

Guidelines for proposals (draft resolutions, decisions and amendments) for consideration in the General Assembly plenary

1. The written notice from a delegation is required five working days before the consideration of a proposal in the plenary of the General Assembly. The five-day period includes four working days for the processing of the proposal, counting from the day following the day of submission, and takes into account rule 78 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
2. The guidelines set forth in this document outline a suggested process for the submission of proposals to the Secretariat. The main points of contact are as follows:

Submission of proposals	Wannes Lint Email: lint@un.org
Programme of work	Radhika Ochalik Email: ochalik@un.org
Reservation of rooms for consultations <i>before</i> submission to the Secretariat	Meetings Management Section Email: gmeets@un.org

3. Delegations are requested to inform the Secretariat (lint@un.org) if oral corrections, revisions or amendments to the proposal are expected.

I. Preparation of proposals

4. Delegations are requested to determine if a “base text” exists for the proposal, for example a resolution from a previous session, or the original draft resolution if the proposal reflects a revision (issued as “L./Rev.”). If a “base text” exists, the revised text is to be submitted using “track changes” mode on top of this “base text” to avoid delays in the processing of the proposal beyond the five-day period.
5. If no “base text” exists and the text is thus a new proposal, delegations are requested to include the agenda item under which the proposal is submitted. The relevant agenda item can be extracted from the agenda as reflected in document A/[session]/251. For example, the agenda of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly is available as document A/76/251.

II. Co-sponsorship of proposals

6. Proposals are usually negotiated prior to submission to the Secretariat. During this process, the main sponsor(s) can open a proposal for co-sponsorship by other delegations using the e-deleGATE portal (<http://delegate.un.int>). Only Member States can upload proposals on the portal and open proposals for co-sponsorship. When initiating co-sponsorship, a delegation can indicate which Member States and observer States can co-sponsor the proposal. Once the process is initiated, all registered users of eligible delegations will be informed.
7. All delegations that have co-sponsored the proposal by the time it is submitted to the Secretariat will be listed as co-sponsors on the draft resolution or decision

(“L._”). A draft resolution or decision will remain open for co-sponsorship until the moment of adoption in a plenary meeting of the General Assembly. In the General Assembly hall, delegations will be invited once again to signal their intention to co-sponsor the proposal by pressing a button from their national seat when requested by the Secretary. These delegations will be marked as additional co-sponsors and listed when the addendum to the proposal is issued.

8. Paper signatures are not accepted since co-sponsorship ahead of a plenary meeting is done through the e-deleGATE platform. .

9. Once the General Assembly adopts a draft resolution or decision, Member States can no longer alter its sponsorship.

III. Submission of proposals

10. Delegations are requested to submit proposals via the “e-Proposals” module on the e-deleGATE platform. Please contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch (lint@un.org) in case of any questions. Upon submission, the draft will be processed and issued in the six official languages of the United Nations and made available on the Official Document System (<http://documents.un.org>).

IV. Editing of proposals

11. The Editing Section edits all United Nations documents, including draft resolutions and draft decisions, to ensure that the text is clear, accurate, consistent and grammatically correct, conforms to United Nations editorial standards and is translatable into the other five official languages.

12. Editors will not make changes that alter the meaning of a resolution. When a language issue touches on a substantive matter, the editor will consult with the submitting official. It is crucial for the editors to be informed when parts of a draft have been the subject of particularly intensive negotiations or are otherwise highly sensitive.

13. More information on the editing of proposals can be found in the United Nations Editorial Manual (English: <https://bit.ly/36Zt598>; français: <https://bit.ly/3iQYKeY>). Information on specific aspects of terminology can be found in the United Nations Terminology Database (<http://unterm.un.org>).