

Official Rules of Procedure

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1. GENERAL RULES

1.1. Scope

These Rules of Procedure (subsequently denominated Rules) for any body simulated under CHERRYMUN'27 guidance are self-sufficient, except for modifications provided by the Chair, and will be considered adopted in advance of the session. Unless explicitly specified by the Chair, no other Rules are applicable.

1.2. Language

English will be the official and working language of the parliament.

1.3. Parties

Each party will be represented by at least one member and at least one vote in the parliament.

1.4. Participation of Non-Members

Representatives of Accredited Observers, Non-Governmental Organizations and Third-Party Actors will have the same rights as those of full members, except that they may not vote on Draft Resolutions and amendments. They may also sign Draft Resolutions and amendments. The participation of non-members requires prior approval by the Chair.

1.5. General Powers of the Parliamentary Staff

The Parliamentary Staff consists of the Chair and up to two Assistant Chairs. Each parliamentary session will be announced open and closed by the Chair who may also propose the adoption of any procedural motion to which there is no significant objection. The Chair, subject to these Rules, will have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting. The Chair will direct the flow of debate, grant the right to speak and ask questions, announce decisions, rule on points of order, and ensure and enforce the adherence to these Rules. If necessary and given no objections, the Chair may choose to suspend the Rules in order to clarify a certain substantive or procedural issue. The Chair also has the right to interrupt the flow of debate in order to show a presentation, or to bring in a guest speaker or an expert witness. The Chair can choose to temporarily transfer his or her duties to another member of the Parliamentary Staff. Parliamentary Staff members may also advise parties on the possible course of debate. In the exercise of these functions, the Parliamentary Staff will be at all times subject to these Rules.

1.6. Courtesy

Members will show courtesy and respect to the Parliamentary Staff and to other members. The Chair will immediately call to order any member who fails to comply with this rule.

2. RULES GOVERNING DEBATE

2.1. Attendance

The first order of business when session has been opened by the Chair is to draw the Attendance List. The Chair will therefore call all members to respond with "present", "present and voting" or "absent", when their name is called, until all members have been entered into the list.

2.2. General Speakers List

After the Attendance List has been drawn, one continuously open Speakers List will be established for the purpose of general debate. This General Speakers List will be followed for all debate on the Topic Area, except when superseded by procedural motions, amendments, or the introduction of a Draft Resolution. Speakers may speak generally on the Topic Area being considered and may address any Working Paper or Draft Resolution currently on the floor. Debate automatically closes when the General Speakers List is exhausted.

2.3. Unmoderated Caucus

Unmoderated Caucus describes an informal debate, during which members may leave their seats and roam freely across the room. A member may motion for an Unmoderated Caucus at any time when the floor is open, prior to closure of debate. The member raising the motion for the Unmoderated Caucus must specify a time limit and topic acceptable to the chair. The motion will immediately be put to a vote and will pass given a simple majority. In the case of multiple Unmoderated Caucuses, the Chair will rank the motions in descending order of length and the parliament will vote accordingly. The Chair may rule a motion for an Unmoderated Caucus out of order and his/her decision is not subject to appeal.

2.3.a. Extension of an Unmoderated Caucus

An Unmoderated Caucus may be extended, as deemed necessary by the chair. The motion for extension takes precedence over any other motion for an Unmoderated Caucus.

2.4. Moderated Caucus

In a Moderated Caucus, the Chair will temporarily depart from the General Speakers List and call on members to speak. The member raising the motion must briefly explain its purpose and specify a time limit for the caucus and for the individual speeches. Once raised and accepted by the chair, the motion will be voted on, with a simple majority of members required. In the case of multiple Moderated Caucuses, the Chair will rank the motions in descending order of length. The Chair may rule a motion for Moderated Caucus out of order, a decision that is not subject to appeal.

2.4.a. Extension of a Moderated Caucus

Once its time has elapsed, a Moderated Caucus may be extended, as deemed necessary by the chair. The motion for extension takes precedence over any other motion for a Moderated Caucus.

2.5. Informal Consultation of the Whole (ICoW)

The process of Informal Consultation of the Whole is a compromise between the Moderated and the Unmoderated Caucus. In an ICoW the Chair passes over the moderation of debate to the parliament and the right to speak is given to the member having raised the motion. In an ICoW, there is no time limit on speeches and the speaker will, after having made his statement, be allowed to yield to another member and so forth, until the time for the ICoW has elapsed. The Chair, however, keeps the right to intervene by terminating the ICoW, if a certain member or party makes abuse of the aforementioned rights.

2.6. Suspension of the Meeting

Suspension of the Meeting means that all parliamentary functions are postponed until the next meeting. Whenever the floor is open, a member may move to suspend the meeting. The Chair may rule such a motion out of order, without granting any appeals. When in order, such a motion will be voted upon and will require a simple majority to pass.

2.7. Closure of Debate

When the floor is open, a member may move to close debate on the substantive matter under discussion. This ends the simulation and is traditionally the final motion of the semester. The Chair may rule such a motion dilatory, or unfitting; this decision is not subject to appeal. Closure of Debate requires a two-thirds majority of the members present.

2.8. Move to Voting Procedure

When the floor is open, a member may move to move to voting procedure on all resolutions and amendments on the floor. A simple majority of members is required. If the parliament is in favor of the motion, it will immediately move into substantive voting procedure.

2.9. Appeal to Chair

An appeal can only be made on procedural matters, not substantive ones. A member may appeal any procedural decision of the Chair unless it is one that cannot be appealed as stated by these Rules. The member can only appeal a ruling immediately after it has been pronounced. The member will be given thirty seconds in order to explain the reasoning behind the appeal. The Chair may speak briefly in defense of the ruling. The appeal shall then be put to a vote, and the decision of the Chair shall stand unless overruled by two-thirds of those members present

2.10. Vote of No Confidence

If a member feels the chair no longer enjoys the confidence of a significant portion of the parliament, they can call for a Motion for a Vote of No Confidence. A two thirds majority is required for it to pass. If the parliament is in favor of the motion, the most senior ranking member of the CHERRYMUN’27 Board immediately assumes the role of Chair and the CHERRYMUN’27 Board is required to select a new Chair before the next parliamentary session.

3. RULES GOVERNING SPEECHES

3.1. General Speakers List

The parliamentary session shall have an open General Speakers List at all times. The Chair will either set a speaking time or entertain motions to set a speaking time. Separate Speakers Lists will be established as needed for Moderated Caucuses and debate on amendments. No member may be added more than once to the General Speakers List. A member may add their name to the General Speakers List by submitting a written request to the Chair, and may remove its name from the list in the same way. At any time the Chair may call for members that wish to be added to the General Speakers List. The names of the next several members to speak will always be posted for the convenience of the parliament.

3.2. Speeches

No member may address a session without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair. The Chair may call a speaker to order if their remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion, or are offensive to parliament members or Staff. members should refrain from using the first person singular, when referring to themselves.

3.3. Time Limit on Speeches

The Chair may limit the time allotted to each speaker up to a minimum of ten seconds. If the allotted time is exceeded, the Chair may call the speaker to order without delay.

3.4. Yields

A member granted the right to speak on a substantive issue may yield in one of three ways at any point of the speech: to another member, to questions, or to the Chair. If a member does not explicitly declare a yield, when ending their speech, it is to be considered as a yield to the Chair. Only one yield is allowed per speech (i.e. no yields on yielded time). Yields are not in order, if less than ten seconds of the speaker's time are left, the speech is on a procedural matter and during the debate of amendments.

3.4.a. Yield to Another Member

The remainder of the time will be offered to the respective member. If the member accepts the yield, the Chair shall recognize the member for the remaining time. To turn the floor over to a co-member of the same party is not considered a yield.

3.4.b. Yield to Questions

Questioners will be selected by the Chair. Follow-up questions will be allowed only at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair will have the right to call to order any member whose question is, in the opinion of the Chair, rhetorical, leading and/or not designed to elicit information. Only the speaker's answers to questions will be deducted from the time.

3.4.c. Yield to the Chair

Such a yield should be made if the member does not wish their speech to be subject to questions.
The Chair will then move to the next speaker.

3.5. Right of Reply

Right of Reply A member whose personal or national integrity has been impugned by another member may submit a Right of Reply only in written form to the Parliamentary Staff. The Chair will grant the Right of Reply at his or her discretion. This decision is not subject to appeal. A Right of Reply to a Right of Reply is not in order.

4. RULES GOVERNING POINTS

4.1. Points of Personal Privilege

Whenever a member experiences personal discomfort, which impairs their ability to participate in the proceedings, they may rise to a Point of Personal Privilege to request that the discomfort be corrected. A Point of Personal Privilege may only interrupt a speaker if the member speaking is inaudible. Otherwise, the member rising on the Point of Personal Privilege must always wait until the end of the speech to raise the Point.

4.2. Points of Order

During the discussion of any matter, a member may rise to a Point of Order to indicate an instance of improper parliamentary procedure. The Point of Order will be immediately decided by the Chair in accordance with these Rules of Procedure. The Chair may rule out of order those points that are dilatory or improper. A representative rising to a Point of Order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. A Point of Order may not interrupt a speaker during the speech. Additionally, the Chair has the right to address a member if proper parliamentary procedure is not being followed.

4.3. Points of Parliamentary Inquiry

When the floor is open, a member may rise to a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to ask the Chair a question regarding the rules of procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker. Members with substantive questions should not rise to this Point, but should rather approach the Parliamentary Staff during caucus or send a note.

5. RULES GOVERNING THE PATH TO A DRAFT RESOLUTION

5.1. Working Papers

members may propose Working Papers for consideration. Working Papers are intended to aid the parliament in its discussion and formulation of Draft Resolutions and need not be written in Draft Resolution format. Working Papers are not official documents and may be presented in any format approved by the Chair, but do require the approval of the Chair to be distributed. A working paper must be distributed either electronically or in paper or may be projected. Once distributed or projected, members may consider that Working Paper introduced and begin to refer to it by its designated number. Working Papers do not require signatories or votes of introduction. No document may be referred to as a "Working Paper" until it has been distributed or projected.

5.2. Draft Resolutions

A Draft Resolution may be introduced, if it receives the approval of the Chair and is signed by the number of signatories determined in advance by the Chair (unless stated otherwise one third of the members present). A Draft Resolution must be in the correct format of Resolutions, as it may be voted upon. Signing a Draft Resolution need not indicate support of the Draft Resolution, and the signatory has no further rights or obligations. There are no official sponsors of Draft Resolutions. A Draft Resolution requires a simple majority of members present to pass.

5.3. Introduction of Draft Resolutions

Once a Draft Resolution has been approved as stipulated above and has been distributed (or projected), members may move to introduce the Draft Resolution. The Chair, time permitting, may read the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution. Alternatively, the Chair may recognize a certain number of members (at the Chair's discretion) to come forward to answer questions on the resolution to which they were signatories, or sponsors. In addition, the Chair may also allow for an informal presentation of the resolution. A procedural vote is then taken to determine whether the resolution shall be introduced. Should the motion receive the simple majority required to pass, the Draft Resolution will be considered introduced and on the floor. If deemed necessary by the Chair, answer to any clarificatory points on the Draft Resolution may be provided. Any substantive points will be ruled out of order during this period, and the Chair may end this "clarificatory question-answer period" for any reason, including time constraints. There is no limitation on the number of Draft Resolutions being on the floor at the same time. A Draft Resolution will remain on the floor until that specific Draft Resolution is either tabled or a resolution on that Topic Area has been passed. Debate on Draft Resolutions proceeds according to the General Speakers List and members may then refer to the Draft Resolution by its designated number. No member may refer to a Draft Resolution until it is formally introduced.

5.4. Amendments

members may amend any Draft Resolution that has been introduced by adding to, deleting from or revising parts of it. Only one amendment may be introduced at any given time. An amendment must have the approval of the Chair and the number of the signatures determined in advance by the Chair (unless stated

otherwise one fifth of the members present). Amendments to amendments are out of order; however, an amended part of a Draft Resolution may be further amended. There are no official sponsors of amendments. Preambulatory phrases may not be amended. The final vote on the amendment is substantive: NGOs, Observer Nations, and Third Party Actors will not be allowed to vote. A motion to introduce an approved amendment may be introduced when the floor is open. After this motion, the Chair may read the amendment aloud, time permitting. The motion will pass by a simple majority. Amendments need a simple majority to pass. An amendment which failed may not be reintroduced unless the amendment itself or the corresponding Draft Resolution has been substantially changed. The decision whether the latter condition is fulfilled is at the discretion of the Chair.

5.5. Tabling of Draft Resolutions

A Draft Resolution which is currently on the floor can be tabled (i.e. removed from the floor) if the corresponding motion receives a two-thirds majority. members may no longer refer to tabled Draft Resolutions.

5.6. Resumption of Debate on a Draft Resolution

Debate on a tabled Draft Resolution can be resumed (i.e. the DR is taken back onto the floor) if the corresponding motion receives a two-thirds majority.

6. RULES GOVERNING VOTING

6.1. Procedural Voting

Voting on any matter other than Draft Resolutions and amendments is considered procedural. Each and every member of the parliament, including representatives of Accredited Observers, NGOs and Third Party Actors must vote on all procedural motions, and no abstentions will be allowed. A simple majority shall be considered achieved when there are more "Yes" votes than "No" votes. A two-thirds vote will require at least twice as many "Yes" votes than "No" votes.

Remark: When motions are presented to the Chair, members often shout out the words Second or Objection to mark their support or their disfavor for the motion to be voted upon. These phrases, however, do not have any formal value.

6.2. Substantive Voting

Substantive voting includes voting on draft resolutions and amendments. Once the parliament closes debate on the general Topic Area, it will move into substantive voting procedures. The only points and motions that will be in order now are: Division of the Question, Reordering Draft Resolutions, Motion for a Roll Call Vote, Point of Personal Privilege, Point of Parliamentary Inquiry and Point of Order. If there are no such motions, the parliament will vote on all draft resolutions in the order they have been introduced. For substantive voting, each member will have one vote. Each vote may be a "Yes", "No", or "Abstain". Abstaining members are considered as not voting. All matters will be voted upon by a show of placards, unless a Motion for a Roll Call Vote is accepted (does not apply to amendments). Abstentions are not counted in the total number of votes cast. A simple majority requires more "Yes" votes than "No" votes. NGOs, Observer Nations, and other Third Party Actors will not be able to vote on Draft Resolutions and amendments.

6.3. Reordering Draft Resolutions

A Motion to Reorder Draft Resolutions will only be in order immediately after entering voting procedure, and before voting has started on any Draft Resolutions. If the motion receives the simple majority required to pass, the Chair will take all motions to reorder Draft Resolutions and then vote on them in the order in which they were introduced. Voting will continue until either a motion passes, receiving a simple majority, or all of the motions fail, in which case the parliament will move into voting procedure, voting on the draft resolutions in their original order. Only one motion to reorder draft resolutions is in order in each round of voting procedures.

6.4. Division of the Question

After debate on any topic has been closed, a member may move for the operative parts of a draft resolution to be voted on separately. Preambulatory clauses and sub-operative clauses may not be altered by division of the question. If the motion receives the simple majority required to pass, the Chair will take motions on how to divide the question and prioritize them from most severe to least severe. The parliament will then vote on the motions in the order set by the Chair. If no division passes, the resolution remains intact. Once a division has been passed, requiring a simple majority, the draft resolution will be divided accordingly, and

a separate procedural vote (i.e. no abstentions and no Roll Call Vote) will be taken on each divided part to determine whether or not it is to be included in the final draft resolution. If all of the operative parts of the substantive proposal are rejected, the draft resolution will be considered to have been rejected as a whole. Parts of the draft resolution that are subsequently passed will be recombined into a final document. The final document will be put to a substantive vote.
Once a motion for Division of The Question has passed, a motion for Roll Call Voting is out of order.

6.5. Roll Call Voting

A Roll Call Vote can only be in order for substantive votes on Draft Resolutions and not on amendments. The motion for a Roll Call Vote requires a simple majority and may be overruled at the chair's discretion. In a Roll Call Vote, the Chair will call members in alphabetical order. In the first sequence, members may vote "Yes", "Yes with Rights", "No", "No with Rights", "Abstain", or "Pass". members who vote either "Yes with Rights" or "No with Rights" reserve the right to explain his/her vote only when the member is voting against the policy of his/her party. The member will only be allowed to explain an affirmative or negative vote, not an abstention from voting. –A member who voted "Pass" during the first sequence of the roll call must vote (i.e. may not abstain or pass) during the second sequence. The same member may not request the right to explain his/her vote. All members who had requested the right of explanation will be granted time to explain their votes. The speaking time will be set at the discretion of the Chair, not to exceed thirty seconds. The Chair will then announce the outcome of the vote.

7. PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS

7.1. General Motions

Motions will be considered in the following order of preference:

1. Point of Personal Privilege (Rule 21)
2. Point of Order (Rule 22)
3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (Rule 23)
4. Appeal to the Chair (Rule 15)
5. Set Speaking Time (Rule 16)
6. Suspension of the Meeting (Rule 14)
7. Extension of an Unmoderated Caucus (Rule 9a)
8. Unmoderated Caucus (Rule 9)
9. Informal Consultation of the Whole (Rule 11)
10. Extension of a Moderated Caucus (Rule 10a)
11. Moderated Caucus (Rule 10)
12. Introduction of Draft Resolution (Rule 26)
13. Introduction of an Amendment (Rule 27)
14. Resumption of Debate on a Draft Resolution (Rule 29)
15. Tabling of Draft Resolution (Rule 28)
16. Closure of Debate (Rule 12)
17. Adjournment of the Meeting (Rule 13)

7.2. Motions During Voting Procedure

At the start of voting procedure, the following points and motions are in order, in the following order of precedence:

1. Point of Personal Privilege (Rule 21)
2. Point of Order (Rule 22)
3. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (Rule 23)
4. Reordering Draft Resolutions (Rule 32)
5. Division of the Question (Rule 33)
6. Motion for a Roll Call Vote (Rule 34)