

VVPMUN 2024

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

*Agenda: The modus operandi of Financing Illicit Trade and Activity
through means of Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

S.No.	Topic	Pg No.
1	Letter from the Executive Board	2
2	Overview of UNODC	3
3	What constitutes Illicit Trade?	4
4	Common Illicit Finance Activities	6
5	What is Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies?	9
6	Legal and Technological Vulnerabilities	10
7	Case Study	12
8	QARMA	14
9	Reference Links	14
10	Rules of Procedure	15
11	Sample Draft Resolution	23

Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

It is a great honour and immense pleasure to welcome you all to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at VVPMUN'24. As representatives of member nations of the UNODC, you are tasked with debating, deliberating, and reaching a consensus on the agenda at hand.

This background guide has been designed to help you get started on your research. However, this document shouldn't be your only source of research. Building upon the outlook presented by this guide, you are expected to carry out your research through authentic sources and make sure to engage in comprehensive and pragmatic debate throughout the sessions.

The Executive Board will not interfere in the flow of debate unless required. Therefore, the onus to ensure the committee does not stagnate lies on the delegates. We strongly believe that with good research, the delegates can steer the committee in the right direction.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Executive Board at any time before or during the conference in case you have any queries about the agenda or the rules of procedure.

We request the delegates not to view this conference as a zero-sum game. Model UN conferences are collaborative rather than competitive and we would like to keep this spirit alive during our committee. Our goal isn't to solve the world's problems in three days, but rather to educate ourselves about them, thereby ensuring that we go on to become a generation of sensitized leaders, equipped with the skills and will to make our world a better place.

With that being said, we wish you all good luck and eagerly look forward to the conference.

With warm regards,

Amiti Agarwal (Co-Chairperson)

Amitipayalagarwal@gmail.com

Anish Perumal

Executive Board

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Overview of UNODC

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime, in addition to being responsible for implementing the United Nations lead programme on terrorism. Established in 1997, UNODC has approximately 500 staff members worldwide. Its headquarters are in Vienna and it operates 20 field offices, as well as liaison offices in New York and Brussels.

UNODC works to educate people throughout the world about the dangers of drug abuse and to strengthen international action against illicit drug production and trafficking and drug-related crime. To achieve those aims, UNODC has launched a range of initiatives, including alternatives in the area of illicit drug crop cultivation, monitoring of illicit crops and the implementation of projects against money laundering.

UNODC also works to improve crime prevention and assist with criminal justice reform in order to strengthen the rule of law, promote stable and viable criminal justice systems and combat the growing threats of transnational organized crime and corruption. In 2002, the General Assembly approved an expanded programme of activities for the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC. The activities focus on providing assistance to States, on request, in ratifying and implementing the eighteen universal legal instruments against terrorism.

UNODC has 20 field offices covering over 150 countries. By working directly with Governments and non-governmental organizations, UNODC field staff develop and implement drug control and crime prevention programmes tailored to countries' particular needs.¹

¹ United Nations Office at Vienna, About United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, [https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/unodc.html#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Office%20on%20Drugs%20and%20Crime%20\(UNODC\)%20is,Nations%20lead%20programme%20on%20terrorism.](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/unodc.html#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Office%20on%20Drugs%20and%20Crime%20(UNODC)%20is,Nations%20lead%20programme%20on%20terrorism.)

What constitutes Illicit Trade

Illicit trade, as interpreted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), encompasses a wide range of illegal activities involving the exchange of goods or services. This concept goes beyond the mere smuggling of prohibited items and includes various forms of trade that violate national or international laws and regulations.

At its core, illicit trade involves the production, shipment, receipt, or purchase of goods or services in violation of the laws of any given country or international agreements. This can include the trade of legal goods through illegal channels to evade taxes or customs duties, as well as the trade of inherently illegal products. The UNODC recognizes that illicit trade not only undermines legitimate economies but also poses significant threats to public health, social stability, and global security.

One of the primary categories of illicit trade is the trafficking of illegal drugs. This includes the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of controlled substances such as cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines, and synthetic drugs. The UNODC places considerable emphasis on combating drug trafficking due to its widespread impact on public health, social welfare, and its connection to organized crime and violence.

Another significant area of illicit trade is human trafficking and migrant smuggling. While these are distinct crimes, they both involve the illegal movement of people, often for exploitation or financial gain. Human trafficking, in particular, is considered a form of modern slavery, involving the recruitment, transportation, and exploitation of individuals through force, fraud, or coercion.

The illegal arms trade is also a critical concern for the UNODC. This includes the unauthorized production, transfer, and sale of weapons, ranging from small arms to more sophisticated military equipment. The illicit arms trade fuels conflicts, supports terrorist activities, and contributes to violence and instability in many regions of the world.

Environmental crimes constitute another important aspect of illicit trade. This category includes illegal logging, wildlife trafficking, illegal fishing, and the unauthorized trade of ozone-depleting substances. These activities not only damage ecosystems but also deprive countries of natural resources and revenue.

The UNODC also focuses on the illicit trade of counterfeit goods. This includes the manufacture and distribution of fake products such as pharmaceuticals, electronics, luxury items, and even food and beverages. Counterfeit trade not only causes economic losses to legitimate businesses but can also pose serious health and safety risks to consumers.

Lastly, the organization recognizes cybercrime as an emerging and rapidly growing form of illicit trade. This includes the illegal trade of data, hacking tools, and other digital assets, as well as various forms of online fraud and theft.

In addressing these diverse forms of illicit trade, the UNODC emphasizes the need for international cooperation, strengthened legal frameworks, enhanced law enforcement capabilities, and targeted interventions to address the root causes and facilitators of these illegal activities. The organization's interpretation of illicit trade underscores the complex, transnational nature of these crimes and the need for a comprehensive, global approach to combat them effectively.

Common Illicit Finance Activities

The realm of illicit finance is expanding rapidly, both in terms of value and diversity, particularly with the advent of digital assets and cryptocurrencies. In this new digital landscape, money laundering, cybercrime, and consumer fraud have emerged as prevalent illegal activities.

Money Laundering

Money laundering, traditionally involving the conversion of illegally obtained cash into legitimate funds, has evolved with cryptocurrency. Criminals now employ various methods, including the use of money mules who deposit illicit funds into bank accounts and subsequently purchase cryptocurrencies. Bitcoin ATMs have also become a popular tool for converting cash into digital currency, offering varying levels of anonymity depending on the personal information required.

Once converted to cryptocurrency, the illicit funds can be laundered through multiple channels, complicating law enforcement efforts to trace their origins. Cryptocurrency mixers play a significant role in this process by blending multiple streams of digital currency into numerous small transactions across various wallets. These mixers, while not inherently illegal, provide a convenient means for large-scale money laundering. Notably, the co-founder of Tornado Cash, a well-known mixer, has described their service as an "anonymizing software provider," arguing that it falls outside the scope of U.S. money transmitter regulations.

Decentralized Finance (DeFi) platforms represent another avenue for cryptocurrency-based money laundering. These platforms operate without centralized intermediaries for transactions and services. Many DeFi platforms used by illicit actors are based outside the U.S. and often do not adhere to Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) regulations. Some DeFi services also facilitate chain hopping, allowing users to switch between different cryptocurrencies and blockchains, further obscuring the transaction history.

Cybercrime

Cybercriminal activities have increasingly intertwined with the world of digital assets and cryptocurrencies. The money laundering techniques previously discussed are frequently employed by hackers who acquire cryptocurrency through various cybercrimes, including ransomware attacks and theft from digital wallets or exchanges.

The rapid expansion of digital asset usage has created a landscape ripe for exploitation. Many trading platforms and exchanges operate with minimal security measures and often lack proper regulation, significantly increasing risks for consumers. Cryptocurrency and blockchain platforms have become prime targets for hackers due to the large amounts of assets they hold. A notable example is the March 2022 incident where the North Korean-linked hacking group Lazarus stole \$620 million in Ethereum from the Ronin Network, a blockchain platform used by the Axie Infinity online game.

Beyond these large-scale attacks, individual consumers are also at risk. Personal digital wallets have been compromised due to exchanges storing unencrypted private keys and through various social engineering tactics employed by cybercriminals.

Ransomware attacks have evolved to rely heavily on cryptocurrency for payments. In both 2021 and 2022, ransomware payments exceeded \$600 million annually, according to Chainalysis' 2022 Crypto Crime Report. Most ransomware groups operate from outside the United States, making traditional fiat currency payments challenging for victims and complicating the process for attackers to receive and launder the funds. Global crypto exchanges and Decentralized Finance (DeFi) platforms facilitate these illicit transfers, often beyond the reach of U.S. authorities and countries party to Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT).

Consumer Scams

Cryptocurrency-related crimes targeting consumers have become a significant issue in the digital financial landscape. These illicit activities encompass a wide range of scams, including deceptive investment schemes, romantic manipulations, social engineering tactics, and unauthorized account access.

According to Chainalysis' 2022 Crypto Crime Report, such scams inflicted a staggering financial toll on consumers, amounting to over \$7.7 billion in losses during 2021. This figure underscores the scale and severity of the problem.

One prevalent form of deception is the "rug pull" scam. In this scenario, fraudsters create a new cryptocurrency token and solicit investments from unsuspecting individuals. Once they've accumulated a substantial amount of funds, the scammers abruptly abandon the project, absconding with the investors' money.

These investment scams often intersect with romance scams, where victims are manipulated into making investments through emotional coercion or persuasion. The FBI's 2021 Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) Report revealed that victims of romance scams involving cryptocurrencies and investments suffered losses exceeding \$429 million.

This data highlights the growing convergence of emotional manipulation and financial fraud in the cryptocurrency space, emphasizing the need for increased awareness and protective measures for consumers navigating this complex digital financial environment.

What is Block chain and Cryptocurrency ?

Blockchain technology is a revolutionary digital system for storing and sharing information. It functions as a distributed database across a network of computers, organizing data into interconnected blocks. This structure ensures chronological order and tamper-resistance through cryptographic links between blocks. While blockchain can store various types of information, it's most commonly used as a transaction ledger. Its potential applications span multiple sectors, including finance, manufacturing, and education, making it one of the most significant innovations of our time.

The concept of blockchain emerged in 1991, introduced by researchers Stuart Haber and W. Scott Stornetta. They aimed to create a system for timestamp-proof documents. In 1992, the technology was enhanced with Merkle trees, improving efficiency and data capacity.

Blockchain gained widespread attention in 2009 when Satoshi Nakamoto, an anonymous individual or group, outlined its use in a whitepaper describing Bitcoin. This digital currency became the first major application of blockchain technology, enabling direct peer-to-peer transactions without intermediaries.

Bitcoin exemplifies cryptocurrency, a decentralized digital money system built on blockchain. It allows global transactions without traditional financial institutions or government oversight. The blockchain acts as a secure, transparent ledger for these transactions. Beyond finance, blockchain has found applications in healthcare for maintaining unalterable medical records, in legal spheres for creating and managing smart contracts, and in supply chain management for tracking goods. It's also being explored as a tool for secure voting systems.

The key features of blockchain - its distributed nature, cryptographic security, and immutability - make it a versatile technology with the potential to transform various aspects of our digital interactions and record-keeping processes.

Legal and Technological Vulnerabilities

Legal Landscape

Cryptocurrencies present a unique challenge for regulators, as they don't fit neatly into existing financial categories. Different U.S. agencies view them differently: the SEC sees them as securities, the CFTC as commodities, and the Comptroller's Office as currency. This lack of consensus complicates regulation, taxation, and enforcement.

Currently, various U.S. agencies, including the Department of Justice, SEC, and others, are involved in cryptocurrency-related investigations and asset recovery. The main challenges are determining jurisdiction and establishing reporting requirements. The decentralized nature of cryptocurrencies makes it difficult to apply traditional financial regulations. The SEC has made efforts to classify some cryptocurrencies as securities, which would bring them under its jurisdiction. Meanwhile, cryptocurrency exchanges in the U.S. must register with FinCEN and comply with anti-money laundering regulations.

At the state level, various laws have been proposed or passed, but there's no overarching federal legislation. Internationally, regulations vary widely. The U.S. government is committed to researching cryptocurrencies, as evidenced by a recent Executive Order.

The Financial Action Task Force has provided guidance on regulating Virtual Asset Service Providers, recommending they be subject to the same standards as traditional financial entities. In response, FinCEN has proposed rules for cryptocurrency exchanges, including information collection and transmission requirements for certain transactions.

Technological Vulnerabilities

Blockchain technology, while touted as secure, has several vulnerabilities primarily stemming from human error, economic factors, and coding issues. These weaknesses manifest in various forms, including account security breaches, fraudulent activities, scams, hacking attempts, ransomware attacks, and insufficient security measures. Account security is a major concern for both individual users and cryptocurrency platforms. Common vulnerabilities for exchanges include phishing attacks, inadequate wallet protections, weak login credentials, software flaws, and transaction manipulations. Individual users often face similar issues, with the addition of fraud and scams.

Inadequate protection of account passwords, including lack of two-factor authentication, and poor management of private keys and seed phrases, represent significant vulnerabilities. These often serve as entry points for unauthorized access to individual accounts or system platforms. The cryptocurrency space has seen a proliferation of scams and fraudulent activities in recent years. These range from pump-and-dump schemes and fake websites or coins to rug pulls, romance scams, deceptive giveaways, Ponzi schemes, and misleading celebrity endorsements.

Social engineering, particularly phishing, remains a prevalent threat. Attackers use various methods to trick victims into downloading malware or revealing sensitive information. The five main types of social engineering are phishing, pretexting, baiting, quid pro quo attacks, and tailgating.

Cross-blockchain interoperable bridges, which allow users to transfer assets between different blockchains, have become targets for attacks due to their technical vulnerabilities. Notable incidents include the Poly Network attack in 2021 and the Ronin Network breach in 2022, resulting in substantial losses.

Proof-of-work blockchains are susceptible to 51% attacks, where a miner or pool of miners gains control of the majority of a network's mining power, potentially allowing them to manipulate transactions. This risk is higher for smaller cryptocurrencies with less distributed mining networks.

Lastly, routing attacks pose a threat to blockchain networks. These attacks exploit the real-time data transfers necessary for blockchain operations, allowing hackers to intercept data, reroute traffic, or disrupt consensus mechanisms.

Case Study

Wirecard Money Laundering Scandals

Since June 2020, in Germany, a serious financial scandal involving the online payment company Wirecard is underway, after the discovery of a shortfall of 1.9 billion euros which was thought to be deposited as trust funds in two banks in the Philippines but which never existed. The former Wirecard's CEO has been arrested in Germany on suspicion of fraud, while his former CEO has disappeared after fleeing the country. In addition to this fraud, according to the Financial Times, Wirecard processed payments for a Maltese online casino which was later accused of laundering money for a powerful member of the 'Ndrangheta, one of Europe's most dangerous mafia organizations. Wirecard processed payments for CenturionBet, a Malta-based gaming company that was later found by Italian courts to be an 'Ndrangheta way for moving money out of the country in a sophisticated money laundering operation. Wirecard continued to trade with CenturionBet, which was incorporated in Malta but owned by a Panamanian company, until 2017 when its gambling license was suspended by the Maltese authorities and 15 ceased trading after an anti-mafia raid that saw the arrest of 68 people.

Since then over 30 people have been convicted of mafia related crimes. CenturionBet's revenues included only a fraction of Wirecard's global operations, but the discovery raises further questions about the German company's business model, once deemed to be a pioneer of European fintech. As a regulated payment institution, Wirecard is required to abide by the strict anti-money laundering rules and report suspicious transactions to the competent authorities. Wirecard also processed payments for another larger Maltese gambling company that has been investigated by the Italian authorities for money laundering for organized crime groups. It is possible that Wirecard was unaware of the company's alleged ties to organized crime.

Second Life and Linden Dollars

Second Life provides what can be arguably one of the first examples of widely used gaming currency and how it can be potentially used illicitly. I was first launched in 2003 and had around 1 million users at its peak with approximately 800,000 active users in 2017. This game contained and largely revolved around the 'Linden dollar' which served as an in-game currency to buy items, land, and even use at in-game casinos. Approximately \$65 million was paid out to Second Life users in 2018 for a variety of goods and services. This high amount of users and money involved

in the In addition to gaming currency, there is currently the development and implementation of metaverses where people can live a virtual existence and by way conduct digital transactions. This opens the door to a wide range of fraud and illicit activity purposes. Since this is such a new space, there is not a current case study to analyze illicit activity that can potentially be 30 conducted. However this should be a concern for those developing these mataverses and they should keep in mind the security implications when developing currency.

Another rising concern with NFTs and other emerging blockchain technologies is the idea to use them for records including home ownership, medical, and general social media. Wallets in these areas could open the door for personal data to be leaked and even deleted from the blockchain by criminals. game obviously leads to the opportunity for illicit use to occur. A former employee Pearlman spoke up about the issues plaguing the game and company claiming compliance with anti-money laundering rules were not being properly followed. No KYC information was being collected on any operators of the game while she was employed. Second Life later added anti money laundering regulations but for well over a decade it allowed users to remain pseudo-anonymous and move around money freely.

Another concern of gaming currencies that pertain to general consumers is the possibility for their in game currency to be stolen and hacked. In 2007 the virtual banks of Second Life experienced multiple bank heists which gave hackers a reported \$3.2million in Linden Dollars. Although there have been advancements in cybersecurity science then and games are generally more protected, there is always the chance a vulnerability can be found and exploited by hackers. This is another concern the general public should have when investing in virtual game currency. The game might not always have the strongest security in place to prevent funds from being stolen and unable to be recovered.

QARMA

1. What are the ways in which cryptocurrency and blockchain facilitate illicit trade?
2. Ineffectiveness/ Insufficiency of existing FinTech laws in regulating Blockchain and Cryptocurrency
3. Funding of Non-State Actors facilitating Illicit Trade
4. Blockchain and Cryptocurrency: lack of identity regulations
5. Funding of illicit trade via blockchain and cryptocurrency
6. Suggested provisions to regulate Blockchain and Cryptocurrency
7. Suggested provisions to deal with illicit trade

Other Reference Links

1. [https://www.unov.org/unov/en/unodc.html#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Office%20on%20Drugs%20and%20Crime%20\(UNODC\)%20is,Nations%20lead%20programme%20on%20terrorism.](https://www.unov.org/unov/en/unodc.html#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Office%20on%20Drugs%20and%20Crime%20(UNODC)%20is,Nations%20lead%20programme%20on%20terrorism.)
2. <https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/Combating%20Illicit%20Activity%20.pdf>
3. https://www.wcoomd.org/-/media/wco/public/global/pdf/topics/enforcement-and-compliance/activities-and-programmes/illicit-trade-report/itr_2023_en.pdf?db=web

Rules of Procedure

Committee Structure

Executive Board: The Executive Board consists of esteemed members who moderate the committee. The Executive Board has complete control of the proceedings and directs the flow of debate.

Delegates: Each participant represents a Member State in a particular committee. Participants are mandated to address their Committee and Dais in compliance with parliamentary procedure. (UNA-USA Rules of Procedure is usually followed while moderating debate in committee. However, it depends on the discretion of the Chair.)

Rules Regarding Agenda

Roll Call: This is the procedure which takes place at the beginning of a session, where the Executive Board or the Dias Members conduct the Roll Call session for the participants in alphabetical order.

In a Roll Call, the participants have two options - 'Present' or 'Present and Voting'. The difference between these two types of the vote comes into effect at the end when there is formal voting on the Draft Resolution.

If the Member States vote as Present and Voting, they cannot abstain from substantive Voting. The Observers in the committee have to vote themselves as 'Present', as they do not have voting privileges.

Setting the Agenda: This is the first step to start discussion in committee – setting the agenda before opening the debate session. It mostly takes place if there are 2 or more agendas to be discussed in the committee. In case the committee has only one agenda to discuss, the agenda is adopted automatically without any motion.

Rules Governing Debate

Motions: There are various motions which can be raised in the MUN Conference to formally regulate the debate and keep the flow of debate in a systematic manner.

The following motions may be raised:

MOTIONS	EXPLANATION AND PURPOSE
Motion to Open Debate	<p>This is the first motion of the session to start the formal proceedings of the committee.</p> <p>This motion is generally passed by the discretion of the Dias Members or the Chairperson.</p>
Motion to Set an Agenda	<p>This motion is raised to set the agenda to be discussed in the committee. This is raised in a situation when the committee is dealing with two or more agendas.</p> <p>If there is only one agenda, it is automatically adopted by the committee.</p>
Motion to Open General Speakers' List	<p>This is the first step in order to establish the Formal Debate on the agenda which has been set up for the committee.</p> <p>This list is non-exhaustible and closes after the closing procedure of the committee.</p>
Motion to begin Moderated Caucus	<p>This motion is raised to focus the discussion on a specific topic within the mandate of the agenda.</p> <p>The purpose of this motion is to discuss various important aspects of the agenda in detail.</p>
Motion to Begin Unmoderated Caucus	<p>This is a form of informal debate which is not moderated by the Dias Members. In this type of debate, there are no formal proceedings which are followed. It is raised for a particular amount of time.</p>

<p>Motion to Introduce Resolution or Working Paper</p>	<p>This motion is raised in order to present the working paper to the Dias member or the Executive Board after it is submitted to them.</p> <p>The authors display the working paper and the floor is yielded to the participants.</p>
---	--

<p>Motion for discussion on the Draft Resolution</p>	<p>This is the motion raised after the submission of the Draft Resolution to the Executive Board or the Dias Members.</p> <p>The Executive Board then gives the right to the authors of the Resolution to present the resolution to the participants and then the floor is yielded to the participants for questions.</p>
---	---

<p>Motion to Introduce Amendments (Friendly and Unfriendly)</p>	<p>After the introduction of Draft Resolution, Member States have the right to suggest amendments to the resolution in the form of addition, removal or modification.</p> <p>These amendments are then voted upon by the participants in the committee.</p>
--	---

<p>Motion to Begin Voting Procedures</p>	<p>After the amendments have been discussed and voted on, the resolution is put to a vote. The Member States who voted ‘Present and Voting’ during the roll call may vote YES or NO on the resolution.</p> <p>The member states who voted ‘Present’ may ABSTAIN from voting on the resolution.</p> <p>The Observer Nations do not get the voting rights on the resolution.</p>
---	--

<p>Motion to Adjourn the Session</p>	<p>This motion is raised at the end of the committee session to adjourn the session until the next meeting.</p> <p>It is passed on a simple majority or at the discretion of the Chairperson.</p>
<p>Motion to Close Debate</p>	<p>This motion is raised when the committee is over with the debating session and moves into the voting procedure for the Draft Resolution.</p>
<p>Motion to Suspend the Debate session</p>	<p>This motion is raised in order to postpone all the committee proceedings for the rest of the committee sessions.</p> <p>It is usually raised at the end of the conference.</p>
<p>Motion to Appeal</p>	<p>This motion can be raised by the participants against the procedural ruling by the Executive Board Members. The participant is given a specific time to clarify the appeal and the chair gets the time to clarify the doubts or issue raised.</p> <p>The appeal is then put to a vote and a two-third majority is required to overrule the chair's decision.</p>

Formal Debate

The formal debate starts after setting the agenda. In most conventional committees, the formal session begins with a General Speakers' List. A General Speakers' List is a non-exhaustible list which goes on for the whole session and there are breaks in between for Various Moderated and Unmoderated Caucus.

Participants get their names for the General Speakers' List by raising placards and then the Dias Members or the Executive Board recognises the participant for the list. To add or alter the order of the List, participants may write a note to the Dias members or the Executive Board Members.

Besides the General Speakers' List, there are various other motions which can be raised to have a debate on a specific topic related to the agenda. Under this, the participant may raise motions to begin a Moderated Caucus or an Unmoderated Caucus.

Rules Governing Speeches

Right to Speak: Participants have the right to speak only when recognized by the Dais. The Dais may use their discretion to ask a participant to end their speech if the participant has either exceeded the time limit or has been personally offensive to any party present in committee.

General Speakers List (GSL): The General Speakers List is opened following a motion raised by a participant and the subsequent approval of the Chair. The Chair then recognizes a list of speakers who wish to speak in the GSL and will have the floor to briefly sum up their country's stance on the agenda. The default individual speaker's time is set at 90 seconds, which may be altered by raising a motion to alter the time. If the participant has not used all the time that has been allotted, the participant may yield the remaining time to comments, questions, to another participant or to the Chair.

Yields:

1. Yield to comments allows any member to make a statement on the participant speech. The participant is not allowed to respond in retaliation to the comments made on his/ her speech.
2. Yield to questions allows any member of the committee to ask questions on the speech made by the participant to which the participant would be allowed to answer. Follow up questions will be allowed only at the discretion of the Dais.
3. Yield to another participant allows another participant to use the remaining time. This time can be used by the other participant to reinforce the points made by the previous delegate/ participant.
4. Yield to the Chair simply means that the Chair would absorb the remaining time.

Moderated Caucus: A Moderated Caucus is a debate format where participants make short speeches on specific topics. These specific topics are sub agendas to the main agenda set by the

committee. Participants raise a motion to start a Moderated Caucus for a specific time period after which the Chair would recognise speakers to speak in the Caucus.

Example: - The participant of Malaysia would like to raise a motion for a moderated caucus on the topic “Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the global pandemic” for a total time period of 10 minutes allotting 60 seconds per speaker.

Unmoderated Caucus: An Unmoderated Caucus, as the name suggests, is not moderated by the Dais. Rules of the formal debate are suspended and participants are allowed to freely converse with other members of the committee. This time period is used by the participants to lobby amongst the committee members. An Unmoderated Caucus is also used by participants to work on working papers and Draft Resolutions.

Example: - The participant of Malaysia would like to raise a motion for an unmoderated caucus for a total time period of 10 minutes.

Time limit on speeches: All GSL speeches are by default set at 90 seconds, but can be changed if required. Moderated caucuses are raised by participants and it is, therefore, their duty to set the duration of the moderated caucus and the time allotted per speaker. When a participant exceeds the allotted time, the Dais may call the speaker to order.

Points: Points are tools which can be used by participants to increase their understanding of the happenings of the committee.

1. Point of Personal Privilege: This point is raised only when a participant feels personal discomfort. Subsequently, the Chair will do everything in his power to address the discomfort.
2. Point of Order: There are 2 types of points of orders:
 - a. Factual Inaccuracy: If the speaker makes a factually incorrect statement.
 - b. Logical Fallacy: If the speaker makes a logically fallacious statement.
3. Point of Information: This point is raised by participants when they have a question on the participant’s speech.
4. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: This point is raised when a participant has a question regarding the proceeding of the committee such as a question regarding who the next speaker on list is or inquiring about how much time is left for the caucus to end.

Right to Reply: A right to speak in reply to a previous speaker's comment invoked when a participant feels personally insulted by another's speech.

Rules Governing Written Proposals

Draft Resolution: Draft Resolutions are Resolutions that have not yet been voted on. Participants write Draft Resolutions with other countries. The Resolution contains all the solutions to a topic and is the main aim of a MUN session.

A Draft Resolution is divided into 3 parts:

- 1) Heading
- 2) Preambulatory Clauses
- 3) Operative Clauses

- 1) **The Heading** contains the name of the committee the resolution is being introduced in, the agenda of the resolution, and the list of sponsors and signatories.

Sponsors are the Member States who have authored the Draft Resolution. All sponsors must agree with the Resolution.

Signatories are the Member States who wish to see the Draft Resolution discussed. Signatories need not have to agree with the Resolution in its entirety and are willing to debate on it and propose amendments. Signatories are also not required to vote for the Resolution.

- 2) **Preambulatory Clauses** serve the main purpose of stating the reasons for which the committee is passing the following Resolution. They may include past Resolutions taken by the committee and also affirm precedents to justify the Resolution. *Preambulatory clauses* can also cite the U.N charter, statements made by the Secretary- General and make General Statements on the topic and its significance.
- 3) **Operative Clauses** are the steps to be taken up by the committee to address a particular situation and achieve a specific goal. These clauses can call for actions or just be recommendations within the mandate of the committee. Each operative clause begins with a verb and ends with a semicolon. After the last operative clause, the Resolution ends in a period.

Amendments

Amendments are proposals made by the participants of a committee which aims to add, remove or reverse a particular clause from the Resolution. There are 2 types of amendments:

- 4) **Friendly Amendments:** These amendments are supported by all the sponsors of the Draft Resolution and will thus be automatically added without a vote amongst the members of the committee.
- 5) **Unfriendly Amendments:** These amendments do not have the unanimous support of all the sponsors and are therefore put to vote in the committee. Such an amendment requires a two-thirds majority for the amendment to be added to the original Draft Resolution.

Rules Governing Voting

Attendance Voting/Roll Call: Attendance shall be conducted at the beginning of every session when a participant raises a motion to Roll Call after which every participant in committee must vote either “Present” or “Present and Voting”

1. **Present and Voting:** Present and voting means that the participant is not entitled to abstention on substantive votes.
2. **Present:** A participant that is declared "Present" shall vote in favour, against or may abstain on any substantive matter.

Procedural Voting: All participant have one vote on a procedural motion. It is mandatory to vote on all procedural motions and abstentions are not allowed. Votes on procedural matters are expressed by simply raising their placard. A simple majority is required for a procedural motion to pass.

Substantive Voting: Votes that have the potential for action outside the debate, such as a vote on Draft Resolutions, amendments or motions that modify resolution content. All participants have one vote and members may either vote Yes, No or Abstain.

Member States which have been declared as “Present and Voting” do not have the option to Abstain.

Sample Draft Resolution

Draft Resolution 1.0

Sponsors: United States of America

Signatories: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island, Canada, French Republic, Australia, Republic of India, South Africa, Republic of China, Turkey.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Recalls the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol,

Gravely concerned with the increase in hate speech directed toward refugee and migrant populations across the globe,

Emphasises on the need for a multi-faceted approach in regulating hate speech on social media platforms,

Keeping in mind the right to work as provided under 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), The African Charter of Human Rights and The Arab Charter for Human Rights,

- 1) *Accepts* the following definition for ‘hate speech’ as provided in the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech which states as follows:
 - a) any kind of communication in speech, writing or behaviour, that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language with reference to a person or a group on the basis of their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor;
- 2) *Requests* member states to cooperate with United Nations organisations such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Inter- Agency Standing Committee (IASC), United Nations Population Fund (UNPF), World Health Organisation (WHO) and World Food Programme (WFP) in order to [programmes] for the betterment of refugee populations;
- 3) *Encourages* member states to include refugee populations into national programmes

such as but not limited to:

- a) Healthcare schemes,
- b) Child and adult education programmes,
- c) Vocational training programmes,
- d) Employment schemes;

4) *Recommends* member states to focus on regulating online platforms and other media through following methods but not limited to:

- a) Member states should focus on creation of guidelines for the identification and reporting of hateful content published on the various platforms in any medium written or otherwise,
- b) Requiring media agencies to adhere to the guidelines laid down by the member state,
- c) Imposing fines on media agencies for deviation from guidelines pertaining to curbing hate speech on media platforms;

5) *Suggests* member states to adopt the following measures with respect to improving access to education for children among refugee populations, but not limited to:

- a) Introduce legislation to allow unfettered access to refugee children to education especially for primary education of children,
- b) Awareness and Prior training to be provided to refugees and children regarding the system of education and employment of the country
- c) Providing adequate training for teachers to better equip the staff in dealing with students from refugee populations,
- d) Allocate sufficient funding towards such programmes,

6) *Implementing* a system of recording of statistics relating to refugee children of aspects such as:

- i) Ratio of refugee students to host country students in schools and education programmes,
- ii) Nationality wise breakdown of refugee students in the system,
- iii) Any other statistical data as deemed required by the member states;

7) *Further suggests* member states to constitute a panel of experts, consisting of experts from the fields of, but not limited to:

- a) Law,

- b) Technology,
- c) Public policy,
- d) Law enforcement and security,
- e) Human migration and mobility,
- f) Members of government ministries such as Ministry of Interior,
- g) Any other field as deemed necessary by the member state;

8) *Encourages* member states to take appropriate steps to investigate and prosecute individuals as well as groups involved in human trafficking and other crimes towards refuge.