



# CIMUN DELEGATES GUIDE

*Guide to Delegate Preparation*

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### 1. CONFERENCE OUTLINE

Each delegate has been assigned to a delegation representing a particular country (a member-state of the UN) and a particular committee. The CIMUN has seven committees and specialized agencies namely:

- UNSC: United Nations Security Council
- GA1: Disarmament and International Security (DISEC).
- GA2: Economic and Financial (ECOFIN).
- GA3: Social, Cultural and Humanitarian (SOCHUM).
- CSW: Commission on the Status of Women.
- FAO: Food and Agricultural Organization.

In order to ensure a spread of delegates across each committee, each delegation is allocated particular committees by the Secretariat.

#### 1.1 RESEARCH FOR CIMUN

It is common that prospective delegates believe in the unchallenged fact that success at a MUN conference is correlated with prior experience and public speaking skills. However, what will differentiate an average delegate from one worthy of one of the conference's awards is the research prior to a MUN conference, which will constitute a solid foundation on the academic content of the delegate's speeches. The following guide will support prospective delegates in outlining the main steps of a MUN research so they can know where to start this important part of the preparation of the conference.

##### 1.1.1 Addressing the Topic

The topic of discussion is the first important element on which a good delegate should devote his time before the conference. To start researching good arguments to defend a topic can look

like looking for a needle in a haystack; however, with this guide we will help you to identify the main areas you should start your research with. To start the research on any topic, we recommend examining the following elements:

- The historical, social and economic context of the problem.
- Its historical, social and economic causes and main actors involved.
- Past attempts at finding a solution, especially those being decided at the international level, in International Organizations such as the UN.
- Potential creative solutions to solve the problem and options to solve it that are already on the table.
- Recommendations from policy-advisors or academia.

### 1.1.2 Sources of Information

The major step into the research of the topic should be a thorough understanding of the Study Guide available on the CIMUN website. The Study Guides, expounded by the Chairs of each Committee with support from the Secretariat, have the purpose of providing a first insight into any topic and the main direction that its writers want the topic to take. However, it is important to take the Study Guide as a limited primary source of knowledge, and, as such, it is necessary that you expand your research through a series of tools:

- **The UN website and related sources:** the official website of the United Nations and its bodies is a very helpful source of research, since it contains information on all the main subjects of debate at a MUN. Moreover, the website includes archives on sessions, resolutions and legislative actions on international conflicts that can serve as an inspiration for the resolutions of your topic of discussion.
- **News Agencies:** the majority of the topics at a MUN have a very close relationship with current affairs, and news agencies help to provide more in-depth analyses, data and recent developments of a specific topic.

- **Other sources:** further useful sources include specialized magazines, research papers or any type of encyclopedia. In addition, NGOs websites can offer extensive reports on situations of conflict around the world in diverse topics such as the environment or the protection of human rights.
- **People:** An often neglected source, people can aid you greatly in your research. Some people to keep in mind are: librarians, fellow delegates, faculty advisors, and your committee's Director, Moderator, and Assistant Directors. Not only can these people help you find what you are looking for, but they may also recommend new sources that you had not considered. Do not hesitate to call or email your committee Director. He or she has spent the entire summer doing research for the Background Guide and will be happy to answer any questions.

### 1.1.3 The Country

The research conducted on a specific country will vary widely depending on the topic of debate. Every delegate should have some knowledge of his countries':

- History, including the foundation of the state, its main legislative text or Constitution, previous political systems and military conflicts.
- Geography, including geographical location, regional neighbors, and size of natural resources.
- Demography, including size and structure of population, main religion and ethnic composition, as well as public opinion.
- Political system, including the type of regime, its key leaders, and the presence of political movements.
- Economy, including position in main economic indexes, GDP of the country per capita, main economic sectors of the country, and trade partners.

- International relations, including view of the international arena, international allies and rivals, membership in organizations and signature of treaties.

## **2. PARTICIPATORY PROCEDURES**

### **2.1 On Being Diplomatic**

The essence of CIMUN is to try to recreate reality. As a diplomat therefore, you must be tactful, creating or maintaining peace and accord, the purpose of the real UN. You should, therefore:

- Be fully aware of the will of your committee at all times.
- Achieve consensus for decision-making
- Emphasize negotiation, rather than confrontation
- Address the issue by defining its terms
- Never sacrifice the country's interest to serve private motives (either your own or someone else's).

### **2.2 On Research and Speaking**

The more you know, the more you can say. The more you say on relevant topics, the more you are respected, and the more you are respected, the more you are in demand to speak. The more you speak, the more you will enjoy CIMUN.

- Research thoroughly the topics that you don't have a resolution on, so that you can participate when they are being debated.
- Get to know your country's policy on the topics being debated – if you are caught out saying something which disagrees with your country's policy, it will be very embarrassing, and your credibility will be called into question.
- Read the newspapers, books and articles on your topics, making notes to refer to during debate.
- Try to come up with your own ideas on how to solve the problems being debated.

- Get hold of UN publications on your topic and previous MUN resolutions, but bear in mind that if you copy actual UN resolutions or previous MUN resolutions you may be accused of plagiarism and the resolution will be rejected.
- Know the policies of important countries that have an interest in your topic and then you will know if they veer away from their official policies.
- Be aware of countries that may hold similar views and also of potential opposition.
- Delegates should be familiar with the Charter and its aims.

### **2.3 On Lobbying**

Lobbying is one of the most fascinating and enjoyable parts of MUN! Remember, first impressions are very important.

- Appear confident and knowledgeable;
- Hand round copies of your resolutions to everyone in your committee, and be ready to give a brief summary of your key points.
- Be very persuasive, and be prepared to resolve any problems a country may have with your resolutions by amending them or merging them with another.
- Flexibility is not a sign of weakness – rather it is a sign that you are working as a diplomat. When merging a resolution you must politely urge that you speak on it when it is debated. As first speaker you and your country get most credit if it passes – and most sympathy if it fails.
- Never panic, and get involved with discussion fully. If you get going, and go around everyone, influencing proceedings, people will trust, like, and respect you.
- Try to get as many co-sponsors for your resolutions as possible. You will need ten to submit your resolution to the approval panel.

### **2.4 On Committee Work**

- In all your dealings, be courteous to everyone, especially the Chair, and always address them as 'Mr. Chairman' or 'Madam Chair' in debate, regardless of however well you know him/her.
- Chairs get annoyed by negligent points and poor debate. If he or she sees you contributing negatively to the debate you are unlikely to be recognized.
- If you are not being noticed, BE PATIENT. If you do complain, do so with an even temper and polite manner.
- Always have Points of Information prepared, and be as constructive as possible on all resolutions.
- Remember, when talking on a resolution, you are a salesperson. Always speak slowly, clearly and loudly, so that people can hear, and respond to, your points.
- Gain eye contact with your audience. The first sentence of your speech is crucial in grabbing your audience's attention.
- Ensure that your arguments against others' resolutions are sensible and politely expressed. Use moderate language, and never insult those with whom you disagree.
- Passing a constructive solution is the individual goal of MUN. Never forget that, as a delegation, you must work together as a team to win any of the coveted and prestigious awards.

### **2.5 On General Assembly and Plenary Sessions**

These will operate in much the same way as the committees.

- Speak, don't shout, into the microphones to avoid embarrassing and time-wasting Points of Personal Privilege, which normally pertain to audibility.

- Be as keen to speak as you should have been in Committee, and do not hesitate to speak for or against any resolution on any topic. Above all, get up to speak as soon as possible, and then as often as possible after that, but only if you have something relevant to say.
- GA can be exasperating. If you have something sensible to say, keep waving your placard for attention.

### **3. HOW TO WRITE A POSITION PAPER.**

Position papers are an essential element of both the preparation and the debate in an MUN. It is a short statement of your country's policy on each matter at hand. It serves primarily to disclose this information, and establishes a level-playing field in the committee: everyone knows everyone else's position, so the committee can quickly move on to actual proposals and negotiations. Next to that, it also plays a role in how your Chairs will evaluate you, and helps them conduct the debate more efficiently.

Your position paper should be brief and concise: you don't want to overwhelm the Chairs and the other Delegates with useless information. We therefore advise you not to use too extravagant wording: keep it simple! Below, we present a general structure for position papers, from which you can of course deviate as you see fit.

A position paper may include three sections, outlined below:

- A. Background of the Topic: In your country's opinion, what are the main elements of the problem? What are the roots of those elements?
- B. Position taken by your delegation: What are your national interests in the situation? What are your nation's policies on the topic? What steps would you like to see taken to deal with the problem?
- C. Proposed Solutions: What does your nation believe needs to be done to solve the problem? What do you predict will be the main opposition to your proposals?

Position papers should roughly adhere to the above format, with the Country, the Committee, and the Topic included at the top.

### **3.1 SAMPLE POSITION PAPER**

#### ***Delegation from The Commonwealth of Dominica***

##### **Position Paper for the United Nations General Assembly First Committee (GA1)**

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly are: Cyber Security and Protecting against Cyber Warfare; Measures to Strengthen International Counter Terrorism Efforts; Combating the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons. The Commonwealth of Dominica recognizes the emerging problems of cyber-warfare and terrorism which has been enhanced by the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons. Dominica is committed to working multilaterally with Member States to address these issues at the conference.

#### **I. Cyber Security and Protecting against Cyber Warfare**

In our modern society, the cyberspace has made interaction easier and reliable thereby making the world a “new small community” with over 3.8 billion internet users. However, it has become a new battle ground for cyber warfare and has created has become a security challenge for us. Cyber warfare and cybercrimes are the 2nd most reported crimes globally with over 18 million new samples of malware used against IT devices in 2016. Cybercrimes as hacking, unwarranted mass surveillance, cyber-bullying, child pornography, phishing, identity theft, and black-mailing, virus or malware attacks; has caused damages estimated to worth over 100 billion dollars. A global average of 28% of companies across the world has been hit by data breaches. This has also become a global threat as power supply grids, nuclear reactors, oil pipelines, technological equipment, media, stock markets, military weaponry, cyber-programs, transportation facilities and communication networks have been affected and this has effects on human livelihood.

The Commonwealth of Dominica pledges to continue her partnership with The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs which held a side event with experts of different organizations as Global Forum on Cyber Expertise and the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre. Dominica is a pioneering country with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) to develop a cyber-security strategy in accession with the Budapest convention on cybercrime. Dominica has adopted legislations as the Electronic Filling Act, Electronic Transaction Act and Electronic Evidence Act of 2015 to strengthen cyber-security and combat cybercrimes and ensure that the country is safe to attract investments for organizations concerned with online businesses. The adoption of the National Cybercrime Strategy and Policy by the Dominican government is a massive step towards the improvement of cyber security in the country. Dominica has also hosted national cyber security needs assessments in collaboration with the organization of American states through the Commonwealth Secretariat (COMSEC) with its commonwealth cybercrime initiative. Dominica has implemented the Data Protection Bill and Telecommunications Interceptions Regulations. The Global Cyber security Index of 2017 of the International Telecommunications Union ranks Dominica as 163rd country based on its commitment to the ITU Global Cyber security Agenda.

In order to protect the global community against cyber warfare; both state and non-state actors should be prepared to take necessary actions and policy implementation. The protection against cyber-warfare should begin with preventing both state and non-state actors from undertaking any cyber-attack. The Commonwealth of Dominica proposes that all member states should be prepared to identify and prioritize cyber-risk by formulating and analysing robust reports on cyber threats or attempts of attacks. Member states should create cyber infrastructure to build defensive government networks, improve information sharing and enhance cyber tools and expertise. The government of the Commonwealth of Dominica recommends that member states should improve integration of authorities and procedures in order to develop necessary cyber tools to defeat malicious actors in cyberspace.

## **II. Measures to Strengthen International Counter Terrorism Efforts**

The increased rate of brutality of modern terrorism is becoming alarming. Statistics reveal that in the 1970s, about 80% of all terrorist attacks were directed against property and 20% were directed against people. Today however, the reverse is the case. Attacks against people are almost becoming daily news report for the mass media. Incidentally, advancements in technology offer new targets and new capabilities, such as the use of nuclear materials or chemical weapons to target a larger population. Terrorism is estimated to have cost the global economy 52.9 billion dollars and about 114 billion dollars of countries' national security agencies in counter-terrorism response. Based on the Global Terrorism Index, there have been over 170,000 cases of terrorist activities from 1970 to 2016 alone. Considerably, terrorism has a success story, as there is increase in its financing and weapons; the international connections are developing rapidly; gain in international controls and depressing the economies of developing countries, exploitation of social unrest. All these portend great dangers for the future.

The adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in 2006 will continuously serve as a bench-mark which will continuously be implemented by the Commonwealth of Dominica to help in the fight against terrorism in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The UN's General Assembly Resolution 70/291 on "Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review" suggests agendas and strategies of each member state of the United Nations regarding counter terrorism and the inclusion of all citizens of the states regardless of gender, social, political or religious affiliations. The Commonwealth of Dominica like other Member States that promote international peace is concerned about terrorist activities, counter terrorist initiatives as well as the promotion of peace and security across all borders internationally. The most direct contact of Dominica with combating terrorism however is due to strong ties with CARICOM, United Kingdom and the United States of America hence it supports CARICOM's arrest warrant for Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) and CARICOM Implementing Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS). Dominica will continue enhance its regional cooperative effort with the Organization of American States through the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) efforts to establish a 24/7 cyber security and warning network for the Americas.

The Commonwealth of Dominica proposes that member states should strengthen intelligence-gathering capabilities and reorganize their security agencies to combat terrorist activities. Member states can adopt conciliatory, mediatory and negotiation processes in order to allow for peaceful interactions with terrorist groups that only seek for changes in problematic state policies. Dominica also proposes the use of coercive military attacks or repression against terrorist groups as the preservation of national security and democratic institutions are priorities to ensure the existence of the state. Member states of this Assembly should unite to form an

alliance against state-sponsored terrorist activities. Sanctions should be imposed on states which sponsor terrorist activities as these activities are threats to our fundamental human rights and our survival.

### **III. Combating the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons**

The unrestricted access to small arms and light weapons in recent years has raised questions to the protection of human rights. Regrettably, religious centres, educational institutions, children playgrounds, media houses, public offices, courts and even institutions of the government have been the centre of victims based on several shortcomings due to the availability of small arms. Illicit trade in small arms and light weapons has an estimated to be about a billion dollars due to the existence of black and grey market conducted by illegitimate officials, arms brokers and even the governments of states. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons has fuelled civil wars and regional conflicts across the world with the provision of about 10 to 14 billion ammunition enough to kill every human twice over. This has been responsible for the conflicts in Africa and the Middle East according to the 2014 Small Arms Survey as well as the deaths of over 500,000 people annually since 2016. It has increased the availability of weapons for terrorists, drug cartels and other militia which have contributed to the increase in violent crime and the proliferation of sensitive technology by these armed groups.

The Commonwealth of Dominica will continue to support the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspect (PoA) adopted in 2001. The United Nations Resolution 55/255 of 2001 which was entered into force in 2005 established the Firearms Protocol which is against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their parts and Components and Ammunitions. The Commonwealth of Dominica adopts the UN General Assembly's Resolution 56/24V to support all actions to curb the illicit trade and distribution of small arms and light weapons. Dominica have adopted security measures to identify individuals and groups engaged in financing, manufacturing, stockpiling and trading illicitly in small arms and light weapons. As a member of the Caribbean Community, Dominica commits to regional actions to curb the illicit trade with full compliance to the adopted 2001 PoA. At the 2006 Small Arms Review Conference in New York, the Commonwealth of Dominica affirmed her commitment towards the PoA in order to support the global effort to reduce the human suffering and devastating consequences which have encroached on our fundamental human rights.

The Commonwealth of Dominica recommends that there should be increased awareness to citizens of member states on the role of arms brokers to address the issue of transferring the legal trade of arms to illicit means. Member States should adopt national legislations that would allow for proper oversight and monitoring of the sale of legal weapons. Dominica proposes that member states should strongly commit themselves to utilising the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) of 2005 for reliable record-keeping on the trade of small weapons. Dominica recommends that member states should cooperate to affirm our commitment to international laws which emphasizes the respect for sovereign equality, territorial integrity, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs; which are the principles that have ensured the existence of the United Nations.

## **4. CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

### **4.1 Dress Code Policy**

In simulation of the United Nations, we at CIMUN strive for professionalism in all aspects of the conference. Delegates are expected to follow a dress code during all committee sessions and conference events. At most times, the prevailing dress code will be Western business attire, although national attire and religious attire will be permitted for the delegate and cultural dinner. Western business attire requires that male delegates dress in a suit jacket and a tie. Female delegates are required to wear a formal skirt, trousers or dress with a jacket. Short skirts (more than two inches above the knee), low-cut tops and bare bellies are not permitted.

### **4.2 Behavior Code Policy**

- The decisions of the Chair must be respected at all times, both in GA and in committees.
- All delegates must treat one another with respect. Abusive language is not acceptable or other forms of negative behavior such as staging walk-outs during sessions.
- During committees and GA, delegates should be listening to and participating in the debate, not playing games, texting, using social media etc. on portable electronic devices.
- Smoking is banned everywhere at all times. Alcohol and other intoxicating drugs must not be consumed during the conference, including the delegates' function, and must not be brought onto the premises.

Anyone found to be breaking the above rules will be reported to their CIMUN advisors. Committee Chairs also have the power to temporarily confiscate electronic devices in cases of persistent misuse. Breaches of the behavior code may result in a delegate or delegation being removed from consideration for an award, and serious misconduct could result in a ban from further participation in this and future conferences.