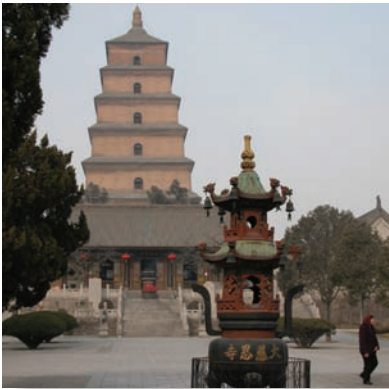


NMUN · CHINA

XI'AN 2008 西安

SPECIAL SESSION ON GLOBAL WARMING



NATIONAL MODEL
UNITED NATIONS

22-29 November 2008

BACKGROUND GUIDE 2008

NATIONAL
COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE
association™

NPU
Northwestern Polytechnical University



NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS - CHINA

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION &
NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, XI'AN

Administration

Michael Eaton
Executive Director

Gayane Manukyan
Outreach Coordinator

Conference Staff

Li Ni
Secretary-General

Kevin Grisham
Director-General

Ruan Hongmei
Amierah Ismail
Chiefs of Staff

Jill Dawson
Lin Pengcheng
Chen Jie

Committee Staff
General Assembly Plenary

Kristy Mordhurst
Yuan Junwei
Committee Staff
Security Council

Stacy Jer
Zhang Yang
Committee Staff
ECOSOC Plenary

Jennifer Contreras
Chen Fei
Guo Wenbo
Committee Staff
Special Session on
Global Warming

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to 2008 National Model United Nations Conference (NMUN) in China! It is my privilege and pleasure to serve as your Director for the Special Session on Global Warming. My name is Jennifer Contreras and I am a native of Southern California in the United States. I have been a member of the NMUN New York Secretariat for six years and have served in many capacities in that time. Most recently, I served as the Chief of Staff of the Sheraton venue for the 2008 NMUN-New York conference. I have a Bachelors Degree in Journalism and Photojournalism from the University of La Verne in Southern California. I currently live in Los Angeles where I work in television as a Producer. Your Assistant Directors for the Special Session on Global Warming at NMUN-China is Chen Fei and Guo Wenbo.

For the 2008 session, the Special Session on Global Warming will discuss following topics:

- I. Economic Development and Its Impact on the Environment
- II. Global Warming and Its Effect on Biodiversity

NMUN offers you the unique opportunity to become the chief diplomat of your State for a week; the better prepared you are the better you will fulfill your mission. The background guide will provide a brief introduction to the topics before the committee. The bibliography contains some sources to begin your search. However, it is recommended delegates consult several sources including textbooks, articles, and electronic sources to gain a full understanding of the Security Council and the topics before the committee. Please remember this background guide is meant to be a starting point for your research. It should not be the sole source of information you use in your preparation. The better prepared you are, the more fun you will have!

Use this Background Guide as a catalyst to further your study of these very complex topics and enjoy the time you will spend preparing for the conference. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the 2008 NMUN-China Director-General, Kevin Grisham.

I look forward to meeting you in the Fall!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Contreras
Director, Special Session on Global Warming
NMUN-China
22-29 November 2008
specialsession.china@nmun.org
+1.909.486.2536
www.nmun.org

Kevin Grisham
Director-General
NMUN - China
22-29 November 2008
dirgen.china@nmun.org
+1.909.991.5506
www.nmun.org

Message from the Directors-General Regarding Position Papers for the 2008 NMUN-China Conference

At the NMUN-China Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee it is assigned to at the conference. These papers demonstrate and assist in preparation. Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations concerning the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed in the position paper. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. The NMUN-China Conference will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim recreation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incident of plagiarism to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Delegation's position papers can be given awards as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, however, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the example paper on the following page for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. The following format specifications are **required** for all papers:

- All papers must be typed and formatted according to the example in the Background Guides
- Length must **not** exceed two single-sided pages. (All position papers need to be submitted in electronic format.) If you cannot submit the position in electronic format, please consult with the Committee Director and the Director-General. In cases where electronic submission is not possible, the position paper cannot exceed one double-sided page.
- Font **must** be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Countryname, School name and committee name clearly labeled on the first page
- Agenda topics clearly labeled in separate sections

To be considered timely for awards, please read and follow these directions:

1. **A file of the position paper** (.doc or .pdf format only) **for each assigned committee** should be sent to the committee email address listed in the Background Guide. These e-mail addresses will be active after August 1, 2008. Delegates should carbon copy (cc:) themselves as confirmation of receipt.

2. Each delegation should also send **one set of all position papers** to the Director-General e-mail address: dirgen.china@nmun.org. This set will serve as a back-up copy in case individual committee directors cannot open attachments. These copies will also be made available for the NMUN-China Conference.

Each of the above listed tasks needs to be completed no later than
November 1, 2008

PLEASE TITLE EACH E-MAIL/DOCUMENT WITH THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE, ASSIGNMENT, AND SCHOOL NAME (Example: ECOSOC_Belgium_New State University)

If you need to make other arrangements for submission, please contact Director-General for NMUN-China at dirgen.china@nmun.org. There is an option for delegations to submit physical copies via regular mail if needed.

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff uses the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of (official) policy aims within the committee's mandate

Finally, please consider that many papers will be handled and read by the Secretariat for the Conference. Your patience and cooperation in strictly adhering to the above guidelines will make this process more efficient and is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Conference staff, though as we do not operate out of a central office or location your consideration for time zone differences is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin E. Grisham
Director-General
NMUN-China
22-29 November 2008

SUMMARY OF POSITION PAPER REQUIREMENTS:

- **DEADLINE:** Submit by 1 November for each committee your assigned country is a member of. Consult the matrix at www.nmun.org if uncertain of committees. Do not write papers for committees your country is not assigned to be a member of. For example, a university representing a country not on the Security Council would not write a paper about the Security Council topics.
- **LENGTH:** No more than two single-spaced pages following the format of the example. Note: NMUN-China only has two topics (unlike the example from New York with three topics).*
- **EXAMPLE FORMAT FOR SAVING:** State University's papers for Belgium should be saved as:

gaplenary_Belgium_New State University	ecosoc_Belgium_New State University
sc_Belgium_New State University	specialsession_Belgium_New State University
- **TWO SUBMISSIONS**
 - **TO COMMITTEE DIRECTORS:** Delegates should send individual papers to the e-mail address of the committee director for that committee. These e-mails are listed on the cover letter of this guide. Delegates should cc: themselves as confirmation it was sent.
 - **FULL SET TO DIRECTOR GENERAL** The faculty advisor or head delegate should send an e-mail with all the position papers to dirgen.china@nmun.org by 1 November. This complete set will be made available to other delegations at the conference.

* The sample position paper on the following pages is an actual paper submitted to General Assembly Plenary for the 2008 NMUN-New York Conference. Unlike New York, NMUN-China will only have two topics. This paper is included with the permission of the authors and their university. We hope this example is helpful as you prepare.

Position Paper for General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict; the Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy; and the Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa. Canada is dedicated to collaborative multilateral approaches to ensuring protection and promotion of human security and advancement of sustainable development.

I. Breaking the link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict

Canada endorses the Kimberly Process in promoting accountability, transparency, and effective governmental regulation of trade in rough diamonds. We believe the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is an essential international regulatory mechanism and encourage all Member States to contribute to market accountability by seeking membership, participation, and compliance with its mandate. Canada urges Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2007 Kimberley Process Communiqué to strengthen government oversight of rough diamond trading and manufacturing by developing domestic legal frameworks similar to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. We call upon participating States to act in accordance with the KPCS's comprehensive and credible systems of peer review to monitor the continued implementation of the Kimberley Process and ensure full transparency and self-examination of domestic diamond industries. We draw attention to our domestic programs for diamond regulation including Implementing the Export and Import of Rough Diamonds Act and urge Member States to consider these programs in developing the type of domestic regulatory frameworks called for in A/RES/55/56. We recommend Member States implement the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and, in cooperation with established diamond industries, increase controls for record keeping, spot checks of trading companies, physical inspections of imports and exports, and maintenance of verifiable records of rough diamond inventories. Pursuant to Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations and in conjunction with S/RES/1346, we support renewed targeted sanctions on Côte d'Ivoire, initiated under Paragraph 1 of S/RES/1782, and recommend the Security Council use targeted sanctions and embargos to offset illicit exploitation of diamond trading. Canada recognizes the crucial role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the review of rough diamond control measures developed through the Kimberly Process and encourages States to include NGOs, such as Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada, in the review processes called for in A/RES/58/290. We urge Member States to act in accordance with A/RES/60/182 to optimize the beneficial development impact of artisanal and alluvial diamond miners by establishing a coordinating mechanism for financial and technical assistance through the Working Group of the Kimberly Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers. Canada calls upon States and NGOs to provide basic educational material regarding diamond valuation and market prices for artisanal diggers, as recommended by the Diamond Development Initiative. Canada will continue to adhere to the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and is dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and effective regulation of the rough diamond trade through the utilization of voluntary peer review systems and the promotion of increased measures of internal control within all diamond producing States.

II. The Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy

Canada is dedicated to integrating alternative energy sources into climate change frameworks by diversifying the energy market while improving competitiveness in a sustainable economy, as exemplified through our Turning Corners Report and Project Green climate strategies. We view the international commitment to the promotion of alternative sources of energy called for in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Control (UNFCCC) as a catalyst to sustainable development and emission reduction. Canada fulfills its obligations to Article 4 of the UNFCCC by continuing to provide development assistance through the Climate Change Development Fund and calls upon Member States to commit substantial financial and technical investment toward the transfer of sustainable energy technologies and clean energy mechanisms to developing States. We emphasize the need for Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2005 Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference to strengthen domestic policy frameworks to promote clean energy technologies. Canada views dissemination of technology information called for in the 2007 Group of Eight Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy Declaration as a vital step in energy diversification from conventional energy generation. We call upon Member States to integrate clean electricity from renewable sources into their domestic energy sector by employing investment campaigns similar to our \$1.48 billion initiative ecoENERGY for Renewable Power. Canada encourages States to develop domestic policies of energy efficiency, utilizing regulatory and financing frameworks to accelerate the deployment of clean low-emitting technologies. We call upon Member States to provide

knowledge-based advisory services for expanding access to energy in order to fulfill their commitments to Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Canada emphasizes the need for States to establish domestic regulatory bodies similar to the Use, Development, Deployment, and Transfer of Technology Program to work in cooperation with the private sector to increase the transfer of alternative energy technologies. Highlighting the contributions of the Canadian Initiative for International Technology Transfer and the International Initiative for Technology Development Program, we urge Member States to facilitate the development and implementation of climate change technology transfer projects. Canada urges States to address the concerns of the 2007 Human Development Report by promoting tax incentives, similar to the Capital Cost Allowances and Canadian Renewable and Conservation Expenses, to encourage private sector development of energy conservation and renewable energy projects. As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Canada is committed to accelerating the development of renewable energy projects, information sharing mechanisms, and energy efficient systems through the voluntary carbon offset system. We are dedicated to leading international efforts toward the development and sharing of best practices on clean energy technologies and highlight our release of the Renewable Energy Technologies Screen software for public and private stakeholders developing projects in energy efficiency, cogeneration, and renewable energy. Canada believes the integration of clean energy into State specific strategies called for in A/62/419/Add.9 will strengthen energy diversification, promote the use of cogeneration, and achieve a synergy between promoting alternative energy while allowing for competitiveness in a sustainable economy.

III. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Canada views the full implementation of the treatment and prevention targets of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Especially in Africa, as essential to eradicating malaria and assisting African States to achieve Target 8 of Goal 6 of the MDGs by 2015. We recommend Member States cooperate with the World Health Organization to ensure transparency in the collection of statistical information for Indicators 21 and 22 of the MDGs. Canada reaffirms the targets of the Abuja Declaration Plan of Action stressing regional cooperation in the implementation, monitoring, and management of malaria prevention and treatment initiatives in Africa. To fully implement A/RES/61/228, Canada believes developed States must balance trade and intellectual property obligations with the humanitarian objective of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. We continue to implement Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health into our compulsory licensing framework through the Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa Act. We urge Member States to support compulsory licensing for essential generic medicines by including anti-malarial vaccines and initiating domestic provisions to permit export-only compulsory licenses to domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, similar to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime. Canada calls upon Member States to establish advanced market commitments on the distribution of pneumococcal vaccines to developing States in cooperation with PATH and the Malaria Vaccine Initiative. We emphasize the need for greater membership in the Roll Back Malaria initiative to strengthen malaria control planning, funding, implementation, and evaluation by promoting increased investment in healthcare systems and greater incorporation of malaria control into all relevant multi-sector activities. Canada continues to implement the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) New Agenda for Action on Health to reduce malaria infection rates among marginalized populations in Africa, increase routine immunizations rates, and reduce infection rates of other neglected infections. Canada will achieve the goal of doubling aid to Africa by 2008-2009 by providing assistance to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We urge Member States to increase donations to intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that support malaria programming in Africa, exemplified by CIDA's contribution of \$26 million to the Canadian Red Cross. We continue our efforts to provide accessible and affordable vector control methods to African States through the Red Cross' Malaria Bed Net Campaign and the African Medical Research Foundation Canada by supplying insecticide-treated mosquito nets and Participatory Malaria Prevention and Treatment tool kits. We support the Initiative to Save a Million Lives Now 2007 Campaign to improve healthcare for impoverished mothers and children and reaffirm the need for standardization of healthcare systems to ensure adequate training of healthcare officials. We call upon Member States to assist in the capacity building of developing States' healthcare frameworks to provide adequate training, equipment, and deployment to new and existing African healthcare personnel. Canada places strong emphasis on ensuring increased accessibility to health services, improved standards of living, and reduction in mortality rates through our \$450 million contribution to the African Health Systems Initiative. Pursuant to Article VII of the A/55/2, we will continue to exhibit leadership in the implementation of A/RES/61/228 to mitigate the effects of malaria in developing States, particularly in Africa, and remain dedicated to the strengthening of healthcare systems to improve malaria prevention and treatment.

The Special Session on Global Warming

The Special Session on Global Warming will serve as a forum to address recent issues regarding climate change. The Earth's susceptibility to natural disaster has been established in recent years and continues to be a daily concern worldwide. As global warming becomes a widespread matter, more of the global community has begun to take action toward preserving sustainability on this planet.

Science has determined a large reason for the increase in average global temperatures is most likely due to the increase in man-made greenhouse gas concentrations.¹ Since the Industrial Revolution in the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, greenhouse gasses no longer came from natural sources. With industry came an increase in the amount of greenhouse gasses emitted into the atmosphere and a change in the sources that emit greenhouse gasses. Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄) and Nitrus Oxide (N₂O) are some of the major types of greenhouse emissions that currently effect the global community.

The atmospheric changes these emissions cause are translated into temperature changes worldwide. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in their 2007 *State of the Climate Report*, since the mid 1970s, the average surface temperature has warmed about 1 degree Fahrenheit and the surface of the Earth is currently warming at a rate of about 0.32 degrees Fahrenheit.² The parallels between human development and the increase in climate change have been studied for years. The last 50 years have been cited as having more accelerated and increased effects on the atmosphere due to an increase in human productivity.³

There are international organizations that are committed to climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a United Nations body formed by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), was created as a body that publishes reports on topics related to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The UNFCCC is the treaty that helped form the Kyoto Protocol (Dec. 12, 1997). The Kyoto Protocol is the international protocol on the reduction of greenhouse emissions. One hundred and eighty-seven States have ratified the protocol so that they are committed to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions.⁴

The Kyoto Protocol and related international agreements has resulted in a greater attempt by the international community to address the issue of global warming. One attempt can be seen in the UN Millennium Development Goals. The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which has a target date of 2015, has a stake in the environment.⁵ As its seventh goal, the MDG addresses the goal to ensure environmental sustainability. In relation, the eighth goal is to develop a global partnership for development.

In this tradition, the 2008 NMUN-China conference will be simulating the Special Session on Global Warming. At its basis, this session will continue these attempts by the international system to address the issue of global warming.

¹ Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. *Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007-02-05)*. Retrieved on February 2, 2002, from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg1.htm>.

² U.S. Environment Protection Agency, *Climate Change*, 2008 Retrieved on July 3, 2008, from <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/science/recenttc.html#ref>

³ Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. *Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007-02-05)*. Retrieved on February 2, 2002 from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg1.htm>.

⁴ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, *Kyoto Protocol*. Retrieved on July 3, 2008 from http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php

⁵ United Nations, *Millenium Development Goals*. Retrieved on July 6, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

I. Economic Development and its Impact on the Environment

The Special Session on Global Warming serves as a statement that the United Nations is committed to promoting a sustainable planet for the present and for the future. The United Nations also supports economic development as a sustainable way for Member States to advance. Industry and development are cited as leading causes for increase in global warming concerns. In the case of the environment, it is necessary to explore ways in which development effects the environment and any related consequences.

The Relationship between Economic Growth and the Environment

In 1991, economists first reported a systematic relationship between income changes and environmental quality. This relationship, known as the Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC), has become standard fare in technical conversations about environmental policy.⁶ The surprise came when the curve actually shows some important indicators of environmental quality. An example is levels of sulfur dioxide and particulates in the air actually improved as incomes and levels of consumption increased. This proved that industry might be able to help mend environmental degradation.⁷ This may not be the case where the proper institutional structure to support this improvement does not exist. Within this realization, it is important to understand that this may not be the case unless there is proper institutional reform in a country. Improvement of the environment with income growth is not automatic but depends on policies and institutions. Gross domestic product (GDP) growth creates the conditions for environmental improvement by raising the demand for improved environmental quality and makes the resources available for supplying it.⁸ One can conclude from the findings of this relationship that those most affected by global warming and climate change are those poorer countries where development is lacking.

How does your country monitor the connections between economic growth and industry as it relates to the environment? What kind of environmental infrastructure does your country have in place? In your country, who are those affected by environmental degradation, if anyone?

The Involvement of the International Community

The issue of climate change has become the focus of many world organizations. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a working group report on November 16, 2007 entitled "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability."⁹ The report specifically points out important risks if governments fail to respond to climate change.¹⁰ It is the last report that went into play before the talks started to discuss the global climate change treaty that will eventually replace the Kyoto Protocol, which expires in 2012.¹¹ Sources say that while it will be the developing nations most affected by climate change, it was the United States, Saudi Arabia, and China who had the major objections to the text of the report as they tried to change it. This was in order to downplay the consequences of global warming.¹² In this report, issues of ecosystems, goods and services, industry, health and society, and continental specific assessments of climate change are analyzed.¹³ The report features a specific list of "Reasons for Concern" that includes an increase of extreme weather conditions that are not likely to occur, but would cause great turmoil if they did occur. One example would be the melting of polar ice. This list is different from previous reports that only presented events that are "highly likely."¹⁴

⁶ Property and Environment Research Center, *The Environmental Kuznets Curve: A Primer*, 2002. Retrieved on June 21, 2008, from <http://www.perc.org/articles/article688.php>

⁷ *Ibid*

⁸ *Ibid*

⁹ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *IPCC Fourth Assessment Report*, 2007. Retrieved on June 21, 2008, from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg2.htm>

¹⁰ New York Times, *U.N. Report Describes Risks of Inaction on Climate Change*, Nov. 16, 2007. Retrieved on June 21, 2008, from http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/17/science/earth/17climate.html?_r=1&scp=5&sq=Economic+Development+and+Climate+Change&st=nyt&oref=slogin

¹¹ *Ibid*.

¹² *Ibid*.

¹³ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *IPCC Fourth Assessment Report*, 2007. Retrieved on June 21, 2008, from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg2.htm>

Has your country ratified the Kyoto Protocol? How does the Kyoto Protocol affect environmental precautions in your country? What are the weather patterns in your country and how are they evolving? Would your country be affected by an extreme weather condition?

Economic Depression and Its Connection to Environmental Changes

In another effort to urge world leaders to examine climate change and development, Oxfam International has started Oxfam America's Climate Change Campaign to get the attention of world leaders at the Group of Eight (G-8) Summit to be held in 2008. An example of how they are getting attention of world leaders is the video that has been circulating the Internet to display their cause. In the video, people from around the world talk about the effects of extreme weather changes on the poorer people. This is because of their lack of infrastructure, development and ability to adapt to the changing climate.¹⁵ According to Raymond Offenheiser, President of Oxfam America, 97% of all natural disaster related deaths take place in developing countries. Therefore, Oxfam is undertaking a campaign to address disproportionate solutions by asking the United States to cut greenhouse gas emissions and provide financial assistance to vulnerable communities around the world.¹⁶

Has your country been affected by the changing climate? Have there been any deaths because of environmental extremities? Does your country support efforts from groups like Oxfam and if so, which ones? How involved is the government in helping the poorer people in your country when it comes to extreme weather changes?

In attempting to address economics and the environment, it is important to consider all variables that might have a role. Whether it is booming industry, poverty, or geography, all elements are going to be different around the world. Every country has its own level of concern for the environment and how it affects the economy – and vice versa. How does your country weigh the importance of environment preservation and how is it related to the economic stability of your country?

II. Global Warming and Its Effect on Biodiversity

Beyond the traditional political models offered by economics and sociology, climate change and its catastrophic effects can also be understood in terms of its direct biological impact. The concept of biodiversity is a relatively new form of political analysis, which attempts to apply advancements modern environmental science and biology to the creation of political and social policy. As we endeavor to create a better and more environmentally sound world, biodiversity is an invaluable tool for both measuring the effects of climate change and aiding the search for a solution.

An Invaluable Resource / The Planet's Most Fundamental Resource

At the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, "biodiversity" was defined as "the variability among living organisms from all sources, including, 'inter alia', terrestrial, marine, and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are part: this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems."¹⁷ More simply put, biodiversity is the number and variation of species in an ecosystem. Biodiversity serves as an effective measurement of the health of a given ecosystem. A higher number of different life forms interacting results in a more robust environment and more complicated patterns of evolution.¹⁸ However, biodiversity is not simply a matter of environmental preservation and a concern of conservationists alone. The

¹⁴ New York Times, *U.N. Report Describes Risks of Inaction on Climate Change*, Nov. 16, 2007.

Retrieved on June 20, 2008, from

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/17/science/earth/17climate.html?_r=1&scp=5&sq=Economic+Development+and+Climate+Change&st=nyt&oref=slogin

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ Youtube, *Oxfam America's Climate Change Campaign video, June 17, 2008*. Retrieved on June 27, 2008, from

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwcF6z2fc50>

¹⁷ *Convention on Biodiversity, Article 2, 1992*. Retrieved on June 22, 2008, from

<http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles.shtml?a=cbd-02>

¹⁸ Kevin J. Gaston & John I. Spicer. 2004. "Biodiversity: an introduction", Blackwell Publishing. 2nd Ed.

environmental life cycles — sustained through biodiversity — directly translate into economic and social resources for all of humankind. “At least 40 per cent of the world’s economy and 80 per cent of the needs of the poor are derived from biological resources. In addition, the richer the diversity of life, the greater the opportunity for medical discoveries, economic development, and adaptive responses to such new challenges as climate change.”¹⁹

From providing food in a developing nation’s agrarian-based markets to supplying the natural resources used in the development of modern technology and pharmaceuticals, biodiversity is an invaluable resource for all nations and an indispensable part of all levels of the global economy. What domestic industries and economic sectors of your society is most directly dependant on the biodiversity of your nation? Beyond economic impacts, how else is biodiversity a resource for your nation? What about States partnered to your own State? How does the state of biodiversity affect your State’s global region? How does biodiversity effect your State’s position in the global economy or provide materials for import?

An Expanding Crisis

The destruction and destabilizing of natural habitats and increase of species extinction will result in a significant loss of world resources and ultimately, may result in an irreversible unwinding of the ecosystem.

Summary Report AR4 establishes effect on biodiversity to be one of the key environmental consequences of climate change. The report concludes climate change effect on biodiversity is more severe, widespread, and probable than reported previously.²⁰ The effect of climate change on the biodiversity of the world’s oceans serves as one example of the catastrophic consequences of a loss of biodiversity.²¹ Changes in ocean temperature will affect the life cycle of plankton. Plankton serves as the fundamental food source for an ocean’s bio-cycle. Less plankton translates into less food for fish and less fish mean less food for sea birds and sea-based mammals. The environmental threat of climate change to biodiversity is not limited to oceans. It also presents a potential unraveling of other eco-systems including those of tropical regions.²²

What are the greatest environmental impacts or threats to your State? What role has climate change played in the creation of these environmental impacts? How have these impacts affected your State’s biodiversity? Are there any economic trends that correspond to the reduction of your State’s biodiversity?

The Search for a Collective Solution

In response and recognition of the importance of both monitoring and addressing the issue of global biodiversity, States in attendance at 1992 Earth Summit ratified the *Convention on Biodiversity* (1992).²³ The convention and its operating body, the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biodiversity (ICCB), adopted three agreements: Agenda 21, a programme for global action towards sustainable development; the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, which are principles that define rights and responsibilities of Member States; and the *Statement of Forest Principles*, the principles for sustainable management of forests worldwide.²⁴ Some of the rights and responsibilities defined in the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* are that human beings

¹⁹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System – Addendum Rio Markers*, 2004 Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/44/46/35646074.pdf>

²⁰ IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4). Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf, pg.19

²¹United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Biodiversity and Climate Change 2000 Changing Oceans, Effects on Biodiversity, Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/climate/oceans/biodiv.aspx>

²² IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4). Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf, pg.11

²³ CBD News, *The Convention on Biological Diversity: From Conception to Implementation*, Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/CBD-10th-anniversary.pdf>

²⁴ Earth Summit, *UN Conference on Environment and Development (1992)*, Retrieved on June 23, 2008, from <http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>, pg. 2.

are at the centre of concern for sustainable development. Further, it states scientific uncertainty should not delay actions to prevent environmental degradation.²⁵

Do the policies put forth by the global community effectively address the threat climate change poses to biodiversity? How will these policies affect the biodiversity of your State? Is a climate change policy more specific to your State's region and your State's type of biodiversity required, or does a global climate change policy meet your State's individual needs?

Climate change is a global problem to which each State has contributed in some way. Therefore, the climate change crisis must be addressed through international cooperation. Climate change is a problem too large for a single State to solve. At the same time, a State's biodiversity and its environment is individual and special to that State. Every State should analyze closely its dependence on biodiversity and realistically face the challenges climate change presents to this resource. Key to an effective global solution to climate change will be a careful balancing of each State's particular biodiversity needs with an effective global program.

Suggestions for Further Research

The annotated bibliography below may help with additional general information, but this guide is meant only to introduce the topic and invite your further research. The majority of your research will focus on gaining the perspective of your assigned member state. This is the viewpoint you will represent with your advocacy and creative ideas. If you are uncertain of the next steps in your research, we suggest trying to answer the following questions:

What solutions has your State or NGO introduced in regards to economic development and protecting the environment? How has your State or NGO been involved in promoting greater sustainable development?

What solutions would your State or NGO propose to the United Nations to further attempts to bridge the nexus between environmental protection and economic development? Are there additional efforts the international community could support that would further greenhouse gas emissions? What potential barriers could exist that would prevent these prescriptions and how would your State or NGO address these potential problems?

How does your State see the issue of biodiversity and the protection of biodiversity within its national borders? What positions does your State or NGO take on the issue of biodiversity protection in the global community? What solutions has your State or NGO proposed to address this issue? What future solutions would your State or NGO propose to address the issue of biodiversity protection in the international community?

What role does your State or NGO take in the United Nations to help to promote the protection of biodiversity in the international community? What collective measures could be taken to promote greater biodiversity protection in the international community? Do these efforts have potential barriers and if so, how could these barriers be addressed?

Annotated Bibliography

Special Session on Global Warming

Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis. *Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007-02-05). Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg1.htm>

This report submitted by Working Group I is based on understanding the ways in which climate change occurs. Human influence and natural forces are observed here in order to find patterns in climate change. It uses past IPCC reports and sets up the full report on Climate Change 2007.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

Kyoto Protocol, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/2830.php

This page on the website for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change outlines the Kyoto Protocol. The page gives a brief history and description of the international agreement on climate change. The page offers the text of the Kyoto Protocol in different languages and descriptions of the language used in the agreement.

Millennium Development Goals. Retrieved on June 18, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

This website of the United Nations is dedicated to outlining the Millennium Development Goals of United Nations Member States established in 2000. The site outlines the eight goals and it offers newsflashes and updates in the progress of the MDGs. The link for "Background" contains progress reports and there is a link for the "Goal Tracker" which tracks progress in individual countries.

U.S. Environment Protection Agency, *Climate Change – Temperature Change*, 2008

Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/science/recenttc.html#ref>

This U.S. Government agency on the environment's site dedicated to reports, news, and progress on Climate Change. The site offers basic understandings, definitions, laws, and policies on Climate Change. Pages on this site include the Science of Climate Change, Health and Environment Effects, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and U.S. Climate Policy.

I. Economic Development and its Impact on the Environment

Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. *Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2007-02-05). Retrieved on July 19, 2008 from <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/ar4-wg2.htm>

This report submitted by Working Group II is based on understanding the ways in which climate change actually influences the planet. It explores natural, managed, and human systems. It also examines how the systems are able to adapt to climate change. It also explores the degree of vulnerability that these systems have to climate change.

The Environmental Kuznets Curve: A Primer, 2002, *Property and Environment Research Center*,

Retrieved on June 16, 2008 from <http://www.perc.org/articles/article688.php>

The Property and Environment Research Center is an U.S. institute that applies economic thinking to solving environmental problems through research and education. The page on the Environmental Kuznet's Curve is an article about the theory and its application in the world of environmental research.

New York Times, U.N. Report Describes Risks of Inaction on Climate Change, Nov. 16, 2007

Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from

http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/17/science/earth/17climate.html?_r=1&scp=5&sq=Economic+Development+and+Climate+Change&st=nyt&oref=slogin

The New York Times publication website has archived this article from November of 2007 about the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The article covers the reveal of the report, "Climate Change 2007, The Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC" and it highlights the risks described in the report. The two-page article talks in scientific terms while still analyzing the international politics involved in climate change. (Free registration the New York Times website might be required to access this article in electronic format.)

Oxfam America's Climate Change Campaign Video, June 17, 2008. Retrieved on June 27, 2008 from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwcF6z2fc50>

The website YouTube is used by Oxfam America to air the video for its current campaign on Climate Change. The video runs at three minutes and has an introduction from Oxfam America's president, Raymond Offenheiser. The video also covers footage from various people affected by climate change and statements by them translated to English.

II. Global Warming and Its Effect on Biodiversity

"Biodiversity: an introduction", Kevin J. Gaston & John I. Spicer. 2004. Blackwell Publishing. 2nd Ed.

This book provides a useful introduction and outline for the issue of biodiversity. The author offers a review of the technical definition of biodiversity. The article also explores the practicality and real-world relevance of biodiversity, and its function as a sociological and political analytical tool.

Convention on Biodiversity, Article 2, 1992. Retrieved on June 18, 2008 from <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles.shtml?a=cbd-02>

The Convention on Biodiversity is the resulting international treaty from the 1992 Earth Summit meeting held in Rio de Janeiro. The Convention is the first international recognition of biodiversity as a matter worthy of world concern and requiring global cooperation. The Convention serves as the cornerstone from which all other biodiversity protocol and plans for action have been based. The website for the Convention provides the text for its articles and intentions and is comprehensive to the work the Convention does.

CBD News, *The Convention on Biological Diversity: From Conception to Implementation*, Retrieved on June 20, 2008, from <http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/CBD-10th-anniversary.pdf>

This pamphlet was published by the Convention on Biodiversity in recognition of the decade of work performed toward the goals of the convention. The document provides a useful history of the Convention. In addition, the pamphlet presents the personal comments of several world diplomats involved in the work of the Convention, including former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Earth Summit, *UN Conference on Environment and Development (1992)*, Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from <http://www.un.org/geninfo/bp/enviro.html>, pg.2

The Earth Summit in 1992 was a meeting held by the UN Conference on Environment and Development. The website gives a general outline of the meeting and what was accomplished. It also gives a comprehensive summary of the meeting. The meeting resulted in the adoption of three documents and two conventions.

IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) Retrieved on June 23, 2008 from http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/syr/ar4_syr_spm.pdf

The Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was presented in 2007. The report provides the most recent analysis of climate change and provides recommendations for policymakers. The report addresses the physical basis for climate change, a re-assessment of the projected impacts and risks associated with climate change, and evaluation of potential action to mitigate climate change.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, *Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System – Addendum Rio Markers*, 2004 Retrieved on June 18, 2008 from <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/44/46/35646074.pdf>

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an organization of thirty nations who seek to shape international policy toward the spread of representative democracy and the preservation of a free market economy. The OECD seeks to address a wide array of issues, from social and economic to cultural and environmental. This document provides the group's recommendations and analysis for the execution of the environmental protocols established at the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit.

Additional Sources

United Nations Environment Programme, Retrieved on June 20, 2008 from <http://www.unep.org/>

The United Nations voice for the environment is the UN Environment Programme. The UNEP operates within the United Nations and focuses on sustainable development for nations that is also sustainable to the environment. The UNEP has many scientific advisory groups including the Ecosystem Conservation Group (ECG), The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR).

World Meteorological Organization. Retrieved on June 19, 2008 from http://www.wmo.int/pages/index_en.html

The World Meteorological Organization website is comprehensive to the work of the WMO. The WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations and serves as the voice for weather, climate, and atmosphere. The WMO provides the framework for cooperation amongst Member States when it comes to weather, climate, and water.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO DELEGATES AND FACULTY ADVISORS

NMUN rules of procedure strive to follow the spirit of the actual world bodies simulated. The intent of these rules is to facilitate meetings. In consultation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and member state representatives, we have made small amendments to some of the rules of the United Nations in order to recognize that our simulation tries to achieve in days what real-life diplomats work on over weeks and months.

For those who have also attended our New York conference, you will find two major differences at NMUN-China:

1. There is no motion to change the speaker's time. It will be set by the Secretariat at the beginning of the committee sessions. This time will be used for the majority of the committee session and only will be modified by the Secretariat as needed to facilitate the committee proceedings. This adds realism to the session, since it is a motion rarely used in the United Nations, yet is often used in simulations. Rather than taking many minutes to discuss the length of speeches, the Secretariat would rather see this time used in additional substantive speeches on the topic. This should also facilitate a larger number of delegates being able to speak during the committee sessions. (See Rules 13 and 17)
2. The committee staff has been particularly empowered to deny consideration of motions for a caucus if they believe hearing additional substantive speeches would further the substantive work of the committee. While caucuses will still take place and serve their important role, the Secretariat seeks to limit the repeated consecutive caucuses that can result in hours passing without hearing a substantive speech. (See Rule 20)

We are aware that various sister simulations often use slightly different rules. The largest difference with NMUN seems to be:

1. NMUN does not allow a speaker to yield remaining time to another speaker nor do we have a pre-set time allotted for asking questions of each speaker.
2. Should the body wish to moderate a caucus session, that can be done by a member of the body serving as moderator, but not moderated by the Secretariat.

Included in this information is a brief listing of the most frequently utilized motions as well as the full rules.

Any further questions concerning the NMUN-China Rules of Procedure should be directed to a member of the Secretariat.

NMUN-CHINA RULES OF PROCEDURE SHORT FORM

Motion	Purpose	Debate	Vote
Point of Order	Correct an error in procedure	None	None
Appeal of the Chair	Challenge a decision of the Chair	None	Majority
Suspension of the Meeting	Recess meeting	None	Majority
Adjournment of the Meeting	End meeting	None	Majority
Adjournment of Debate	End debate without a substantive vote	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Closure of Debate	Move to immediate vote	2 con	2/3
Declare an Important Question (applicable in GA Plenary only)	Require all substantive actions to obtain a 2/3 majority to pass	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Amendments and 1st Vote on Divisions of the Question	Vote on sections separately, prior to voting on the entire resolution	2 pro / 2 con	Majority
Roll Call Vote	Vote by roll call, rather than show of placards	None	None
Reconsideration	Re-open debate on an issue	2 con	2/3
Close the Speakers list (also applies to re-opening list)	No additional speakers added to speakers list on topic	None	Majority
Adoption of the Agenda	Approval of agenda order	None	Majority

NMUN-China
Rules of Procedure
Special Session on Global Warming

Introduction

1. These rules shall be the only rules which apply to the Special Session on Global Warming (hereinafter referred to as “the Special Session”) and shall be considered adopted by the Special Session prior to its first meeting.
2. For purposes of these rules, the Plenary Director, the Assistant Director(s), the Under-Secretaries-General, and the Assistant Secretaries-General, are designates and agents of the Secretary-General and Director-General, and are collectively referred to as the “Secretariat.”
3. 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 the National Model United Nations-China and in furtherance of the educational mission of that organization.
4. For the purposes of these rules, “President” shall refer to the chairperson or acting chairperson of the Special Session.

I. SESSIONS

Rule 1 -Dates of convening and adjournment

The Special Session shall meet in session, commencing and closing on the dates designated by the Secretary-General.

Rule 2 -Place of sessions

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

II. AGENDA

Rule 3 -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 4 - 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 Special Session by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

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” means those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

Rule 5 - Revision of the agenda

During a session, the Special Session 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 three representatives in favor of, and three 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 Special Session so decides by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. No additional item may, unless the Special Session decides otherwise by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, be considered until a committee has reported on the question concerned.

For purposes of this rule, 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 Special Session to be placed on the agenda. It will, however, not be considered by the Special Session 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 rule are substantive vote, and, as such, observers

are not permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “the members present and voting” means those members (not including observers) in attendance at the session during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 6 - Explanatory memorandum

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

III. SECRETARIAT

Rule 7 - Duties of the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General or her/his designate shall act in this capacity in all meetings of the Special Session.
2. The Secretary-General shall provide and direct the staff required by the Special Session and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

Rule 8 - Duties of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall receive, print, and distribute documents, reports, and resolutions of the Special Session, and shall distribute documents of the Special Session to the Members States present, and generally perform all other work that the Special Session may require.

Rule 9 - Statements by the Secretariat

The Secretary-General, or her/his representative, may make oral as well as written statements to the Special Session concerning any question under consideration.

IV. LANGUAGE

Rule 10 - Official and working language

English shall be the official and working language of the Special Session.

Rule 11 - 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.

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 12 - 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 Special Session are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the members of the Special Session shall be required for any decision to be taken.

For purposes of this rule, “members of the Special Session” means the total number of members (not including observers) in attendance at the first night’s meeting. For purposes of the Conference, the President refers to the Director of the committee, the Assistant Directors, or his/her designee (including the chair of the committee).

Rule 13 - General Powers of the President

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Special Session, direct the discussions, 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 Special Session 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 Special Session the closure of the list of speakers, the adjournment, or closure of the debate, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting. The President will determine a speaker’s time limit for all substantive and procedural speeches and announce this at the beginning of committee session. This time limit cannot be altered by the committee and can only be revised by the

President or a member of the Secretariat.

Included in these enumerated powers is the President's power to assign speaking times for all speeches. Therefore, unlike NMUN-NY, this rule eliminates the motion for changing the speaker's time. 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 the NMUN-China. Such discretion should be used on a limited basis and only under circumstances 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 Special Session" entails her/his power to "entertain" motions, and not to move the body on his or her own motion.

Rule 14

The President, in the exercise of her or his functions, remains under the authority of the Special Session.

Rule 15 - Points of order

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 ruling of the President shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

Such points of order should not under any circumstances 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 (not including observers) in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to vote.

Rule 16

A representative may not, in rising to a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 17 - Speeches

1. No one may address the Special Session without having previously obtained the permission of 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 Special Session, and the President may call a speaker to order if her/his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. The President will limit the time allowed to speakers and all representatives may speak on any question. Only the President will have discretion to alter this speaking time for all speeches on any questions before the body. 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 the NMUN, in furtherance of its educational mission, and for facilitating debate, the President will establish a speaking time for all items at the beginning of the committee sessions. Only the President will have the discretion to change these speaking times and these changes will only be changed when it will facilitate the proceedings of the committee. The President will announce different speaking times for procedural and substantive speeches.

Rule 18 - Closing of list of speakers

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 Special Session, 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 Special Session.

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 Special Session. A motion to close the speakers list is within the purview of the Special Session and the President should not act on her/his own motion.

Rule 19 - Right of reply

If a remark impugns the integrity of a representative's State, the President may permit that representative to exercise her/his right of reply following the conclusion of the controversial 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" 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 Special Session 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 20 - Suspension of the meeting

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

In furtherance with the educational mission of the NMUN-China conference, it is the discretion of the President to entertain motions for suspension of the meeting. If multiple motions for suspension have failed previously, President can choose to not entertain the repetitive motions.

Rule 21 - 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 immediately, requiring the support of a majority of the members present and voting to pass. After adjournment, the Special Session shall reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting time.

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

Rule 22 - Adjournment of debate

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

Rule 23 - Closure of debate

A representative may at any time move the closure of debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified her/his wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only 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 Special Session favors the closure of debate, the Special Session shall immediately move to vote on all proposals introduced under that agenda item.

Rule 24 - Order of motions

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting: a) To suspend the meeting; b) To adjourn the meeting; c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion; d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 25 - Proposals and amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the members of the Special Session would like the Special Session 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 Special Session unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments or of motions as to procedure, even though such amendments and motions have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of a proposed amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the proposed amendment. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Special Session 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 Special Session 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 the NMUN 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 Special Session. These draft resolutions are the collective property of the Special Session 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 26 - Withdrawal of motions

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

Rule 27 - Reconsideration of a topic

When a topic has been adjourned, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Special Session, 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.

VI. VOTING

Rule 28 - Voting rights

Each member of the Special Session 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 29 - Request for a vote

A proposal or motion before the Special Session for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote, the Special Session 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 member 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 30 - Majority required

1. Unless specified otherwise in these rules, decisions of the Special Session shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. 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 31 - Method of voting

1. The Special Session shall normally vote by a show of placards, except that a representative may request a roll call, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is randomly selected by the President. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call, and one of its representatives shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstention,” or “pass.”

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 can it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment.

2. When the Special Session 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. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Special Session 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.

Rule 32 - Explanations of vote

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

All explanations of vote must be submitted to the President in writing before debate on the topic is closed, except where the representative is of a member sponsoring the proposal, as described in the second clause, in which case the explanation of vote must be submitted to the President in writing immediately after voting on the topic ends.

Rule 33 - 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.

Rule 34 - 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 objection 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 only 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 35 - 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 36 - 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 then be voted on.

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 37 - Order of voting on proposals

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

Rule 38 - The President shall not vote

The President shall not vote but may designate another member of her/his delegation to vote in her/his place.

VII. CREDENTIALS

Rule 39 - Submission of credentials

The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General prior to the opening of a session.

VIII. MINUTE OF SILENT PRAYER OR MEDITATION

Rule 40 - Invitation to silent prayer or meditation

Immediately after the opening of the first meeting of the Special Session, 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.