HMDC Presents...

Resolution Writing Guide: Futuristic Security Council (2100)

Use of Space

This guide gives you the opening words that start every clause of a resolution, and it shows one example from this committee's sample resolution. A resolution is the final product of the committee, so clear clauses help your ideas get votes. Read the example first, then practise writing your own clauses in the boxes at the end.

THE TWO KINDS OF CLAUSES

Preambulatory clauses come first. They say *why* the committee is acting. Each one starts with an *italic* opening phrase and ends with a comma.

Operative clauses come second. They say *what* the committee will do. Each one is numbered, starts with a **verb**, and ends with a semicolon. The last operative clause ends with a period.

CLAUSE STARTERS

Preambulatory starters (why)	Operative starters (what)
Recalling ★	Encourages
Reaffirming	Recommends
Recognizing	**Requests ★**
Welcoming	Invites
Bearing in mind	Calls upon
Noting with concern	Urges
Deeply concerned ★	Supports
Alarmed by ★	Affirms
Guided by	**Establishes ★**
Aware of	**Decides ★**
Emphasizing	Demands
Noting with regret	**Expresses its hope ★**

★ = used in this committee's sample resolution.

WHAT THIS COMMITTEE CAN DO

The Security Council is different. When it acts under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, its decisions are binding, so it may use strong verbs such as Decides and Demands. Remember that any permanent member can block a draft with a veto.

ONE WORKED EXAMPLE

This is the opening line of the resolution: **The Security Council,** Every clause after it continues that sentence.

> *Regretting* that this Council failed to adopt draft resolutions S/2024/302 and S/2024/383 in 2024 (United Nations Press, May 20, 2024),

The starter *Regretting* tells the room *why* the committee cares. The rest of the clause names the fact, rule or earlier decision, and the comma at the end shows that more clauses follow.

> 1. **Decides** that all states shall not conduct destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile tests, meaning tests in which a missile fired from the ground destroys a satellite;

The verb **Decides** tells the room *what* the committee will do. The words after it say who acts and what they should do, and the semicolon shows that another operative clause comes next.

YOUR TURN

Write one clause of each kind for your own country. Use a starter from the table, and make sure your operative clause asks for something this committee is allowed to do.

Preambulatory clause (starter, then the reason, then a comma):

_____ _____

_____,

Operative clause (number, verb, then the action, then a semicolon):

1. _____ _____

_____;

The example clauses come from the HMDC sample draft resolution for this committee, which lists its sources in full. Resolutions are written live in committee with your bloc, so use this guide to practise, not to copy.