

# **Information to Include in a Position Paper**

## **Background**

- Define the topic and its history. How has it affected the world in the past? How will it affect the world in the future with/without action?
- Find statistics/numbers, as well as treaties/agreements surrounding the issue. Data and documents from the UN or governments are recommended. Are there opposing viewpoints surrounding the topic?
- What has the UN/other countries done about the topic? How successful were their actions?
- What parts have NGOs (non-governmental organizations) played in this?
- What are the effects of the issue on citizens, infrastructure, culture, etc?
- How have specific areas been affected by this issue?
- What has your committee done about it? Was it founded to combat this issue? How has it done so?

## **Country Stance**

- How/why has your country been impacted by this issue? Has it been affected more or less than other countries/areas? Has it contributed to the issue?
- What is your country's opinion surrounding this issue? Do different groups have opposing views?
- Has your country passed bills/agreements, or tried solutions for this topic? How successful have these actions been? Were these domestic actions (addressing the country alone), or international?
- Has your country worked with the UN or other countries/organizations to achieve their goals?
- Pay attention to your country's geography, political parties/state of government, GDP, population/ethnicities/religions, economic status/trade, infrastructure, major problems it's facing

## **Solutions**

- The best solutions have an acronym to organize their ideas. Think of a multi-faceted solution, and create an acronym based off of the different parts of the solution (i.e. the F.I.L.E plan, or Don't F.R.E.T initiative)
- What policies would your country recommend/support? have they been proposed in the past? Why would they work now, and what changes can be made to them?

- Make your solutions specific, would you create a program, committee, organization, etc?
- How would we know the solutions are working? When do we want to see this progress/goal achieved? Is there data that shows how effective your solutions are?
- What resources will the solutions need? How will they get them? Are there countries, UN/government organizations, or NGOs that will support them? How will they be funded? What incentives can be used to make countries/companies/citizens work towards your goal? What if they disagree with you?
- For global issues with many impacts (ie. climate change), find a niche! You can't cover everything at once, so find an impact that makes your country unique/experienced, and focus on addressing that! This is excellent for being useful in alliances, getting sponsorships!
- In what ways can you make this solution more effective? Will you work with private companies/businesses, or governmental organizations? Will you appeal to citizens and spread awareness through programs/media? Will you use technology to aid you, who will create/produce the equipment you need? Will you give short-term aid to people in need while implementing long-term measures for the issue?

## **Works Cited**

- MLA citations in separate sections (Topic A citations and Topic B citations) at the end of the paper, in alphabetical order. Use proper formatting, including hanging indents. In text citations not needed.
- Make sure your information (especially quantitative data) is trustworthy!

## **Formatting**

- The general rule is that papers are in Times New Roman, size 12, single-spaced. Check the conference website in case they have different rules.
- The front page must have: picture of country flag, country name, committee name, delegate name(s), school name, conference name, topic names, picture of country emblem.
- Paper must also have a header with the committee name and page number.