

How to write a resolution

A resolution has two parts: the preambulatory clauses and the operative clauses. Preambulatory clauses are facts that state the historical and current situations, whilst operative clauses state suggested actions to take. Both types of clauses need to start with an approved word or words from the following list:

Preambulatory Clauses:

Affirming Alarmed by Approving Bearing in mind Believing Confident Contemplating
Convinced Declaring Deeply concerned Deeply conscious Deeply convinced Deeply
disturbed Deeply regretting Desiring Emphasizing Expecting Expressing its appreciation
Fulfilling Fully aware Further deploring Further recalling Guided by Having adopted Having
considered Having examined Having received Keeping in mind Noting with deep concern
Noting with satisfaction Noting further Observing Reaffirming Realizing Recalling
Recognizing Referring Seeking Taking into consideration Taking note Viewing with
appreciation Welcoming

Operative Clauses:

Accepts Affirms Approves Asks Authorizes Calls Calls upon Condemns Confirms
Congratulates Considers Decides Declares Deplores Designates Draws attention
Emphasises Encourages Endorses Expresses it appreciation Expresses it hope Further invites
Further proclaims Further recommends Further resolves Further requests Have resolved
Notes Proclaims Reaffirms Recommends Regrets Reminds Requests Solemnly affirms
Strongly condemns Suggests Supports Takes note of Transmits Trusts Urges

The resolution must start with four headings:

1. the name of the committee that the resolution is being presented in,
2. the topic that the resolution covers,
3. which member country is submitting the resolution, and
4. the words 'General Assembly' to who the resolution will be directed at. If the resolution is being debated in the Security Council, the words 'General Assembly' should be replaced with 'Security Council'.

Preambulatory clauses end with a comma. Operative clauses are numbered and end in a semi colon, with the last clause ending with a full stop.

A resolution cannot have more than 18 operative clauses, including sub clauses.

Operative clauses should be the delegate's own work, not taken from other resolutions.



The clauses should be arranged in a logical order, clearly formulated and should not repeat themselves but deal with a different aspect of the given matter.

The use of correct grammar, spelling and punctuation is important.

During debate, committees can accept amendments on operative clauses, but not on preambulatory clauses.