

# Obra D. Tompkins Model United Nations

2020 Conference Background Guide



# **Economic and Social Council**



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# **General Information**

#### **Conference Secretariat**

Sheera Wang, Secretary-General
Tori Morales, Director-General
Naren Prakash, Co-Secretary
Elleen Kim, Co-Secretary
Esther Koo, Director of Public Relations

#### **Committee Dais**

Vishi Sant, *Co-Chair*Carlos Espinoza, *Co-Chair*Joey See, *Rapporteur*Saipranav Kurapeti, *Rapporteur* 

#### **Committee Room**

TBA

## **Committee Topic**

Establishing sustainable methods to promote long lasting infrastructure in underdeveloped countries.



# INTRODUCTION

At least \$130 billion annually until 2025 is needed in order to bridge a looming infrastructure gap in Africa alone - however, the investment into Africa's infrastructure is lagging behind, at about only \$80 billion annually. Many other LDCs face the same problem (Least developed countries, or LDCs, are low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable development). In order to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 9 (to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation) this gap must be overcome. However, due to multiple factors, this isn't a simple task.

The infrastructure gap is the need for investment into infrastructure. With infrastructure having direct ties to increased industrialization, and subsequently better social and economic status for the citizens of the country, an infrastructure gap is a heavy burden countries must overcome in order to develop. For example, firms in LDCs and Developing Countries lose an estimated \$300 billion annually due to the infrastructure gap causing significant numbers of electrical outages and water shortages. These losses ensure that economic development in these countries is very low. Looking past just the finances, due to the infrastructure gap, about 663 million do not have access to clean water, 2.4 billion lack adequate sanitation, one-third of the world's population do not have sufficient road service, and over 1.1 billion people have no access to electricity. In order to ensure social and economic progression, the infrastructure gap must be filled.

However, there has not yet been a sustainable way of investing the money to do so. Funding via directly endorsing the national government with aid funds is risky due to corruption, as seen in the Chad-Cameroon Oil Pipeline project, one of many projects in which the government decided to pocket funds meant for infrastructure construction. Even in cases where this does not happen, due to faulty construction or consideration of local conditions infrastructure investments may fail and loans taken out for the construction of the given infrastructure become long lasting debt, as in the case of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. NGOs (non-government organizations) such as PIDA (Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa) are usually only limited to being those funding the projects, and cannot themselves ensure the good construction of infrastructure.

Outside of national government funding and aid funding, there is still one more source of investment possible - the private industry. The private industry could fund broad ranges of infrastructure, encourage commercial development, and bridge the investment gap. However, private industry investments currently compose only a mere 2.8% of total investment into Africa, and with good reason - investment into Africa (and other LDCs) is risky. As we've already seen with the failed aid projects, there are many risks associated with investing in Africa and other LDCs' infrastructure, and private companies aren't willing to run them.

In conclusion, LDCs around the world face a huge infrastructure gap that, with current figures, isn't going to be bridged any time soon. Due to corruption and failure to account in local conditions and social factor, aid funds can't easily be



counted on to construct proper infrastructure, and, because of the same reasons, private industry stays out too. Hence, due to the lack of industrialization and economic and social progression in LDCs, investments can't be reliably counted upon to create infrastructure to induce the industrialization and associated conditions needed to reduce risk in infrastructure investments. Unless a new, sustainable method of infrastructure development is created, the horrible socioeconomic situation for Africa's population will persist.



# **KEY TERMS**

#### Least developed countries (LDCs)

Least developed countries (LDCs) are low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable development. They are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks and have low levels of human assets.

#### **Infrastructure Gap**

The infrastructure gap is the difference between the required infrastructure and the current economic infrastructure.

#### Infrastructure Investment

An infrastructure investment is the funding of infrastructure in exchange for returns on that infrastructure's profits. Currently loosely defined in the financial (stock market) side due to infrastructure not being well developed as an asset (type of investment).

#### **Neo-Colonialism**

Neo-Colonialism is the use of economic, political, cultural, or other pressures to control or influence other states, especially former dependencies. Does not particularly pertain to the general influence of states on others, but more specifically when one gets to the point of heavily influencing another's policies.

#### **NGO - Non-Government Organization**

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is a non-for-profit, voluntary citizens' group, which is organized on a local, national or international level to address issues in support of the public good.

### **FDI - Foreign Direct Investment**

Foreign Direct investment (FDI) is investment made to acquire a lasting interest in or effective control over an enterprise operating outside of the economy of the investor.

#### **FDI** net inflows



FDI net inflows are the value of inward direct investment made by non-resident investors in the reporting economy, including reinvested earnings and intra-company loans, net of repatriation of capital and repayment of loans.

#### **FDI** net

FDI net outflows are the value of outward direct investment made by the residents of the reporting economy to external economies, including reinvested earnings and intra-company loans, net of receipts from the repatriation of capital and repayment of loans.



# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **Background:**

Ever since the end of European colonialism (a process spanning mainly from the 1945-1960), the little infrastructure built by the colonizers, along with generally unstable governments which had limited ability to construct their own, has resulted in large infrastructure gaps. Though the miracles of modern medicine has helped to increase population in a manner like that of industrialization, population in Africa rising from a quarter billion in the 1960s to 1.3 billion currently, the lack of infrastructure has ensured that economic and social growth has not followed, with conditions generally staying the same for most of the population of LDCs, as seen by the rampant poverty in the region.

The African Development Bank, founded in 1964; The International Monetary Fund, founded 1945; and The World Bank, founded in 1944 have all been unable to solve the above mentioned problem, though are still trying. Notably, a branch of the Africa Bank Group, the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) was recently founded in 2012 to address the problem. In the Asian region, ASEAN, the Association of SouthEast Asian Nations founded in 1967, aided by the ADB, Asian Development Bank founded in 1966, has a strong infrastructure fund that, alongside China's Belt and Road Initiative (also known as the One Belt One Road - OBOR -initiative)

These groups, working alongside national governments sending aid and private investors have tried heavily to construct adequate infrastructure for LDCs. The United Nations, in adopting Sustainable Development Goal 9 in 2015, has made it a goal to promote sustainable industrialization by constructing the proper infrastructure. However, as we can see, there is still a large deficit in investment into African infrastructure due to the lack of viable methods to ensure that the investments pay off - so far many have failed due to corruption and lack of accounting for local conditions and factors in the regions of infrastructure construction. This lack of sustainable methods generally agreed upon by the international community threatens to ensure that billions remain in poverty.

#### **Past UN Action:**

The UN's main action on this is the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. These include 17 universal goals to reduce poverty, ensure the health of the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity by 2030. The most important one in context to this conference will be SDG 9, promoting sustainable infrastructure and industry in order to promote development and planetary health.



#### **Future Direction:**

As delegates of the ECOSOC committee, (economic and social), it is your duty to promote the improvement of socio-economic conditions in the world. Keep in mind your country's policy, alliances, limitations, and abilities when attempting to do so. Use the information in this background guide, along with research on your country to be prepared. Use extraordinary logic, maneuvering, and thinking to bridge the infrastructure gap and achieve SDG 9, ensuring a brighter future for LDCs.

#### Where to Begin Researching:

When you start your research, keep in mind the two objectives of any MUN delegation: accurately representing the policies and goals of your member state, and cooperating with other delegations to develop new solutions for the issue at hand. Here are some questions for you to consider:

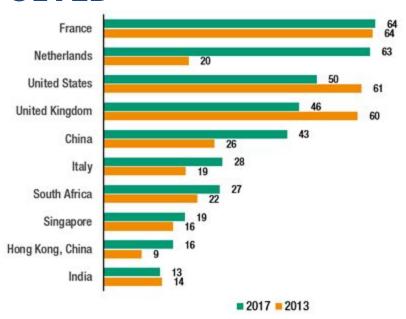
- Is your country an LDC affected by a large infrastructure gap?
- Is your country part of any major international organization dedicated to fighting the topic addressed by this committee?
- Is your country against, with, or impartial to the Democratic People's Republic of China's OBOR/BRI initiative?
- Is your country in the position to fund infrastructure in LDCs?
- What investment policies can best reduce the risk of investment into often unstable LDCs?
- What infrastructure is most necessary for LDCs?
- Is the construction of unsustainable infrastructure, even given their unsustainability, beneficial to LDCs in the large scheme of things?
- What policies can bring the private sector into infrastructure investment in LDCs?

While these could go on and on, they all stem from a couple major questions you should ask yourself:

- How can the risk of investment in LDCs be reduced?
- How can investment in LDCs be funded?
- Are initiatives like China's viable, sustainable options for investment, or are they unethical and exploitative?



# MAJOR COUNTRIES & ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED



	Country	Projects	Jobs created	Capital US\$m
	USA	463	62 004	30 855
	France	329	57 970	34 172
	UK	286	40 949	17 768
ġ.	China	259	137 028	72 235
$\geq$	South Africa	199	21 486	10 185
	UAE	189	39 479	25 278
	Germany	180	31 562	6 887
+	Switzerland	143	13 363	6 432
	India	134	30 334	5 403
ß	Spain	119	13 837	4 389

The above infographic and chart show the total FDI in billions invested by each state into Africa. While France and the U.S.A. still remain top investors, China has heavily increased investment.



Keep in mind that these investments aren't all for infrastructure - for example, portions of France's investment are militarily focused, France keeping over 4,000 troops in Africa, and do not go towards infrastructure construction.

Also to keep in mind is that China's growing power, especially in Africa is seen as a threat to some Western countries, and that the policy of those countries is heavily affected by that perceived threat - especially as its role as (outside of ASEAN and other such organizations) the main investor for Southeast Asian LDCs already show what it is capable of.

#### **Countries**

#### The Democratic People's Republic of China

China is currently the 4th largest investor in Africa - but don't let its ranking cause its underestimation. China's on the rise, its Belt and Road Initiative alone encompasses up to \$8 trillion in infrastructure investment in LDCs, causing it to be a major investor in Southeast Asian LDCs. China's methods, however, involve heavy control by China in the construction of mostly unsustainable infrastructure and are directed toward resource exploitation and transportation to facilitate given exploitation, a methodology that has led some to call China's actions neo-colonialism. This approach has also caused nations like the United States of America to be concerned by China's growing hold over its partners. Further, China's investment often ignores blatant right abuses and corrupt authoritarian governance that would prevent other countries from investing (such as in Myanmar). Some have claimed that the BRI is a debt trap, or that the BRI is a way for China to gain political clout over other countries. This political clout is best exemplified by China's new military base in Djibouti. No matter what the intent or approach though, China has made major strides towards investment in LDCs that no other country has, engaging in heavy two-way trade with LDCs in a way that most countries do not.

It should be noted that alongside ASEAN, China is the major investor in the South East Asian region LDCs - a region in lesser focus by the Western governments as a destination for aid.

#### **France**

The major European power in the region focusing on power in Africa, they have major economic and military presence in the region. The French Council of Investors in Africa (CIAN) exists as a major organization for investment in Africa; however, they focus more on health and sanitation issues than infrastructure. They currently hold the title of highest investor in Africa (though note that Africa isn't the only place in need of infrastructure), mostly in North Africa and former colonies (. They perceive China's rising influence in the region as a threat to their existing heavy influence in the region.



#### The Netherlands

An active member of the ADB, they have invested a lot of projects pertaining mostly to sanitation and water supply (these do include construction of infrastructure to achieve those goals). It should be noted that, like France, they concentrate their investments to a few countries. They invest heavily into South Africa, a former colony with a high population of Dutch Afrikaners, Nigeria, Angola, Egypt, and Libya. Note that much investment accounted to the Netherlands is actually from the multinational Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - the Netherlands' tax planning, however, makes them the best candidates to send the funds, causing the FDI to end up under the Netherlands' name.

#### The United States of America

The U.S.A.'s involvement in Africa has been more or less based off of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which eliminated taxes on certain African exports. This focus on African exports has reduced two-way trade between Africa and the U.S.A. (especially when the U.S.A.'s domestic energy production picked up and they stopped importing as much oil from Africa), and hence reduced total investment in Africa. However, as China starts to pick up investment in Africa, due to the rivalry between the two countries, the U.S. will soon be moved to respond though how is currently uncertain.

#### **The United Kingdom**

The UK has announced, in the past, its wish to become the number one G7 country investing in Africa. However, this has not panned out to be true, being around the 3rd largest investor in Africa. The UK wishes to build lasting, sustainable infrastructure to ensure Africa, and with it the world, does not suffer further future poverty.

#### **Organizations**

Note that these organizations can be used by the UN to distribute aid and funds.

#### **ASEAN**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations is an organization aimed at promoting growth and stability among members. It is envisioned to be, in a manner similar to the EU's free zones, allow easy flow of capital, uniting the region as a single



market. The Initiative for ASEAN Integration, IAI, focuses on closing the development gap in the region, is the major document driving ASEAN investment in the area, causing about \$200 billion USD of investment.

#### **ADB**

The Asian Development Bank is an organization fostering economic growth and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. They financed \$14 billion in infrastructure in 2014 and are planning to scale it up to \$20 billion in 2020. They do so in order to allow for economic growth and better sanitation/access to clean water in the region.

#### **AfDB**

The goal of the African Development bank is to spur economic growth and social progression of its member countries. They do this through financing projects and providing political advice, and adhere to the UN's SDG (sustainable development goals). It should be noted that their projects generally have less direct funding from the AfDB than projects in other regions do from their developmental organizations due to the many extenuating circumstances of its member states.



# **TIMELINE OF EVENTS**

- **1945-1960** European countries begin decolonizing Africa, often leaving behind very volatile states with little to no usable infrastructure, especially as many are left landlocked upon the settlement of new borders.
  - **1944 -** World Bank founded to combat poverty
- **1945 -** The International Monetary Fund is founded to stabilize the global economy.
- **1964 -** The African Development Bank, founded. First steps towards African regional cooperation in development and infrastructure construction.
- **1966 -** Asian Development Bank founded. First steps toward Southeast Asian regional cooperation in development and infrastructure construction.
- **1967 -** ASEAN founded. Major step towards the necessary political cooperation in the Southeast Asian region towards regional development and growth.
- **2012 -** The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) is founded by the African Development Bank to address the infrastructure gap.
- **2013 -** China's One Belt One Road initiative is started. Major investment into LDC infrastructure follows.
- **2015 -** UN Sustainable Development Goals are adopted, marking the global consensus to help patch the infrastructure gap in LDCs with sustainable infrastructure for the good of all.



# **RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND TREATIES**

#### A/RES/70/1

This resolution, adopted by the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly on 21 October 2015, establishes the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. One of these goals is to support the construction of sustainable infrastructure to defeat poverty.

#### A/RES/73/242

This resolution, adopted by the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on 20 October 2018, is a follow up on UN conference on Least Developed Countries. Included in the thoughts listed in this resolution are affirmations of the need for the infrastructure gap to be filled in these countries.

#### A/RES/71/256

This resolution, adopted by the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly on 23 December 2016, establishes the New Urban Agenda. Within this agenda, the declaration is made that the availability of sustainable and quality infrastructure to all is necessary to ensure general wellbeing.

#### A/HRC/RES/34/40

This resolution, adopted by the 34th session of the United Nations Humans Rights Council on 24 March 2017, outlines encourages the use of the Assistance Trust Fund to help Least Developed Countries. Within this agenda, the use of Funds in order to aid Least Developed Countries is endorsed in order to better the populus of aforementioned LDCs.



# **RULES AND PROCEDURES**

# **Definition of Internally-Undefined Terms**

**Main Motion:** A motion that requires Executive Session to be considered. In OTHSMUN 2020, there are two main motions: Draft Resolutions and Directives. They may be cited interchangeably in this document.

**Lincoln-Douglas Debate:** A format of debate that involves two people making an opening argument, counterargument, rebuttal and counter-rebuttal. Time restrictions are at the discretion of the Chair, or by Committee policy. This manner of debate has been introduced as an option for Executive Debate (see *Executive Session*).

**Session:** One of the two days in which OTHSMUN 2020 takes places, cited as Session I and Session II, respectively.

**Censure:** A public reprimand by the Committee against one of its members. Main Motions regarding censure are only in order at the discretion of the Chair in times of major breaches of decorum.

**Substantive Vote:** A vote taken on a non-procedural matter (i.e. a main motion).

#### The Dais

The Dais serves as they presiding entity over Committee debate. Every Committee has a Dais, consisting of a Chair and 2-3 Rapporteurs. The Chair is the presiding officer of the Committee, charged with conducting debate, answering questions related to procedure, ruling on specific procedural matters, and maintaining order in the chamber. The Rapporteurs are the Chair's aides, and are charged with facilitating note-passing, locking the doors during Executive Session voting, and ensuring the delegates have all of their physical needs met. Under OTHSMUN 2020 procedures, the Dais is immune from any in-Committee motions regarding expulsion, censure or otherwise change in the composition or duties of the Dais, including cases in which a Suspension of the Rules has been invoked.



#### **Debate Structure**

In OTHSMUN 2020, debate is not bound to a main motion, meaning that a resolution is not required for debate to take place. This means that debate is always either on the Session's Topic or a topic set for a moderated caucus. Whenever a main motion is formally submitted and approved, whether that be a resolution or directive, the manner of debate must be altered — as such, main motions may only be considered during Executive Session. Exiting Executive Session indicates that all main motions on the Docket have been considered by the Committee, and that there is no more business or debate to be had. As such, the Committee may either recess for the following Session or adjourn.

#### Decorum

As a representation of the United Nations, delegates are expected to epitomise diplomacy, calmness and productivity with their peers. During Committee, delegates may not speak to one another (unless they are co-delegates, where it must be in a low whisper). The use of profane, inflammatory and/or insensitive language, obscene gestures, influence-peddling, strong-arming, politicking and physical violence is strongly condemned by OTHSMUN 2020, and is grounds for in-Committee censure or expulsion from our Conference.

# **Note-Passing**

Due to the fact that delegates cannot speak to one another during general debate (not including unmoderated caucus), they may write notes to one another for in-Committee communication. Note paper will be provided by the Committee Dais, and requires a heading (To: RECEIVING DELEGATE - From: SENDING DELEGATE) and the note's text to be recognised for transmission. The content of the note will be verified for appropriateness by the Committee Dais, and inappropriate notes will be read aloud to the entire Committee.



# **Electronics Policy & Personal Privilege**

Delegates are welcome to utilise a non-Internet connected laptop during unmoderated caucuses. All research must already be downloaded to the laptop, and must come with offline document-writing applications (e.g. Word). Phones and smartwatches are not permitted to be used at any time during Committee, and should be left with the delegates' faculty advisor. Alterations to this Policy during Committee may occur at the discretion of the Chair.

During Committee, delegates are granted the personal privilege to: use the restroom, make a brief call to a family member, alter the room temperature (if possible) and request a Speaker to raise their voice. These privileges may be invoked via the use of a Point of Personal Privilege at any time during Committee.

#### **Commencement of Debate**

Once all delegates have entered the Committee room, the Chair will strike their gavel and call the Chamber to order. After making their opening remarks, the Chair will begin with Roll Call. During Roll Call, the delegates' country names are called out, and they are to respond with "Present" or "Present and Voting." Present indicates that they will allow themselves to abstain on substantive votes — present and voting means that they are restricting themselves to "aye" and "nay" votes. After Roll Call, the Chair will open the floor to any and all points or motions. It is at this time that delegates may raise points of parliamentary inquiry so as they may have their procedural queries answered prior to entering debate. Upon the conclusion of this period, the Chair will ask for a motion to open the Speaker's List.

# The Speaker's List

The Speaker's List is a debate construct of indefinite length that regulates the manner in which speeches are made before the Committee. Once a motion to open the Speaker's List has passed, the Chair will ask for a motion to set the Speaker's Time and allotted Points of Information (POIs). The Speaker's Time is the amount of time a recognised delegate, known as a Speaker, may



make their speech, while POIs are questions that may be asked by any delegate to the Speaker. Once this motion has passed, the Chair will ask for delegates wishing to be added to the Speaker's List to raise their placards. The delegates are added at random order, and once this period is complete, delegates will need to send a note up to the Dais requesting to be added to the Speaker's List. A delegate may not be on the Speaker's List more than once at a time. Once a delegate has been recognised, they may make their speech before the Committee until their time has expired. Upon the completion of the first Speaker's speech, the Chair will make it known to the Committee that the Dais will assume delegates are open to the set number of POIs, and that they must state whether they are not open to said POIs to not be subject to them. When the Chair has recognised a delegate for a POI, they must make it: non-prefaced, concise and singular (only one question). Speakers may choose to not respond to a POI for whatever reason. If a delegate wishes for more information, they may make a Request to Follow-Up. The granting of such a request is at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair reserves the right to add a delegate to the Speaker's List if they perceive they need to present their viewpoint to the Committee.

#### **Moderated and Unmoderated Caucuses**

Delegates may motion for a moderated caucus if they wish to have a set time of debate allocated to a specific subtopic. The moderated caucus must have a stated duration of time, time per Speaker and topic. During moderated caucus, delegates are recognised by the Chair without particular order, though the Chair may prioritise recognising delegates engaged in a substantive debate.

Delegates may motion for an unmoderated caucus if they wish to suspend the Committee rules and engage face-to-face with their fellow delegates to craft resolutions and/or debate their viewpoints on the issue. The unmoderated caucus requires only a stated duration of time. Extension motions will be entertained at the discretion of the Chair.

# **Working Papers and Draft Resolutions**

Working Papers are documents drafted by Sponsors (writers) and Signatories (supporters) that are to take the form of a resolution to present a solution to



the topic at hand. OTHSMUN 2020 requires 25% of present delegates to be either Sponsors or Signatories of a Working Paper for consideration. During unmoderated caucus, delegates may submit their working papers to the Chair for review. The Chair will ensure, among other things:

- Proper formatting, grammar and syntax
- Legal purview
- Feasibility of action
- Sufficient sponsor support

If any of these criteria are not met, the Chair will return the Working Paper to the Sponsors. If all criteria are met, the Chair will announce that the Working Paper has become a Draft Resolution, and has been added to the Docket. The Docket is a procedural device used to organise the consideration of Draft Resolutions. Draft Resolutions are added on a first come-first serve basis, and are considered in numerical order. Once all Working Papers on the floor have become Draft Resolutions, or at the Chair's discretion, the floor will be opened for motions to enter Executive Session.

#### **Executive Session**

The Executive Session is a special state that a Committee must enter to consider main motions. Once a motion to enter Executive Session has been approved, all current debate procedures, including the Speaker's List, are suspended. The Chair will call the Committee to order, and will open the floor to motions to set Executive Debate. Executive Debate comprises two methods in which to conduct debate: 2 pro/2 con speeches or 2 Lincoln-Douglas style debates on the main motion. For the purposes of simplifying procedure, the 2 pro/2 con speech format will be known as Executive Debate A, and the 2 Lincoln-Douglas debate format will be known as Executive Debate B. Delegates may motion to set Executive Debate to any of the two options on one or all of the Draft Resolutions on the Docket. Once all motions have been entertained, they will be voted upon and the set style of debate shall commence on the main motion. All Executive Debate begins with a designated Sponsor reporting the operative clauses of their main motion, and them participating in either a pro speech or one-on-one debate



with an opposing delegate. Voting shall take place at the end of each Executive Debates.

# Voting

Although relatively straightforward, voting is the most important facet of debate, for it provides the judgement of the Committee on a main motion. Voting procedures may be triggered by the Chair or by a motion to call the previous question. Once voting procedures have commenced, the Committee doors shall be locked, and will remain so until voting has ended. Voting may occur one of three manners: show of placards, roll call and acclamatory. The simplest is acclamatory — once motioned by a delegate, the Chair will ask whether there are any objections to the main motion. If none are voiced, the main motion is officially passed. The show of placards is the default manner of voting, and entails the delegates raising their placards to demonstrate whether they are for, against or abstaining from the main motion. The Dais will report the results shortly after. The final method is roll call, which requires the Chair to call the roll and for each delegate to state whether they are in favour ("aye"), against ("nay"), or abstaining. At the end of the roll call, the Chair reports the results. Due to the duration of roll call voting, it is only allowed in Security Council.

# **Adjournment**

Upon the conclusion of all voting, the Chair will ask for a motion to exit Executive Session. Once normal order has been restored, the Chair will reinstate the Speaker's List for one last speech. At the conclusion of this non-POI speech, the Chair will open the floor to any and all points or motions. It is at this time that a delegate may motion to recess debate for the following day, or adjourn debate entirely. A show of placards vote shall proceed, and all debate shall cease as the Committee has completed its business for the day.