security Council in the case that both representatives are not present.

V. LANGUAGE

Rule 13- Official and working language

English shall be the official and working language of the Assembly.

Rule 14 – Interpretation (oral) or translation (written)

Any representative wishing to address any United Nations organ or submit a document in a language other than English shall provide interpretation or translation into English.

This rule does not affect the total speaking time allotted to those representatives wishing to address the body in a language other than English. As such, both the speech and the interpretation must be within the set time limit.

VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 15 – Quorum

The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Assembly are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Assembly shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, “members of the Assembly” means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the Friday night meeting.

Rule 16 – General powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon her/him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Assembly, direct the discussion, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the Assembly and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. He or she shall rule on points of order. He or she may propose to the Assembly the closure of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers, the adjournment or closure of debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President’s power to assign speaking times for all speeches incidental to motions and amendments. Further, the President is to use her/his discretion, upon the advice and at the consent of the Secretariat, to determine whether to entertain a particular motion based on the philosophy and principles of NWMUN. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstance where it is necessary to advance the educational mission of the conference. For purposes of this rule, the President’s

power to “propose to the Assembly” entails her/his power to “entertain” motions, and not to move the body on her or his own accord.

Rule 17 – Order of motions

The order of precedence of motions shall be the order that the motions are listed in the short form of the rules.

Rule 18 – Points of Order

1. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of order which shall be decided immediately by the President. Any appeal of the decision of the President shall be immediately put to a vote, and the decision of the President shall stand unless overruled by a 2/3 majority of the members present and voting.

2. A representative may not, in rising to a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. Point of order pertains only to procedural matters.

Such points of order should not interrupt the speech of a fellow representative. Any questions on order arising during a speech made by a representative should be raised at the conclusion of the speech, or can be addressed by the President, sua sponte, during the speech. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” mean those members in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 19 – Point of Information

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a point of information, which shall be immediately answered by the President or Secretariat. A point of information may pertain to procedural matters of the committee, substantive matters dealing with the question before the body, but may not pertain to a speech that a representative has made.

When answering a point of information pertaining to the question, the President or Secretariat may only answer with facts pertaining to the question, and not with personal opinion or with recommendations on how to deal with the question.

Rule 20 – Speeches

1. No one may address the Assembly without having been previously recognized by the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Assembly, and the President may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Assembly may limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives may speak on any question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives favoring and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the president shall call her or him to order without delay.

In line with the philosophy and principles of NWMUN and its educational mission, and for the purpose of facilitating debate, if the President determines that the Assembly in large part does not want to deviate from the limits to the speaker’s time as it is then set, and that any additional motions will not be well received by the body, the President may rule as dilatory any additional motions to change the limits of the speaker’s time.

Rule 21 – Short Comments

Immediately following a speech, members of the Assembly may comment on the previous speech. This ability must be authorized by a majority vote of the Assembly (and may also be removed by the same threshold); a motion to allow short comments following speeches will allow exactly two short comments of a time to be determined by the President after each speech and is not debatable. Short comments must refer to the substance of the original speech and may not refer to other short comments.

Rule 22 – Closing of the list of speakers

1. Members may only be on the list of speakers once, but may be added again after having spoken. During the course of a debate the president may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Assembly, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the President shall declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Assembly.

2. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to close the speakers list. The motion shall be put to a vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

The decision to announce the list of speakers is within the discretion of the president and should not be the subject of a motion by the Assembly. A motion to close the speakers list is within the purview of the Assembly and the President should not act on his/her own accord.

Rule 23 – Right of reply

If a remark during a representative's speech impugns the integrity of another representative's State or is a gross misstatement of fact regarding another representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the speech, and shall determine an appropriate time limit for the reply. No ruling on this question shall be subject to appeal.

For purposes of this rule, a remark that "impugns the integrity of a representative's State" or is a "gross misstatement of fact regarding a representative's State" is one directed at the governing authority of that State and/or one that puts into question that State's sovereignty or a portion thereof. All interventions in the exercise of the right of reply shall be addressed in writing to the Secretariat and shall not be raised as a point of order or motion. The reply shall be read to the Assembly by the representative only upon approval of the Secretariat, and in no case after voting has concluded on all matters relating to the agenda topic, during the discussion of which, the right arose.

Rule 24 – Suspension of the meeting

1. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move for a suspension of the meeting, specifying a time for reconvening. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

2. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move for a moderated debate, which is a form of a suspension of the meeting, specifying an amount of time for the moderated debate as well as a speaking time. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to a vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass.

Rule 25 - Adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated but shall be put to the vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Assembly shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

As this motion, if successful, would end the meeting until the Assembly's next regularly scheduled session the following year, and in accordance with the philosophy and principles of the NWMUN and in furtherance of its educational mission, the President will not entertain such a motion until the end of the last meeting of the Assembly.

Rule 26 - Adjournment of debate

A representative may at any time move for an adjournment of debate of the question. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to two representatives favoring and two opposing adjournment of debate, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. This vote must be taken by roll call. If a motion for adjournment of debate passes, the topic is considered dismissed and no action will be taken on it.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting" mean those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 27 – Decision of competence

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may raise a decision of competence, which shall be decided by a majority vote of the Assembly. The decision of competence shall be moved when a representative feels that a question or proposal is out the purview of the committee.

Rule 28 - Closure of debate

A representative may at any time move for the closure of debate on the question. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Closure of debate shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. If the Assembly favors the closure of debate, the Assembly shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting" mean those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 29 - Reconsideration of a topic

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Assembly, by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting, so decides. Reconsideration can only be moved by a representative who voted on the prevailing side of the original motion to adjourn. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately.

For purposes of this rule, "those present and voting" means those representatives, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion is voted upon by the body.

Rule 30 – Proposals and amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the members of the Assembly that would like the Assembly to consider the proposal or amendment. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals and amendments, even though such proposals and amendments have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of an amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the amendment. If any sponsors should oppose the adoption of an amendment, a substantive vote on the amendment shall be taken prior to the consideration of the proposal during voting procedure. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Assembly for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, all “proposals” shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Assembly by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of NWMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution.

After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft resolution and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Assembly. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Assembly and, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

Rule 31 - Withdrawal of proposals, amendments and motions

A proposal, amendment or motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor(s) at any time before voting has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal, amendment or motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

VII. VOTING

Rule 32 - Voting rights

Each member of the Assembly shall have one vote.

This rule applies to substantive voting on amendments, draft resolutions, and portions of draft resolutions divided out by motion. As such, all references to “member(s)” do not include observers, who are not permitted to cast votes on substantive matters.

Rule 33 - Request for a vote

A proposal before the Assembly shall be voted upon if any representative so requests. Where no representative requests a vote, the Assembly may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, “proposal” means any draft resolution, an amendment thereto, or a portion of a draft resolution divided out by motion. Just prior to a vote on a particular proposal or motion, the President may ask if there are any objections to passing the proposal or motion by acclamation, or a representative may move to accept the proposal or motion by acclamation. If there are no objections to the proposal or motion, then it is adopted without a vote.

Rule 34 - Majority required

Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Assembly shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting. All members declaring their representative States as “present and voting” during the attendance roll call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain.

Rule 35 - Important questions

1. The Assembly may declare a question as important. Motions to declare a topic an important question must be made at the outset of the voting procedure for that topic; such motions may only be made by the Assembly. On such a motion, two members may speak in favor of the motion and two may speak against it. The motion shall then be immediately put to the vote, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. Decisions of the General Assembly on important questions shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. These questions shall include: recommendations with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security, the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council, the election of members of the Economic and Social Council, the election of the members of the Trusteeship Council, the admission of new Members to the United Nations, the suspension of the rights and privileges of membership, the expulsion of members, questions relating to the operation of the trusteeship system, and budgetary questions.

2. Decisions of the Assembly on amendments to proposals relating to important questions, and on parts of such proposals put to the vote separately, shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

For the purpose of tabulation, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting. All members declaring their representative States as “present and voting” during the attendance roll call for the meeting during which the substantive voting occurs, must cast an affirmative or negative vote, and cannot abstain. This rule does not apply to any body besides the General Assembly Plenary.

Rule 36 – Arrears in payment

A member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the Assembly. The Secretary-General may, nevertheless, permit such a member to vote if he or she is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the member and that the payment shall be received by the end of the conference.

For the purposes of this rule, the phrase “financial contributions to the Organization” means conference fees owed to NWMUN.

Rule 37 - Method of voting

1. The Assembly shall normally vote by a show of placards, except when a representative requests a roll call vote, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call vote, and one of its representatives shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstention,” or “pass.”

2. When the Assembly votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of placards and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. Any representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Assembly shall dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.

3. The vote of each member participating in a roll call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

Only those members who designate themselves as “present” or “present and voting” during the attendance roll call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying “pass,” must, on the second time through, respond with either “yes” or “no.” A “pass” cannot be followed by a second “pass” for the same proposal or amendment, nor may it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment, nor may the representative explain their vote.

Rule 38 – Explanations of vote

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of an explanation of their vote after the voting has been completed. A representative sponsoring a proposal shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended, and the member has voted against the proposal or motion.

Explanations of vote may only be made by sponsors of a draft resolution who voted against passage of the document – a case only allowed if the draft resolution is amended via unfriendly amendment. To explain such a vote, the delegate must vote “No with rights” during a roll call vote on the draft resolution and will be granted a length of time to speak after the cessation of voting, but prior to the announcement of the vote total and the outcome of the vote. This speaking time shall be used only for the explanation of the shift in the delegate’s position as a result of amendment to the draft resolution.

Rule 39 - Conduct during voting

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representatives shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting. No communication of any variety shall take place between representatives during voting procedure.

Rule 40 - Division of proposals and amendments

Immediately before a proposal or amendment comes to a vote, a representative may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment should be voted on separately. If there are calls for multiple divisions, those shall be voted upon in an order to be set by the President where the most radical division will be voted upon first. If opposition is made to the motion for division, the request for division shall be voted upon, requiring the support of a majority of those present and voting to pass. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given to two speakers in favor and two speakers against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are involved shall then be put to a vote. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

For purposes of this rule, “most radical division” means the division that will remove the greatest substance from the draft resolution, but not necessarily the one that will remove the most words or clauses. The determination of which division is “most radical” is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 41 - Amendments

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal.

An amendment can add, amend, or delete operative clauses, but cannot in any manner add, amend, delete, or otherwise affect perambulatory clauses.

Rule 42 - Order of voting on amendments

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed there from, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall be voted upon following consideration of all proposed amendments.

For purposes of this rule, "furthest removed in substance" means the amendment that will have the most significant impact on the draft resolution. The determination of which amendment is "furthest removed in substance" is subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and any such determination is final.

Rule 43 - Order of voting on proposals

If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Assembly decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted.

For purposes of this rule, "the order in which they were submitted" shall refer to the order in which proposals were approved by the Secretariat and thus the order in which proposals became draft resolutions.

Rule 44 - Elections

All elections shall be held by secret ballot. The decision of whether to take nominations prior to the election shall be at the discretion of the President.

Rule 45

When only one Member is to be elected and no candidate obtains in the first ballot the majority required, a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be restricted to two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, and a majority is required, the President shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots. If a two-thirds majority is required, the balloting shall be continued until one candidate secures two thirds of the votes cast; provided that, after the third inconclusive ballot, votes may be cast for any eligible person or Member. If three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third of the unrestricted ballots, and the following three ballots thereafter shall be unrestricted, and so on until a Member is elected. These provisions shall not prejudice the application of rules 57 and 58 of the General Assembly Plenary Rules of Procedure.

Rule 46

When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot the majority required shall be elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of persons or Members to be elected, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled; provided that, after the third inconclusive ballot, votes may be cast for any eligible person or Member. If

three such unrestricted ballots are inconclusive, the next three ballots shall be restricted to the candidates who obtained the greatest number of votes in the third of the unrestricted ballots, to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled, and the following three ballots thereafter shall be unrestricted, and so on until all the places have been filled. These provisions shall not prejudice the applications of rules 57 and 58 of the General Assembly Plenary Rules of Procedure.

VIII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 47

Credentials must be worn, in the form of a badge, by representatives at all times. Credentials, in the form of placards provided by NWMUN, must be used to cast votes during committee sessions. If a representative lacks either of these credentials she/he may be asked to leave the committee room and will not be allowed to vote without these credentials.

To replace lost, stolen, or damaged credentials, representatives must contact the Assistant Secretary-General for Conference Services and will be required to pay a fee for their replacement.

IX. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Rule 48 – Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Immediately after the opening of the first plenary meeting of the Assembly, representatives may request to observe one minute of silence dedicated to prayer or meditation. This is the only time this motion will be entertained and its approval is at the discretion of the Secretariat.

X. COMMITTEES

Rule 49 – Establishment of committees

The Assembly may establish such committees as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

XI. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rule 50 - Applications

Any State which desires to become a Member of the United Nations shall submit an application to the Secretary-General. Such application shall contain a declaration, made in formal instrument that the State in question accepts the obligations contained in the Charter.

Rule 51 - Notification of applications

The Secretary-General shall, for information, send a copy of the application to the General Assembly, or to the Members of the United Nations if the Assembly is not in session.

Rule 52 - Consideration of applications and decisions thereon

If the Security Council recommends the applicant State for membership, the Assembly shall consider whether the applicant is a peace-loving State and is able and willing to carry out the obligations contained in the Charter and shall decide, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, upon its application for membership.

Rule 53

If the Security Council does not recommend the applicant State for membership or postpones the consideration of the application, the General Assembly may, after full consideration of a special report of the Security Council, send the application back to the Council, together with a full record of the discussion in the Assembly, for further consideration and recommendation or report.

Rule 54 - Notification of decision and effective date of membership

The Secretary-General shall inform the applicant State of the decision of the Assembly. If the applicant is approved, membership shall become effective on the date on which the Assembly takes its decision on the application.

XII. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL**Rule 55 - Membership**

The Security Council shall consist of fifteen members of the United Nations. The People's Republic of China, the French Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America shall be permanent members of the Security Council. The Assembly shall elect ten other Members of the United Nations to be non-permanent members of the Security Council.

The Reformed Security Council shall consist of twenty-one members of the United Nations, including the five permanent members listed above, the additional permanent members (Brazil and India), and fourteen non-permanent members to be elected by the General Assembly.

Rule 56 - Annual elections

The Assembly shall each year, in the course of its regular session, elect five non-permanent members of the Security Council for a term of two years.

The Reformed Security Council shall elect seven members each year.

Rule 57 - Qualifications for membership

In the election of non-permanent members of the Security Council, due regard shall, in accordance with Article 23, paragraph 1, of the Charter, be specifically paid, in the first instance, to the contributions of the Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization, and also to equitable geographic distribution.

Rule 58 - Re-eligibility

A retiring member of the Security Council shall not be eligible for immediate re-election.

Rule 59 - Regional elections

1. The ten non-permanent members of the Security Council shall be elected as follows:
 - (a) Five from African states and Asian states (including the Middle East and Central Asia);
 - (b) One from Eastern European States;
 - (c) Two from Latin American States (including the Caribbean);
 - (d) Two from Western European and Other States (including Australia, Canada, Israel, and New Zealand).

The African and Asian states have been subsequently subdivided into three from the African states and two from the Asian states, though the ballots are still written with African and Asian states together. Additionally, one of the African and Asian States must be an Arab State.

2. The fourteen non-permanent members of the Reformed Security Council shall be elected as follows:
- (a) Three from African States;
 - (b) Three from Latin American States (including the Caribbean);
 - (c) Three from Asian States (including Central Asia), of which one must be from Southeast Asia;
 - (d) One from Eastern European States;
 - (e) Two from Arab States;
 - (f) Two from Western European and Other States (including Australia, Canada, Israel and New Zealand).

The seats with terms beginning in an even-numbered year for the Reformed Security Council shall be two African seats, one Latin American seat, one Eastern European seat, one Arab seat, and two Asian seats, of which one must be from Southeast Asia. This group of seats will have its members for the 2010-2011 term elected during NWMUN 2009. The seats with terms beginning in an odd-numbered year for the Reformed Security Council shall be two seats for Western European and other States, two Latin American seats, one Asian seat, one Arab seat and one African seat. For purposes of the Reformed Security Council, Arab states are now considered a separate regional group, and its members are no longer members of either the Asian or African regional group.