

MINI-MODEL UN TOOLKIT

UNEA SIMULATION

*ANNEX: 7) SCRIPT FOR THE PRESIDENT /
FACILITATOR*

UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS
WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS



United Nations
Department of Global
Communications



World Federation of United Nations Associations

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*ANNEX: 7) SCRIPT FOR THE PRESIDENT /
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Instructions: The Script is used by the student(s) who will be assigned the role of the President (who presides over formal meetings) and the Facilitator (who presides over informal meetings) to guide them on what to say and how to manage each stage of the simulation.

Opening Plenary

[President brings the session to order]

“Excellencies, Distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hereby call this session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to order.

[*Note to educator:* The remarks that follow are just a suggestion and can be replaced or modified by the student who has been chosen to be President.]

It is my privilege to welcome you to this forum, where we gather not only as representatives of our respective nations, but as guardians of our shared planet. The issue of marine plastic litter and microplastics demand urgent, coordinated action from the United Nations Environment Assembly.

Let us approach this Assembly with the intention of cooperation, mutual respect, and unwavering commitment to combatting marine plastic litter and the threat of microplastics to our ecosystem.

General Debate

[Before beginning the session, confirm which delegates are planning to make a statement during the General Debate. The list of speakers should be prepared informally before the mini-simulation starts.]

We will now begin the General Debate where you will have a chance to deliver your opening statement on Marine plastic litter and microplastics. After the General Debate we will transition into informal consultations where you will begin to debate the amendments that were submitted. Are there any questions? Please raise your placards if so.

I hereby call this session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to order.

[Answer all questions]

President: Distinguished delegates, The Assembly will now begin its General Debate of agenda item 3, 'Marine plastic litter and microplastics.'

I would like to remind delegations to kindly limit their statements to one minute for those speaking in their national capacity. In order to assist delegations to keep track of time, I will bang the gavel once [demonstrate] to let you know that ten seconds are left. I will bang the gavel twice [demonstrate] to signal you to kindly conclude your remarks within the remaining ten seconds. I call on all delegations to cooperate accordingly and thank them for their understanding.

Please raise your hand if you wish to make a statement during the General Debate.

[Call speakers in the order in which they have raised their hand in the list of participants.]

I now call the first speaker on my list, the distinguished representative of____, you have the floor.

[Representative speaks]

] I thank the representative of _____for his/her statement.

[Repeat this until everyone on the speakers list has been given an opportunity to make a statement.]

We have heard the last speaker on the list. The Plenary has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 3 "Marine plastic litter and microplastics." Delegates will now move into informal consultations to begin the process of drafting a resolution. Delegates are reminded that during the entire informal consultation phase of the conference, the Rules of Procedure are suspended. This meeting is now adjourned. [GAVEL]

Informal Consultations: Line-by-line Review

[During Informal Debate, the President transitions to the facilitator role, encouraging delegates to propose changes to the text and to debate these proposals in a constructive and diplomatic manner. This is important for managing time and helping delegates to move towards consensus]

Facilitator: We will now transition into informal consultations and begin the line by line review of the submitted draft resolution. We will read each paragraph in the order in which it appears in the document.

Facilitator: During the line by line review, delegates will have an opportunity to propose amendments or changes they would like to see made in the resolution. **The amendments will not be voted on or debated during the line by line review.** Once a review of preambular and operative paragraphs is completed, delegates will discuss each amendment and decide which ones they agree to keep, revise in some way or delete in order to reach agreement. **The amendments are never voted on.** The decision on what to do with each amendment must be negotiated until all delegates agree on what to do.

Facilitator: We will now begin the line by line review of the draft resolution that has been submitted. We will read each paragraph in the order in which it appears in the document.

[Begin the line by line review by reading the first paragraph and then asking:]

Facilitator: PP1 reads as follows: [Read the text exactly as it appears in the draft and then ask:]

Are there any changes any delegates would like to make in this paragraph?

A. [If one or more amendments are proposed in a paragraph, each amendment is inserted into the document while it is displayed on a screen following the notation system outlined in Amending a Resolution in Annex 5]

Facilitator: If I understand you correctly, you would like to___ [repeat the amendment to make sure it has been entered correctly in the document].

Is that correct? [The delegate must confirm that the amendment has been entered properly before moving on.]

[After every amendment that is proposed:] Are there any further amendments/changes any delegates would like to make?

[Continue in this manner until there are no more amendments proposed on the paragraph, then say:]

Seeing there are no further amendments we will go on to the next paragraph which reads as follows [read next paragraph]:

B. [If there are no proposed amendments in the paragraph, mark it as, “agreed ad ref”.]

Seeing there are no objections, we will mark this paragraph agreed ad. ref. This phrase means that you have temporarily agreed to the paragraph as written, and we can move on to the next paragraph.

[If there are many amendments that are proposed and it gets confusing trying to keep track of how the paragraph should read because two or more changes are proposed on the same part of the text, the Facilitator could propose the following:]

Facilitator: Seeing that there are many objections to the paragraph, I recommend that you continue discussing this paragraph during informal consultations and that we move on to the next paragraph.

[After all the paragraphs in the preambular section have been reviewed, then continue in the same manner with the operative paragraphs.]

Facilitator: OP1 reads as follows: [Read the text exactly as it appears in the draft and then ask:]

Are there any comments, reactions or objections to this paragraph?

[Or]

Are there any changes any delegates would like to make in this paragraph?

Facilitator: If I understand you correctly, you would like to___ [repeat the amendment to make sure it has been entered correctly in the document].

Is that correct? [The delegate must confirm that the amendment has been entered properly before moving on.]

[After every amendment that is proposed:] Are there any further amendments/changes any delegates would like to make?

[Continue until all of the operative paragraphs have been reviewed. After the line by line review is completed, continue with the next section on the Debate of Amendments.]

Informal Consultations: Line-by-line Review

[During the debate of amendments there are no restrictions on who can talk and how often. When a Facilitator is moderating during informal consultations, they can be active throughout the debate giving the floor to delegates who want to speak or letting the delegates speak at will.]

Facilitator: We now begin the debate of amendments. We will go one by one and discuss each amendment until you agree whether to adopt it, delete it and agree to an alternate wording of the amendment. If any delegate objects to any proposed changes, a debate should be held so that each point of view can be heard. Delegates are expected to make their best efforts to find common ground, which may require compromise. Whenever all the amendments in a paragraph have been resolved and there are no further objections, it will be marked agreed ad ref. When all the paragraphs are marked agreed ad ref, then you will know that a consensus has been reached.

Facilitator: Let's start with the amendment in this paragraph proposed by _____ that reads as follows, _____. Can the delegate(s) who proposed this amendment explain why they want to make this change in the text?

[After the delegate explains:] Do any of the delegates object to the amendment? If so, explain why.

[Once a debate on the amendment gets started, the Facilitator can pull back and let the delegates continue on their own until agreement on the wording of the amendment has been reached. If needed, the Facilitator can recommend a way to resolve a disagreement or suggest an alternate wording of the text in an attempt to get the delegates to compromise and reach agreement.]

[Once agreement on all of the amendments in a paragraph has been reached within a paragraph, it is marked agreed ad ref. Because ad. ref is a temporary agreement, any delegate can return to that paragraph and propose changes to it while the negotiations are continuing.]

[Once all of the paragraphs have been "agreed ad ref", then consensus has been reached and the delegates are ready to adopt the resolution without a vote, i.e., by consensus.]

Review of Bracketed Amendments (if applicable)

Facilitator: We will now return to all of the amendments that have been bracketed.

Facilitator: All of the paragraphs are now marked agreed ad ref. Congratulations on having reached consensus on this important resolution.

Deciding Who Will Be a Sponsor

Facilitator: Before we go back to the final formal meeting to adopt the resolution by consensus, delegates must decide if they want to be sponsor of the draft resolution or not. You should choose to be a sponsor if you are in general agreement with the resolution as drafted. If your country has any reservations or disagrees with any part of the text because it is not sufficiently aligned with your country's position, you can make a statement called an Explanation of Position in which you clearly indicate which paragraph or paragraphs your country wants to disassociate from and why. Delegates who exercise their right to make an Explanation of Position should not sponsor the resolution.

Which delegates wish to be added as a sponsor of the resolution?
[Add the sponsors above the title of the resolution.]

Are there any delegates that wish to exercise their right to make a statement in Explanation of Position?
[If yes:] You will have [XX] minutes to write a short Explanation of Position.

Closing Plenary

[The Facilitator now returns back to being the President of the Assembly. Before calling the meeting back to order, the President should explain that they are now going back to a formal meeting of the Assembly to adopt the Draft Resolution and that any delegate who wants to can make a statement, called an Explanation of Position, after the resolution is adopted by consensus.]

[Remind the delegates that this is their only opportunity to let the Assembly know if there are any particular paragraphs that their government wants to disassociate from. Find out how many delegates plan to make a statement.]

Calling the Assembly Back to a Formal Meeting

President: I now assume my role as President of the Assembly. The second meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly is now called to order. [GAVEL]

Distinguished delegates, We have reached the final meeting of our deliberations. I now invite the Assembly to resume its consideration of the agenda item entitled "Marine plastic litter and microplastics" in order to take action on the draft resolution.

Taking Action on a Draft Resolution

President: Distinguished delegates, we will now proceed to the adoption of the resolution on agenda item "Marine plastic litter and microplastics". I request that all delegations wait to make any final statements until after the resolution has been adopted.

Distinguished delegates, may I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the text entitled "Marine plastic litter and microplastics"? (Pause) I hear no objection. It is so decided. [GAVEL]

I wish to thank delegations sincerely for the flexibility they have demonstrated in order to reach consensus on this agreed text.

I would now like to give the floor to delegations wishing to make a statement following the adoption of the draft resolution.

[If no delegate requests to take the floor, skip to "Closure of the session," otherwise:]

I recognize the distinguished representative of _____, you have the floor.

[After statement]

I thank the distinguished delegate of _____ for his/her statement.

[Continue in this manner until all delegates wishing to make a statement have had the opportunity to do so.]

[After last statement:] I thank the delegations for their statements, which have been duly noted. The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of this discussion on agenda item "Marine plastic litter and microplastics"

Closure of the Session

Distinguished delegates, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, I declare the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly closed. [\[GAVEL\]](#)

