

How to Write a Resolution

Introduction:

The resolution (a.k.a...: "reso") is the document which a committee debates. It brings to light a certain problem or issue, and explains why and how action should be taken. The reso is not inflexible; rather, it can and even should be amended throughout debate adding or striking clauses, inserting examples, and removing objectionable points.

Resolutions, like any good writing, must possess both content and form. While a resolution's success or failure will not hinge on improper punctuation, a properly written resolution demands attention. Delegates will appreciate it; so will you. Follow the proceeding guidelines.

Follow the proceeding guidelines when writing resolutions. Use the following sample resolution as a model. A list of preambulatory and operative phrases is included. Use these phrases for variety, but avoid melodrama.

Heading:

The heading should contain the following:

Committee:
Subject:
Proposed by:

Body:

- 1) After the heading, one of the following lines should read:

The General Assembly,

(For the General Assembly and its subcommittees)

The Economic and Social Council or Human Rights Committee

or

**For specialized agencies, address the agency
(Ex: The Security Council)**

2. Number the lines in the body of the resolution.

3. Preambulatory clauses:

The preambulatory clauses state the reasons for introducing the resolution, and are begun with a preambulatory phrase, each of which is underlined. Preambulatory clauses should end with a comma. A list of preambulatory phrases is included below.

4. Operative Clauses

The operative clauses follow the preambulatory clauses, and state recommended courses of action. Similar to the preambulatory clauses, each operative clause is started with an operative phrase, which must be underlined. Additionally, each operative clause must be numbered and concluded with a semicolon (;). A list of operative phrases is included below.

5. The entire resolution should be ended by period.

Preambulatory Clauses

Affirming	Guided by
Alarmed by	Having adopted
Approving	Having considered
Aware of	Having considered further
Believing	Having examined
Bearing in mind	Having heard
Cognizant of	Having received
Confident	Having studied
Convinced	Keeping mind
Declaring	Noting further
Deeply concerned	Noting with approval
deeply disturbed	Noting with satisfaction
Deeply regretting	Noting with deep concern
Desiring	Observing
Emphazing	Realizing
Expecting	Raffirming
Expressing its appreciation	Recalling
Expressing its satisfaction	Recognizing
Fulfilling	Referring
Fully aware	Seeking
Fully alarmed	Taking into account
Fully believing	Taking note
Further deploring	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply Conscious	Noting with regret
Deeply Convinced	Welcoming
Further recalling	

***Note that "strong phrases such as "declaring" and "deploring" should be used for crisis committees such as the Security Council rather than regular subcommittees of the General Assembly and other councils.**

Operative Clauses

Accepts	Further Proclaims
Affirms	Further reminds
Approves	Further recommends
Authorizes	Further requests
Calls for	Further resolves
Calls upon	Invites
Condemns	Proclaims
Congratulates	Reaffirms
Confirms	Recommends
Considers	Reminds
Declares accordingly	Regrets
Deplores	Requests
Draws Attention	Resolves
Designates	Solemnly affirms
Emphasizes	Strongly condemns
Encourages	Supports
Endorses	Notes
Expresses its appreciation	Takes note of
Expresses its hope	Trusts
Further Invite	Urges

***Note that "strong" phrases such as "urges" , "condemns", and "declares" should be used for crisis committees such as the Security Council rather than regular subcommittees of the General Assembly and other councils.**