

HMDC Presents... UNICEF: Opening Speech Outline

HMDC Presents... Opening Speech Outline: UNICEF: Childhood Hunger, Food Waste, Food Recovery and Farmland Restoration

THIS IS A MODEL TO LEARN FROM, NOT TO COPY. The sample speech below is written for the People's Republic of China, the same delegation as our sample position paper. At Harvard the default speaking time is one minute. We use this sample to feel how much fits into sixty seconds. Then we write our own speech for our own country with the fill-in outline below.

THE FIVE PARTS OF OUR OPENING SPEECH

1. **Hook:** One sentence that makes the room picture the problem.
 2. **Our country's stake:** Why this topic matters to our own government and people.
 3. **One key fact with source:** A single number the chair will remember, with its publication and date.
 4. **Our two solutions:** Two clear ideas, one sentence each.
 5. **Call to allies:** Who we invite to work with us, and when.
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THE SAMPLE SPEECH (ABOUT ONE MINUTE)

Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates,

Every day, the world's households throw away more than one billion meals, while 783 million people go hungry.

The People's Republic of China treats cutting food loss and waste as a matter of national food security. By the end of 2027, our plan aims to cut food waste in school canteens and to bring grain losses below international averages.

The land matters too. Damaged farmland is linked to 47 million stunted children, children too short for their age (Food and Agriculture Organization, November 3, 2025).

So China proposes two solutions. First, every country finds one food waste hotspot, starting with school canteens, and acts on it. Second, UNICEF and IFAD work together so that food saved on farms, and land repaired near them, feeds the children who live there.

We invite every delegation that wants saved food and healthy land to reach hungry children to join us in the first unmoderated caucus. Thank you.

(About 158 words, inside our 120 to 160 word range. Read at a calm pace, it takes close to one minute.)

OUR FILL-IN OUTLINE

We copy this outline onto paper and fill every blank from our own position paper and Country Report.

1. **Hook:** "Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates. _____ (one sentence that paints wasted food, lost food or damaged farmland next to a hungry child)."
 2. **Our country's stake:** "The [Republic / Kingdom / State] of _____ cares about this topic because _____. We will not accept _____ (our national interest)."
 3. **One key fact with source:** "According to _____ (publication), _____ (Month Day, Year), _____ (one number about food waste, food recovery or farmland, tied to children)."
 4. **Our two solutions:** "So _____ proposes two solutions. First, _____. Second, _____."
 5. **Call to allies:** "We invite _____ (a bloc or a type of country, such as 'every delegation that...') to join us in _____ (the first unmoderated caucus / a breakout room). Thank you."
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THREE DELIVERY TIPS

1. **Choosing the one fact that fits the focus:** This topic has many large numbers, and the chair will remember only one of them. Harvard's December chairs want food waste, food recovery and farmland restoration, so we pick a waste, recovery or land number that matches our country's stake. Numbers about war-zone hunger or therapeutic food are background this December, not our key fact.
 2. **Saying hard terms in plain words:** Words such as "stunted," "food loss hotspot" or "IFAD" can lose listeners who are also learning English. The first time we use a hard term, we add a few plain words, such as "stunted children, children too short for their age." We also say every number slowly, after a short pause.
 3. **Ending on time with a clear invitation:** We time the speech aloud at least three times. If it runs past fifty-five seconds, we cut words from the hook or the stake, never from the fact or the solutions. We always end with our call to allies, because other delegates use it to choose a bloc for the first caucus.
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