



# ***SPECIALISED RULES OF PROCEDURE***

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United Nations Security Council

# **"The Security Council shall adopt its own rules of procedures"**

## **- Article 30, United Nations Charter**

1. The following document shall serve as a guide to delegates regarding the special rules of procedures that would apply to the United Nations Security Council, hereby known as the UNSC, at Hwa Chong Conflict, Resolution and Inquiry 2023. The special rules of procedures have been crafted with reference to the working methods of the UNSC, with the aim of facilitating debate and enhancing the realism of the council.
2. In the event of discrepancies between the official rules of procedure and this document, this document shall prevail.
3. This set of rules, along the official standards rules of procedure, shall be the sole documents governing the procedures in the Security Council
4. The Dais reserve the right to amend the special rules of procedure if it is in the interest of the council to do so. Delegates would be informed of the amendments prior or during the council session.

# SECTION 1:

## MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNSC

The UNSC comprises 3 groups of countries, permanent members, non-permanent members and observer states. Under the United Nations Charter, 5 member states are designated as permanent members of the UNSC, and are accorded veto rights when it comes to voting on substantive matters. 10 member states are elected by the United Nations General Assembly to serve on the UNSC for two years.

1) The 5 **permanent members** of the UNSC are:

- a. French Republic
- b. People's Republic of China
- c. Russian Federation
- d. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- e. United States of America

2) For 2023, the 10 **non-permanent members** of the UNSC are:

- a. Albania
- b. Brazil
- c. Ecuador
- d. Gabon
- e. Ghana
- f. Japan
- g. Malta
- h. Mozambique
- i. Switzerland
- j. United Arab Emirates

3) To facilitate constructive debate, key stakeholders to the issues being discussed may join in discussions in the council as **observer states**. For HCCRI 2023, the following nations will be added as observer states:

- a. Afghanistan
- b. Syria
- c. Canada
- d. Denmark
- e. Norway
- f. IR Iran
- g. Germany

# SECTION 2: VOTING

**Voting in the UNSC is similar to those in most United Nations Organs, with the exception of special veto rights being accorded to P5 member states during substantive votes. The veto powers of P5 nations are enshrined in the United Nations Charter due to the key role they played in the establishment of the UNSC, and the key role they will play in maintaining international peace and security.**

## Procedural Voting.

- 1) A **procedural vote** requires the affirmative vote of a simple majority of delegates in council in order to pass. Observer states are **allowed** to vote during procedural votes, and absentions are not in order.
- 2) During **procedural votes**, Permanent 5 members will be unable to exercise their veto powers. As such, a dissenting vote from a Permanent 5 nation would not lead to the vote automatically failing.

## Substantive Voting.

3) Substantive voting in the UNSC will only be conducted on Draft Declarations and Unfriendly Amendments. Observer states are not allowed to vote during substantive votes.

4) The affirmative vote of two-thirds of members of the UNSC, including either an affirmative vote or an abstention from all Permanent 5 members, is required for the vote to pass. UNSC member nations who have a stake in the conflict are **not required** to abstain from substantive votes.

5) Should any Permanent 5 nation decide to cast a **dissenting vote** during a substantive vote, the document being voted upon will be automatically vetoed and will not pass.

6) P5 nations are expected to exercise their veto powers **responsibly**. To prevent the misuse of the veto power, the Dais may call on P5 nations to make **a hundred and twenty (120) seconds** speech explaining the use of their veto power. Delegates who are found to have misused their veto powers will be penalised by the Dais.

# SECTION 3: RESOLUTIONS IN THE UNSC

**A resolution of the UNSC is an important document highlighting the actions the UNSC plans to undertake to resolve the issue at hand. Resolutions passed by the UNSC are legally binding for all 193 member states. However, should the UNSC fail to pass a resolution, it may choose to release a non-binding Presidential Statement, or hold a special session of the General Assembly on the issue.**

- 1) As any resolution passed by the UNSC is legally binding for all UN member states, delegates are allowed to utilise operative clause openings such as **“Condemns”, “Decides”, “Demands”, “Proclaims”, “Declares” and “Calls for”** in their draft resolution.
- 2) **Observer states** are allowed to **sponsor** and act as **signatories** to any UNSC resolution.
- 3) Delegates may also choose to hold a special session of the General Assembly on the issue, in accordance with A/RES/377(V), should the delegate fail to pass any resolution on the topic at hand. Delegates may do so by passing a resolution calling for an emergency session of the General Assembly to be held. An example of such would be S/RES/2623 on the situation in Ukraine, which can be found in Appendix A. Once the resolution for the emergency session passes, the topic will **automatically elapse**.

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4) Should all resolutions on the floor get **tabled** and the council returns to open debate on the issue, the following motions are in order:

a. *Motion to Introduce Presidential Statement*

b. *Motion to Hold a Special Session of the General Assembly*

c. *Motion to Table the Topic*



# SECTION 3: ARRIA-FORMULA MEETINGS

**Arria-Formula Meetings are informal consultation processes that allow members of the UNSC to have a private exchange of viewpoints with other delegates in council. The idea of Arria Formula Meetings was proposed by then-President of the Security Council, Ambassador Diego Arria in 1992, with the purpose of "Hearing the views of individuals, organizations or institutions on matters within the competence of the Security Council."**

- 1) In order to initiate an Arria-Formula Meeting, the convener will be required to submit a request to the Dais via email containing the following:
  - a. The duration of the meeting
  - b. The agenda of the meeting
  - c. Delegations invited to the meeting
- 2) Each Arria-Formula meeting should not exceed 10 minutes
- 3) All delegations invited to an Arria-Formula Meeting will have the right to accept or reject such an invitation
- 4) Should more than 50% of invited delegations reject the invitation, the Arria-Formula meeting will not go ahead
  - a. Should individual delegations reject the invitation but the 50% threshold is not met, the convener of the meeting will have full discretion over whether should proceed

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## Dynamic Updates

- 1) Real time updates will be screened on a Tumblr page to reflect the council's progress on a certain issue
- 2) Such updates should allow delegates to gain a better understanding of the issue at hand as well as to acknowledge the time progression present in council

# APPENDIX A

**This sample is adapted from the United Nations Security Council Resolution S/Res/2263 adopted on 27 February 2022. This should act as a point of reference for delegates looking to hold a special session of the General Assembly on the issue at hand.**

The Security Council,

Having considered the item on the agenda of its 8979th meeting, as contained in document S/Agenda/8979,

Taking into account that the lack of unanimity of its permanent members at the 8979th meeting has prevented it from exercising its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Decides to call an emergency special session of the General Assembly to examine the question contained in document S/Agenda/8979.