

Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council

I. Administration

- 1.01 **The Secretariat.** The secretariat consists of the volunteer staff members of Mid-America Model United Nations. The Rules Committee of the secretariat shall be composed of the President of the General Assembly, the Senior Vice President of the General Assembly, and a third person, appointed by the Secretary General.
- 1.02 **Credentials.** Credentials are the name tags issued by the Mid-America Model United Nations when delegations check in. All questions concerning the validity of representative credentials shall be submitted in writing to the Secretariat,
- (a) The Secretariat has sole authority to decide all questions concerning credentials,
 - (b) Representatives must wear approved credentials at all times while on the conference premises,
- 1.03 **Quorum/Majority.** A quorum will be one-fourth of the member delegations in attendance at the conference,
- (a) A quorum must be present at all times during committee/council sessions,
 - (b) A majority is required for a substantive question to be put to a vote,
 - (c) Questions concerning quorum or majority should be directed to the chair,
 - (d) It is the responsibility of the chair to ensure that a quorum is present at all times.
- 1.04 **Committee/Council Officers.** The Secretariat of MAMUN shall select persons to serve as president/chairperson and vice president/vice chairperson for each committee/council, and shall select any other positions necessary to help conduct the sessions of MAMUN.
- 1.05 **Committee/Council Rapporteurs.** Each committee/ council may appoint one person from the representative body to serve as rapporteurs. The rapporteurs shall be responsible for record keeping within their respective body, as well as other duties as instructed by the Secretary General or by the chairperson.
- 1.06 **General Authority of the Chairperson.**
- (a) In addition to exercising such authority conferred upon the chair elsewhere in these rules, the chair shall,
 - (i) Declare the opening and closing of each session,
 - (ii) Ensure the observance of the rules,
 - (iii) Direct the discussions of the committee/council, and accord the right to speak,
 - (iv) Advise the committee/council on methods of procedure that will enable the body to accomplish its goals,
 - (v) Rule on points of order and procedure, and subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings of the committee/council and the maintenance of order at its meetings,
 - (b) During the course of the session the chair may propose:
 - (i) Limits on debate,
 - (ii) closure of debate,

- (iii) suspension and adjournment of the meeting,
 - (c) The chairperson is under the direct authority of the Secretariat. If the assigned chairperson finds it necessary to be absent, an individual will be assigned to perform the duties with the same authority. At no time will the chair be accorded the right to vote.
- 1.07 **Number of Accredited Representatives.** Each delegation is allowed two representatives per committee/council on which it is a member, except the International Court of Justice, where each delegation is allowed one representative, provided the Secretariat has been notified in advance.
- 1.08 **Selection of Agenda Items.** Agenda items shall be selected by the Secretariat prior to the start of the conference. Once selected, these items are fixed for the duration of the conference. After the approved items have been discussed and resolutions approved on the given topics, new items may be introduced. The Secretary General may add issues to the available agenda as it deems necessary.
- 1.09 **Observer Status.** Those delegations recognized as having observer status by MAMUN shall be accorded all rights in the committee/council except the following:
- (a) They may not vote on any item,
 - (b) They may not make or second the following motions;
 - (i) Adjournment of the Meeting (rule 7.2),
 - (ii) Adjournment of Debate (rule 7.3),
 - (iii) Closure of Debate (rule 7.5),
 - (iv) Decisions of Competence (rule 7.7).

II. General Rules

- 2.01 **Statements by the Secretariat.** The Secretary General or any member of the Secretariat may make verbal or written statements to a committee/council at any time during the conference.
- 2.02 **Diplomatic Courtesy.** Representatives must accord diplomatic courtesy to all other representatives and Secretariat members at all times (See Diplomatic Courtesy Section).
- (a) Representatives who persist in obvious attempts to disrupt the session shall be subject to expulsion from the committee/council by the Secretariat,
 - (b) The Secretariat reserves the right to expel any representative/delegation from the conference,
 - (c) Decisions of the chair on diplomatic courtesy are not appealable.
- 2.03 **Speeches.** No delegation may address the committee /council without obtaining the permission of the chair.
- (a) Delegations are called upon in the order in which they appear on the speakers list,
 - (b) Delegations, not representatives, are recognized to speak; more than one representative from the same delegation may speak when the delegation is recognized,
 - (c) Speakers must keep their remarks germane to the subject under discussion,
 - (d) A time limit may be established for speeches (rule 7.9),

- (e) Representatives, at the conclusion of a substantive speech, will be allowed, if they are willing, to answer questions concerning their speech,
 - (f) A delegation that desires to ask a question should signify by raising a point of inquiry (rule 6.4),
 - (i) All questions and replies are made through the chair,
 - (ii) All questions must remain germane,
 - (g) A speaker who desires to make a motion may do so after their speech and questioning, but prior to yielding the floor,
 - (h) By making a motion the speaker yields the floor,
 - (i) Motions may not be made from; Points of Order (rule 6. 1), Information (rule 6.2), Inquiry (rule 6.4), or from any procedural speeches.
- 2.04 **Recognition of Speakers.** Delegations wishing to speak on an item before the body will signify by raising their placards and having their delegation placed on the speakers list,
- (a) The exception to this rule occurs on any Point of Order (rule 6. 1), Information (rule 6.2), or Inquiry (rule 6.4), at which time a representative should raise their placard and call out “Point of _____” to the chair,
 - (b) Points will be recognized in the order of their priority,
 - (c) Speakers will be recognized for general debate and motions in the order they appear on the speakers list.
- 2.05 **Right of Reply.** The chair may accord a Right of Reply to any representative if a speech by another representative contains unusual or extraordinary language clearly insulting to personal or national dignity,
- (a) Representative/Delegation requests for a Right of Reply shall be made in writing to the chair,
 - (b) The request shall contain the specific language which was found to be insulting to personal or national dignity,
 - (c) The chair's decision is not subject to appeal,
 - (d) There shall be no reply to a reply,
 - (e) The chair may limit the time allowed for a reply.
- 2.06 **Withdrawal of Motions.** A motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has begun, provided the motion has not been amended,
- (a) Seconds to a motion may also be withdrawn; if a withdrawn sponsorship or second brings the proposal below the required number the motion is withdrawn,
 - (b) A withdrawn motions, sponsorship or second may be reintroduced, either verbally or in writing, by any other delegation.
- 2.07 **Dilatory Motions.** The chair may rule out of order any motion repeating or closely approximating a recent, previous motion on which the committee/council has already rendered an opinion,
- (a) This ruling is not subject to appeal.

III. Rules that Relate to the Rules

- 3.01 **Rule Priority and Procedure.** The rules contained in this handbook are the official rules of procedure of Mid-American Model United Nations and will be

- used for all committee/council sessions. These rules take precedence over any other set of rules.
- 3.02 **Precedence of Rules.** Proceedings in the committees/ councils and General Assembly sessions of MAMUN shall be conducted under the following precedence of rules;
- 1) MAMUN Rules of Procedure,
 - 2) MAMUN GA/ Precedence Short Form,
 - 3) Rulings by the Secretariat,
 - 4) Historical Usage of the MAMUN Rules of Procedure,
 - 5) The Charter of the United Nations.
- 3.03 **The Order of Precedence of Procedural Motions.** The order of precedence of procedural motions is listed, in order of priority in both the GA/Precedence Short Form and these rules under Section 7, *Procedural Motions in Order of Priority*. These motions, in the order given, have precedence over all other proposals or motions before a committee/council or the General Assembly.
- 3.04 **The Secretariat.** The Secretary General, the Under-Secretary General, the World Affairs Council Advisor, Home Government and one other person appointed by the Secretary General, compose the membership of the Secretariat.
- 3.05 **Rule Changes.** The Secretariat reserves the right to make changes in these rules at any time. Should a change occur, it will be communicated to the representatives in a timely manner.

IV. Resolutions & Amendments

- 4.01 **Resolutions.** A resolution is a proposal consisting of at least one preambulatory and one activating clause,
- (a) Security Council representatives will receive a booklet containing draft resolutions submitted by participating delegations. Additional resolutions may be submitted to the Security Council president for approval at any time during the conference,
 - (b) These resolutions will be approved if they are legible, organized in content and flow, and in the proper format,
 - (c) Once approved, resolutions will be distributed in a timely fashion to all Security Council delegations,
 - (d) A resolution that has been distributed may be proposed when the council considers the agenda topic that is the subject of the resolution,
 - (e) All proposed resolutions on an agenda topic may be debated concurrently,
 - (f) Upon Closure of Debate on an agenda topic, all resolutions proposed under that agenda topic will be voted on in the order in which they were considered.
- 4.02 **Definition of Amendments.** An amendment to a resolution is a written motion that adds to, deletes from or revises any part of the resolution.
- 4.03 **Amendments.** All amendments must be submitted on an official amendment form to the vice president for approval,
- (a) Amendments will be approved if they are legible, organized in content and flow, and in the proper format,

- (b) Approved amendments will be assigned an identification number by the vice president,
 - (c) One or more amendments, on any resolution which is on the floor, may be considered at the same time,
 - (d) See also rule 7.11, for bringing an amendment to the floor,
 - (e) See also rules 5.8 and 7.5, for bringing amendments to a vote.
- 4.04 **Friendly Amendment.** An amendment will be considered 'friendly' if all sponsors of the resolution are also sponsors or seconding signatures to the amendment,
- (a) A friendly amendment becomes part of a resolution upon receipt by the president,
 - (b) The president shall announce the acceptance of a friendly amendment on the first opportunity at which no speaker has the floor,
 - (c) No vote is required to add a friendly amendment to a resolution.

V. Voting

- 5.01 **Voting Rights.** Each member delegation shall have one vote in each committee/council, on which it is represented,
- (a) No representative/delegation may cast a vote on behalf of another country.
- 5.02 **Simple Majority.** Unless otherwise specified in these rules, decisions in the committee/council shall be made by a majority vote of those nations present and voting. If there is an equal division between yes and no votes, the motion fails,
- (a) The phrase "nations present and voting" refers to members casting affirmative or negative votes.
 - (b) Members who cast a final abstention are considered not voting.
- 5.03 **Nation Present and Voting.** At the beginning of each day, each committee will conduct roll for countries present,
- (a) Each county will respond when called upon with "Present",
 - (b) Countries that do not respond will not be called during voting procedures,
 - (c) Countries that arrive late must submit in writing that they are "Present."
- 5.04 **Adoption by Consensus.** The adoption of amendments and resolutions by consensus is desirable when it contributes to the effective and lasting settlement of differences, thus strengthening the authority of the United Nations,
- (a) Any representative may request the adoption of an amendment or resolution by consensus at any time after Closure of Debate (7.5) has passed,
 - (b) The chair shall ask whether there is any objection to a consensus, and shall ask if any nations wish to abstain from consensus,
 - (c) If there is no objection, the proposal is approved by consensus,
 - (d) If any representative objects to consensus, voting shall occur as otherwise stated in these rules.
- 5.05 **Method of Voting.** The committee/council shall normally vote by a show of raised placards. The chair may grant a request by a delegation for a roll-call vote; the decision to grant such a request is not subject to appeal,

- (a) Unless adopted by consensus, all final votes on resolutions shall be taken by roll-call; the roll shall be called in English alphabetical order beginning with a nation selected at random by the vice chair,
 - (b) Representatives shall reply "yes", "no", "abstain", "vote _____ with rights," or "abstain from the order of voting,"
 - (c) A nation may abstain from the order of voting once during a roll-call; a second abstention from the order of voting will be recorded as an abstention.
- 5.06 **Conduct During Voting.** Immediately prior to a vote, the chair shall describe to the committee/council the item to be voted on, and shall explain the consequences of a "yes" or a "no" vote. Voting shall begin upon the chair's declaration "we are in voting procedure", and end when the results of the vote are announced,
- (a) Once in voting procedure, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order or information concerning the actual conduct of the vote.
 - (b) Following Closure of Debate, and prior to entering voting procedure, the chair shall pause briefly to allow delegations the opportunity to make any relevant motions,
 - (c) Following Closure of Debate, and following any relevant motions (Exception: Motion 5.4) but before entering voting procedures, the Chairperson may declare a Suspension of the Meeting to allow all delegations time to return to the committee/council room. This is not appealable.
 - (d) Relevant motions prior to a vote include: Suspension of the Meeting (7. 1), Adjournment of the Meeting (7.2), Decisions of Competence (7.7), Division of the Question (7.10), Important Question (7.13) or Adoption by Consensus (5.4).
- 5.07 **Changes of Votes.** At the end of roll-call, but before rights of explanation and the subsequent announcement of the vote, the vice chair will ask for any vote changes. Any delegation that desires to change their recorded vote may do so at that time.
- 5.08 **Rights of Explanation.** Rights of explanation are permitted on all substantive votes after voting. Rights of explanation may be limited in time by the chair.
- 5.09 **Voting on Amendments.** A motion for closure of debate on an amendment is in order at any time the amendment is under consideration by the council,
- (a) If the motion for closure passes, the amendment will be put to an immediate vote,
 - (b) An amendment that has been introduced and discussed by the council, but not put to a vote, will be subject to a vote once a motion for closure on its resolution or agenda topic passes,
 - (c) The vote on the amendment will occur just prior to the vote on the resolution it proposes to amend,
 - (d) Multiple amendments on the floor for the same resolution, that have not been voted on prior to the closure of debate on their resolution or agenda topic, will be voted on in the reverse order in which the council considered them, not necessarily in alphabetical order. (See also rules 7.4 and 7.5)

- 5.10 **Voting on Resolutions.** A motion for closure of debate on a resolution is in order at any time the resolution is under consideration by the council,
- (a) All resolutions being considered under an agenda topic will be put to a vote when a motion for closure of debate on that agenda topic passes,
 - (b) Resolutions will be voted on in the order in which they were considered by the council, not necessarily in numerical order. (See rule 7.4)

VI. Points of Procedure in Order of Priority

- 6.01 **Point of Order.** During the discussion of any matter, a representative may rise to a Point of Order if he/she believes that the committee/council is proceeding in a manner contrary to these rules,
- (a) The representative will be immediately recognized by the chair and the point ruled on,
 - (b) If a representative's ability to participate in the committee's/council's deliberations is impaired for any reason, the representative may rise to a Point of Order,
 - (c) A Point of Order may interrupt a speaker, except during roll call votes.
- 6.02 **Point of Information.** A Point of Information is raised to the chair if a representative wishes to obtain a clarification of procedure or a statement of the matters before the committee/council,
- (a) Representatives may not interrupt a speaker on a Point of Information.
 - (b) A point of information may not be used to ask a question of another representative.
- 6.03 **Point of Privilege.** If a representative wishes to make a request to the organization of the committee/council, personal comfort, or the conduct of fellow representatives, he/she may rise to a Point of Privilege,
- (a) When a representatives rises on Point of Privilege, the chair may take whatever action deemed necessary,
 - (b) Representatives may not interrupt a speaker on a Point of privilege.
- 6.04 **Point of Inquiry.** During substantive debate, a representative may question a speaker by rising to a Point of Inquiry only if the speaker wishes to answer any questions,
- (a) Questions must be directed through the chair and may be made only after the speaker has concluded his/her remarks, but before he/she has yielded the floor,
 - (b) Representatives may not interrupt a speaker on a Point of Inquiry,
 - (c) See also rule 2.3, Speeches.

VII. Procedural Motions in Order of Priority

- 7.01 **Suspension of the Meeting.** During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move to suspend the meeting, except when such a motion would interrupt a speaker. Suspending a meeting recesses it for the time specified in the motion,
- (a) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (b) The motion is not debatable,

- (c) The chair may request the mover to modify the time of suspension,
 - (d) If the motion passes, the committee/council, when it reconvenes, will continue its business from the point at which the suspension was moved.
 - (e) The chairperson reserves the right to amend the amount of time the meeting is suspended as well as may declare the motion out of order at any time. This is not appealable.
- 7.02 **Adjournment of the Meeting.** The motion of adjournment means that all business of the committee/council has been completed, and that the committee/council will not reconvene until the next annual session,
- (a) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (b) The chair may refuse to recognize a motion to adjourn the meeting if the committee/council still has business before it,
 - (i) This decision is not appealable,
 - (c) A motion to adjourn is not debatable, and will be put to an immediate vote.
- 7.03 **Adjournment of Debate.** During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the Adjournment of Debate on that matter,
- (a) Adjournment of Debate on a resolution or amendment has the effect of tabling that item and allows the committee/council to move onto another resolution/amendment,
 - (b) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (c) Two delegations may speak in favor of the motion, and two opposed; the motion shall then be put to a vote,
 - (d) An item upon which debate has been adjourned must pass a vote of reconsideration before it may be brought back to the floor for consideration, (See also rule 7.12 on Reconsideration.)
- 7.04 **Closure of Debate on an Agenda Topic.** A motion to close debate on an agenda topic is in order at any time during discussion of that topic. The effect of this motion, if passed, is to put all the resolutions that have been considered on that agenda topic to a vote,
- (a) The resolutions are voted on in the order in which they were considered by the council,
 - (b) This motion is subject to open debate and may not interrupt a speaker. Upon closure of the open debate period, the motion shall then be put to a vote.
- 7.05 **Closure of Debate.** A motion for closure of debate is in order at any time during the discussion of a substantive issue. The effect of this motion is to bring the issue under discussion to an immediate vote,
- (a) This motion is subject to open debate and may not interrupt a speaker. Upon closure of the open debate period, the motion shall then be put to a vote,
 - (b) Representatives should specify what the motion for closure applies to (e.g., an amendment, a resolution, etc.),
 - (c) If closure passes on the resolution or agenda topic, all amendments on the floor will be voted upon in the reverse order from which they were moved to the floor,

- (d) After voting on all amendments is completed, the resolution shall be voted upon in accordance with these rules,
 - (e) At the conclusion of voting procedure, the resolution or amendment being voted on is removed from consideration for future discussions, regardless of whether it passes or fails. Debate then continues on the current topic under discussion.
- 7.06 **Appealing a Decision of the Chair.** Rulings of the chair are appealable unless otherwise specified in these rules,
- (a) Second required and a 2/3 vote for passage,
 - (b) Two delegations may speak in favor of the motion and two opposed,
 - (c) The appeal must be made immediately following the ruling in question,
 - (d) The chair shall put the vote thusly: "Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?" A "yes" vote supports the chair's decision; a "no" signifies objection,
 - (e) The decision of the chair shall be sustained by a tie.
- 7.07 **Decisions of Competence.** A motion calling for a decision on the competence of the committee/council to discuss or adopt a proposal is in order at any time **prior** to the proposal being put to a vote,
- (a) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (b) Two delegations may speak in favor of the motion and two opposed,
 - (c) If a committee/council decides it is not competent to discuss or vote on an amendment or resolution, the effect is the same as adjourning debate. (See also 7.12 on Reconsideration.)
 - (d) The chairperson can declare this motion out of order if it would end all available discussion topics. This decision is not appealable
- 7.08 **Limits on Debate.** A motion to limit or extend the time allotted to each delegation, or limit the number of times each delegation can speak on a proposal, is in order at any time. This motion may be proposed by the chair or a delegation,
- (a) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (b) Two delegations may speak in favor of the motion and two opposed,
 - (c) It may also be moved to limit the time allowed for debate on an agenda topic, a resolution, or an amendment.
 - (d) The chairperson may amend the limits on debate at any time. This is not appealable.
- 7.09 **Division of the Question.** A motion to divide the question, proposing that parts of an amendment or resolution be voted on separately, is in order at any time prior to entering into voting procedure on it,
- (a) Second required and a majority vote for passage,
 - (b) Two delegations may speak in favor of the motion and two opposed,
 - (c) The first motion for division to receive a majority vote shall determine the order in which the amendment/resolution parts are to be voted on. Those parts of the amendment/ resolution which are approved shall then be put to a vote as a whole.
 - (d) If division causes the resolution to no longer be in the proper format (see rule 4.1), the proposal as a whole is rejected.

- 7.10 **Consideration of Amendments.** To bring an amendment to the floor for discussion a delegation must first be recognized by the chair,
- (a) No verbal second is required,
 - (b) The chair will present the amendment to the body,
 - (c) The sponsoring delegation will be allowed to speak first on the amendment, if desired.
- 7.11 **Reconsideration of Proposals.** A motion to reconsider is in order on an amendment or resolution which has passed or failed when put to a final vote.
- (a) A motion to reconsider *requires a second and two-thirds majority vote for passage,*
 - (b) Two delegations may speak opposed to the motion,
 - (c) If the motion passes it brings the issue back before the body for debate, and to be voted on again.
 - (d) The motion is also in order for proposals on which debate has been adjourned, and on proposals upon which the committee/council has decided it was not competent to discuss or adopt, (see Rule 7.3 and 7.7)
- 7.12 **Important Question.** Applicable only in the General Assembly Plenary (see rule 8.7).

VIII. Rules Relating Only to The General Assembly Plenary

- 8.01 **Interchangeability of Rules.** All committee/council rules apply to the conduct of business in the General Assembly, except where noted below.
- 8.02 **Quorum.** A quorum in the General Assembly Plenary session will be one-third of the member delegations in attendance at the conference.
- 8.03 **Officers.** The President of the General Assembly shall act as the principal chair of the Assembly, with the senior vice president and committee chairpersons serving as supporting officers. The officers shall have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the committee officers, as described in rule 1.6.
- 8.04 **Order of Consideration of Committees.** The Secretariat will distribute an agenda for the General Assembly prior to its first session. The agenda will establish the order in which committees are to be considered.
- (a) The agenda order may be altered by a majority vote of the Assembly.
 - (b) The General Assembly must consider one topic from each committee before considering a second topic from any committee.
 - (c) For the purposes of this rule, a topic has been "considered" when Closure of Debate is successfully moved and a vote, either passing or failing, has been taken on a resolution pertaining to the topic.
- 8.05 **Consideration of Resolutions.** Resolutions passed by a General Assembly Committee are available for discussion by 2 Pro speakers and 2 Con. speakers in the order in which they were passed in that committee. After the speakers are completed the body will move in to voting procedures.
- 8.06 **Motions.** During General Assembly only 3 procedural motions may be made. These motions may be made from a speaker or before going into voting procedures.

- (a) Adjournment of the Meeting (7.2)
 - (b) Decisions of Competence (7.7)
 - (c) Division of the Question (7.10)
- 8.07 **Important Questions.** General Assembly Important Questions require a two-thirds majority vote of all members present and voting for passage. Amendments to resolutions dealing with Important Questions also require a two-thirds majority vote for passage.
- (a) Decisions on Important Questions are applicable only to the General Assembly. When discussed in Committees, these issues are debated and voted upon utilizing normal Committee rules.
 - (b) Such questions shall include:
 - (i) recommendations with respect to maintenance of international peace and security (only when the Security Council fails to act);
 - (ii) admission of new members to the UN;
 - (iii) suspension of rights and privileges of membership;
 - (iv) expulsion of member nations;
 - (v) questions in relationship to the Trusteeship system;
 - (vi) budgetary questions.
 - (c) Determination of additional categories of important questions may be made by a simple majority vote of the members present and voting, before a vote is taken on any part of a proposal dealing with the subject. If important questions status is moved, there shall be two speakers in favor and two opposed, followed by an immediate vote on the change of status.
- 8.08 **Security Council Priority Relating to Issues Concerning the Maintenance of International Peace and Security.** The Security Council, as established in the United Nations Charter, shall have priority over the General Assembly on issues that pertain to the maintenance of international peace and security. Issues of this type, while under discussion in the Security Council, shall be seized from General Assembly action. Accordingly, any General Assembly resolution pertaining to a seized issue cannot be put to a final vote until the Security Council has completed its deliberations on the subject,
- (a) General Assembly resolutions that deal with a seized issue may be discussed and amended, but no final vote on the resolution may be taken,
 - (b) The Security Council will be considered to have completed its deliberations on a seized issue once a resolution on the subject has been put to a vote and a topic closed, or after a two hour time period has elapsed since the Security Council last considered any aspect of the topic,
 - (c) Throughout the General Assembly, representatives will be kept informed by the Secretary General of any seized issues.
- 8.09 **Applications for Admission of New Member States.** Any state which desires to become a member shall submit an application to the Secretary General.
- (a) Applications shall contain a declaration, made in a formal instrument, that the State in question accepts the obligations contained in the UN Charter,
 - (b) The Secretary General shall inform the Security Council and the General Assembly of any applications.

- 8.10 **Consideration of Applications and Decisions Thereon.** If the Security Council recommends the application of a State for membership, the General Assembly shall consider whether the applicant is a peace-loving state and is able and willing to carry out the obligations contained in the UN Charter,
- (a) Any resolution on admission is automatically an Important Question,
 - (b) If the Security Council does not recommend the applicant State for membership, or if postpones consideration of the application, the General Assembly may, after full consideration of the special report of the Security Council, send the application back to the Council, together with a full record of the discussion of the General Assembly, for further consideration and recommendation.
- 8.11 **Notification of the Decision and Effective Date of Membership.** The Secretary General shall inform the applicant state of the decision of the General Assembly. If the application is approved, membership shall become effective on the date on which the General Assembly makes its decision on the applicant.