

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

PARIS M A E P STRASBOURG

2019

50th

INTERNATIONAL SESSION



Concerning general procedure

- The authority of the President is absolute.
- She / he shall rule on the pace of the debates. The setting of debating time is at the discretion of the President.
- The delegates ask for the floor rising their placard. They may never interrupt the President or the speaker who has the floor. They may never intervene raising the placards while the President or the speaker has the floor. They may raise their placards when their speech comes to an end.
- The delegates should address the General Assembly politely, should avoid destructive speeches and should speak with the consideration needed to their fellow delegates.
- Before speaking, asking or answering, delegates must be recognised by the President.
- When they have the floor, before speaking, asking or answering, delegates must address the President, using the formula "Thank you for giving me the floor, Madam / Mister President" or "Thank you for the word, Madam / Mister President."
- When asking, answering or listening to an answer, the delegates should stand.
- When speaking, the delegates should speak loudly and clearly, not too quickly. Native speakers are kindly requested to grade their speech in an appropriate way for non-native speakers.
- If a delegate cannot understand what has been said, she / he can interrupt the speaker, using the red placard, "privilege". The President may decide to allow a "point of privilege", asking the speaker to rephrase.
- Clapping is not allowed (any expression of approval or disapproval as well) when a delegate is speaking.
- Clapping is not allowed (any expression of approval or disapproval as well) when an amendment has passed or has failed.
- Clapping is only permitted when a resolution has passed.

Concerning the debate

- The President asks the delegates of the Committee concerned to take their seats at the podium.

Read out of textual changes

- She / he reads them.

Read out of the resolution

- She / he asks who from the Committee is going to read out the resolution (only the OCs).

Opening speech

- She /he asks who from the Committee is going to deliver the Opening Speech (3 minutes max) .

Factual questions

- She / he goes to short factual questions, asking who from the General Assembly wants to put a question to the Committee.
- She / he therefore concludes the discussion

Amendment

- She / he reads the amendment accepted.
- She /he asks the submitter of the amendment to come on the podium and to present the amendment (3 minutes max).
- She / he asks who from the General Assembly, or the Committee, wants to question the submitter about the amendment.
- She / he asks who from the Committee wants to deliver a speech against the amendment (about 2 minutes).
- She / he opens the voting procedure and then announces the final result. Clapping is forbidden.

Open debate

- She / he moves to the Open Debate asking who from the General Assembly wants to come to a first topic.
- All the delegates are kindly requested to keep in mind what is the topic the General Assembly is debating.
- As the setting of debating time in the G.A. is at the discretion of the President, she / he decides when to come to a new topic and when to conclude the Open debate.
- She / he asks who from the General Assembly wants to deliver a speech against the resolution (about 2 minutes)
- She / he asks who from the Committee wants to deliver a speech in favour of the resolution (about 2 minutes).
- She / he opens the voting procedure and then announces the final result. Clapping is allowed when the resolution has passed only ; it's forbidden when the resolution has failed.

Concerning voting procedure

Voting procedure

- The president of the General Assembly concludes the debate.
- She / he asks the Heads of delegation to collect the votes of their delegation.
- She / he asks each Head of delegation, in alphabetical order of the Member-States, to give the result of her/his delegation.
- She / he asks each Head of delegation, in alphabetical order of the candidate countries, to give the result of her/his delegation.
- She / he asks each Head of delegation, in alphabetical order of the observer countries, to give the result of her/his delegation.
- She / he asks the Committee to give the result of the vote, first the votes of the Member-States, then the votes of the candidate countries and lastly the votes of the observer countries.
- She / he asks the Committee Presidents and Co-Committee Presidents to give the result of their votes.
- She / he announces the final result.

Voting on an amendment

- the Head of delegation gives the results of his/her delegation
- She / he doesn't address the Presidency and uses this formula, in this order: "France: three votes in favour, two votes against."
There is no abstention for an amendment.
- A simple majority is required to pass an amendment. If the vote remains equally divided, the amendment has not passed.

Voting on a resolution

- the Head of delegation gives the results of his/her delegation
- She / he doesn't address the Presidency and uses this formula, respecting this order: "France: three votes in favour, two votes against and zero abstention."
- The votes of the Member-States determine the result of the voting.
- The votes of the applicant countries and observer countries will be counted apart.
- The votes of the Committee Presidents and co-Committee Presidents will be counted apart.
- A simple majority is required to pass a resolution. If the votes remain equally divided, the resolution has not passed. If there are more abstentions than votes in favour, the resolution is rejected.

Concerning textual changes and amendments

Textual changes and amendments sheets are provided to the delegates by the Presidency during the lobby.

Amendments

- Amendments change a part of a resolution by adding, deleting or substituting words, figures or an entire clause.
- Amendment can be made to OCs

- Any delegate can table an amendment. During lobbying time, the author of the amendment shall seek as much support as possible from other delegates.
- The amendment should be handed over to the Presidency before the end of the lobby or, at least, before the beginning of the GA, on Thursday or Friday morning.
- The Presidency decides if the amendment shall be discussed or not.
- Only one amendment per resolution will be chosen for debating. When several amendments are handed over, the co-President chooses the one to discuss.
- The author of the selected amendment will be asked to speak in favour of his amendment. A short debate will take place later, before a speech against the amendment delivered by a Committee member.
- Amendments shall have priority over the text to which they relate. So the amendment shall be discussed and put to the vote before.

Textual Changes

- Textual changes can be about incorrect spelling and wording. A critical change to the original meaning can't be submitted.
- Textual changes can only be made by members of the committee involved
- Textual changes need to have the approval and signature of every member of the committee.
- Textual changes can be made to ICs and OCs.
- Textual changes are not debated in the General Assembly; there is no voting procedure. They but are automatically incorporated into the resolution. The President of the General Assembly read out the textual change.
- Textual changes are always taken into consideration. There is no voting procedure for such a change.