**BIRLA SCHOOL PILANI MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2019**

**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME**

Warm Greetings,

I hope you all have started your preliminary research on the provided agenda with respect to your country portfolio. As we move close to the conference, I have certain announcements to make with regard to the committee I am chairing this year, United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. Apart from the traditional UNA-USA procedure, following new elements are being added in the Rules of Procedure to facilitate smooth debate and discussion. To save the time of the committee, I am here by providing those additions, which are explained individually later:

1. Presidential Statements
2. Press Releases
3. Point of Interjection/Opining

These new additions will not only help in the proper flow of the debate, but this will also lead to new experiences for everyone. Adding to this, we, as in Executive Board, are happily open for any suggestion on the present additions and new additions or removal of these additions. Anyone having any inputs is expected to mail their suggestions. Though electronics are allowed in the committee, it is highly expected that the delegates shall use them only for research and related purposes. Anyone found using for any other purpose without any prior notice to the secretariat or the executive board shall face the consequences. Hope you will come well-researched! See you there in JULY!

Regards

Rehan Kunal Jagota

President UNODC

divinejagota@gmail.com

1. PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS

Presidential statement is a written document which a delegate can present in the committee on behalf of the Member Country’s president. It is a mode to clearly specify a country’s political stands on the agendum as a whole or a sub-topic of the same. Generally presented in the first session of the committee, there is no stipulated time to present a presidential statement. When presented in the first session, it tends to give the country’s stand on the agendum as a whole, but as the delegate can do the same in the GSL Speech, the main essence lies during a crisis at hand, or if certain solutions are being sought, and so on. Ultimately, it is up to the delegates to use it in a constructive way, exploiting their wit and creativity to create an impact in the committee. It is also to be understood that a delegate can’t present a presidential statement at any time, but only when the chairperson opens the communication line between the delegate and the president. While the communication line is open, the delegates are free to contact their respective Heads of State, and table their statements. The delegates can informally request the Executive Board, via chit, to open the communication line. It is also to be kept in mind that the communication line is not always open. Further, there is no obligation on a delegate to table a presidential statement. Delegates should remember that presidential statements should be short and precise, extending a maximum of two pages and should be highly relevant, that is, it should not be vague. While there is no particular format for a presidential statement, certain things should be acknowledged, which the delegates can observe from this sample:

Presidential Statement

(Country’s official name, e.g. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

(Body of the Statement)

Regards,

Name and post of the issuing authority

(e.g. President/ Prime Minister, etc.)

Tip: There is no limitation that a single member state can issue a Presidential Statement. The delegates can also release a joint presidential statement with mutual consent, given there is no upper limit on the number of parties issuing a joint statement. This is also a way to indicate the Bloc and Allies. Hence, be more creative and try to explore more idea to make this interesting.

1. Press Releases

Press Release is a document which a delegate can issue at any point of time in the committee, for a variety of reasons. They can be issued at the end of every moderated caucus to enlist the recurring points, that is, the points having consensus. Further they can also be issued by a delegate individually or a group of delegates to bring into writing those points, which have considerate concrete ground for discussion but could not get consensus in the committee. Press Release can be both in favor and against such points. It will not only help the delegates in further solidifying their argument, they can also be used in the last session(s), while making the Draft Resolution. Delegates can even attach these press releases as appendices at the end of their draft resolution, with all due permission from the Sponsors of the Draft Resolution. Again, there is no underlying obligation upon anyone to issue a press release.

An example of press release is given here:

Press Release

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(Mention the sub agenda)

Author(s) :- (there can be one or more authors)

We, the Member States, having met on (date, e.g. July 23, 2019) in a regular session of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at Birla School Pilani, Rajasthan, India, have successfully deliberated upon the sub agendum (Topic Here) of the voted agendum, “The International Arrest Warrant System”, and have reached on consensus for the following points\*1:

[Enlist the recurring points here]

Also, the author(s) feel that the following points, which could not be collectively agreed upon by all, are equally important and further need to get acknowledged\*2:

[Enlist personal points here]

Furthermore, following points were raised in the committee by some Members, which the author(s) feel, stand nullified, for reasons mentioned alongside\*3:

[Enlist the points and why they are technically incorrect]

\*1: It’s not at all necessary to mention this, if the press release is for the sole purpose of enlisting personal points or countering points.

\*2: Ibid

\*3: Ibid

1. Point of Interjection/Opining:

Along the four traditional points in MUNs, we here introduce a fifth point, a point of Interjection/Opining. A delegate can exercise this point at the end of a delegate’s speech, if a delegate yields the time to Points of Information and Interjections, or the Executive Board opens the floor for Points of Information and Interjections. This point allows the delegates to make a remark or a comment on the speech of a delegate. It can be easily bifurcated that Point of Information is to ask a question while a Point of Interjection/Opining is to make a remark.

 The delegate is obliged to answer a Point of Information, verbal or via chit (though the delegate still can refuse to answer to a vague question), there is no underlying obligation in case of Point of Interjection/Opining to reply as there is merely a remark made. Still, the delegate, against whom the interjection is exercised, can plead to counter interject. While there is a possibility to plead a follow up in case of a reply under a Point of Information, no such follow up is possible after a counter interjection, for obvious reasons. The whole purpose of this point is to enable the delegates counter the points straightaway, as most arguments get lost due to procedural legalities.