

WASHINGTON MODEL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rules of Procedure; 2010 Edition

Note: This document is adapted from and in many cases duplicates the Rules and Procedures established by the Office of Public Information at the Organization of American States. We gratefully acknowledge their inspiration and hard work, and their support for the Washington MOAS. All references below to the Model OAS should be construed as referring only to the Washington Model OAS (WMOAS).

Article 1

The Washington Model Organization of American States General Assembly (WMOAS) is a simulation of the General Assembly, which is the supreme organ of the Organization of American States. The WMOAS is conducted under the auspices of the Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas (IDDA).

Article 2

English is the official language for all proceedings of the Washington MOAS. The WMOAS General Assembly may differ from other real world procedures at the OAS as well, in order to maximize learning opportunities for students participating, or for other practical considerations.

I: Participants

Article 3

Each OAS member state will be represented by one university country delegation. On occasion, the Coordinator(s) may provide an opportunity for a “hybrid” delegation, one in which one Member State is represented by a delegation of students from different universities.

Article 4 - Delegations

Each university country delegation shall consist of ten delegates. There may be an additional member who will serve as the Public Relations Officer. Any WMOAS officers from previous sessions may accompany the delegation. Each delegation must include a Faculty Advisor from the university sending the delegation.

Article 5 - Head Delegate

Each university country delegation shall have a Head Delegate, who shall be responsible for the general conduct of his/her delegation, so that his/her country may be represented at the Model in a coherent and consistent manner. The Head Delegate shall have the authority to assign duties to any member of the delegation. The Head Delegate will represent the delegation on the General Committee.

Article 6 - Public Information Officer

Each university country delegation is also entitled to have a Public Information Officer, who shall have free access to all committee sessions, though he/she shall have neither the right to speak nor vote. His/her duties can include contact with the local media to disseminate information about the Model OAS General Assembly and the participation of his/her school in this event.

Article 7 - Observers

Universities may be allowed to attend the Model as Observers, without vote, voice, or eligibility for election. Observer delegations shall be bound by the Rules of Procedure for the Model.

Temporary observers and guests may be credentialed by the Coordinator(s) at the request of Faculty Advisors.

Article 8

Members of delegations from observer universities should be familiar with the Rules of Procedure, in the event that an opportunity to participate directly should occur during the Model. Observer delegations may choose to maintain their observer status if they wish, however.

Article 9 - Credentials

The Head Delegate of each country shall report to the Registration Desk at the designated arrival time and place in order to receive his/her delegation's credentials and other registration material.

Article 10 - Order of Precedence

The Order of Precedence of delegations for the Model session shall be established by lot, at the Inaugural Plenary Session of the Model.

Article 11

The Order of Precedence shall be used for:

- Determining the Vice-Chair of each Committee, in the case of the absence of either the elected officers (Article 16);
- Determining the order in which a Committee's Business Items are introduced in Committee sessions, subject to variances that may appear in subsequent Articles; and
- Ordering the seating of delegations in Plenary and Committee sessions.

II. Officers

Article 12 – Officers of the Model

The President, Vice-President, Secretary General, and Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Committees are considered Officers of the Model for the purposes of these Rules of Procedure.

Rapporteurs and Vice-Rapporteurs are considered part of the Secretariat, and are responsible to the Secretariat and the Coordinator(s).

Article 13 - Powers of the President

The President of the Model shall:

- Convoke the Plenary Sessions;
- Decide on the order of business thereof;
- Open and close the Plenary Session;
- Moderate discussions;
- Recognize the speakers in the order in which they request the floor;
- Submit points under discussion to a vote and announce the results thereof;
- Rule on points of order;
- Ensure parliamentary order; and
- In general, comply with, and enforce, the provisions of these Rules of Procedure.

The President is Chair of the General Committee and shall have voice but not vote. The President shall be part of the student representation team, which will assist the Coordinators and the Faculty Council in preparing future WMOAS General Assemblies, and shall have the opportunity to work with the Secretary General in assisting the Coordinator(s) in the operation of the WMOAS General Assembly, when appropriate.

Article 14 – The Vice-President

The Vice-President of the Model shall:

- Work closely with the president in the tasks outlined in Article 13, and serves as Vice-Chair of the General Committee;
- Function as Acting President of the WMOAS in the case of temporary absence of the President, and will become President of the WMOAS in the case of a permanent absence of the President.
- Will work closely with the Secretary General and the Secretariat to help ensure that the WMOAS General Assembly functions successfully.
- Shall be part of the student representation team, which will assist the Coordinators and the Faculty Council in preparing future WMOAS General Assemblies.

Article 15 – Secretary General

The Secretary General of the Model:

- Shall participate with voice but without vote in the deliberations of the Model OAS General Assembly;
- Shall work in close cooperation with the Coordinator(s) and the Model OAS General Secretariat Staff and President in order to ensure that proceedings run smoothly and efficiently, and will offer remarks at the General Assembly's Closing Ceremony;
- Will work closely with the Coordinators in the management and operation of the WMOAS General Assembly Communications Center.
- Will assist the Coordinator(s) in situations regarding the absence of any of the Officers of the Model.
- Shall be part of the student representation team, which will assist the Coordinators and the Faculty Council in preparing future WMOAS General Assemblies.

Article 16 – Replacing Officers

In the case of the absence of any elected officer of the Model, the following procedures shall be followed:

- In the case of Committee Officers, if the Chair should be vacant, the Vice-Chair will assume the position of Chair. If the Vice-Chair should be absent, the Order of Precedence will be used to choose a new Vice-Chair. A Delegate chosen to be Vice-Chair through this process may choose to remain as a delegate and not assume the position of Vice-Chair. If there have been three such decisions not to accept the position of Vice-Chair, the choice of Vice-Chair falls to the Coordinator(s).
- In the case of the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair of a Committee, the Coordinator(s) will appoint a Chair and then use the Order of Precedence steps described above to fill the position of Vice-Chair;
- In the case of the permanent absence of the Secretary General, the Coordinator(s) will appoint a suitable person for this position.

III. Committees

Article 17 - Committees

The Washington Model OAS General Assembly has the following standing committees:

- General Committee (formed by Head Delegates);
- First Committee (Juridical and Political Affairs);
- Second Committee (Hemispheric Security);
- Third Committee (Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities and Inter-American Council for Integral Development – CIDI); and
- Fourth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Affairs).

The Chair and Vice-Chair of each committee are elected according to procedures

described in subsequent Articles. Rapporteurs and Vice-Rapporteurs are selected by the Coordinator(s) from among students nominated for these positions by Faculty Advisors.

Article 18

Each university country delegation is entitled to have two delegates in each committee. The two delegates will work at the same level of responsibility on different agenda topics, with the exception of the General Committee (Article 19). Each delegate may allow the other to debate in his/her absence or when the other is particularly qualified to speak on the issue under consideration, but only one delegate from a country can debate an issue at a time. Delegates may not switch places while a Proposed Draft Resolution is on the floor, but may do so during caucus or recess. If a delegate leaves his/her seat during debate, he/she may not return until the Proposed Draft Resolution has been voted upon. In session, communication among delegates is limited to written notes.

Article 19

In the General Committee, the two delegates will be designated as the Head Delegate and the Alternate Head Delegate. The same debate rules apply as in the previous Article. However, duties differ on some situations of governance of the Model and in nominating officers, as provided in other Articles.

Article 20

The General Committee shall be comprised of the Head Delegates and Alternate Head Delegates. The President of WMOAS shall be the Chair of the General Committee, with voice but without vote. The Vice-President of the WMOAS shall serve as Vice-Chair of the General Committee, and shall replace the Chair according to Article 14.

Article 21

The General Committee shall see that the work of the Model and its committees proceeds according to the Rules of Procedure. It shall also decide upon matters that may be referred to it by other committees. The Chair, Vice-Chair or any delegate on the General Committee may move to refer a matter to the General Committee. The motion to consider a matter referred to the General Committee requires a two thirds majority for approval.

Article 22

The First, Second, Third, and Fourth committees shall be composed of representatives of the member states participating in the Model. Each of the committees shall have a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Rapporteur, and a Vice Rapporteur.

Article 23

The Committee Chairperson shall have, as appropriate, the same power as those indicated for the President of the Model in Article 13.

Article 24

The Vice-Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence and will be entitled to chair at least one full session of the committee, and is encouraged to chair more than one session with the chair's concurrence. In the event of a temporary absence of an elected Vice-Chair, the vacancy shall be filled by a delegate on the committee from the next country in the Order of Precedence (Article 16). Each delegation may establish its own internal procedure for determining which of the two delegates would assume the role of Vice-Chair. A delegate who becomes Vice-Chair via the Order of Precedence procedure will not serve as a delegate representing a member state, but as Vice-Chair.

Article 25

The Rapporteur and Vice-Rapporteur:

- Shall keep accurate records of all committee business, including attendance and roll call votes.
- Shall work closely with the Secretariat to help maintain an electronic record of committee proceedings.
- Shall perform additional duties described in the Rapporteurs Guide.

Article 26

The committees shall consider the agenda topics approved during the inaugural plenary session of the WMOAS. Committees may not change the agenda as adopted by the Plenary Session. The Coordinator(s) may adjust Committee agendas, as described in Article 41.

IV. Sessions and Meetings

Article 27

The WMOAS General Assembly will simulate the activities and sessions of the OAS General Assembly, and will hold the following sessions:

- An Inaugural Plenary Session;
- Committee sessions;
- A second Plenary Session, for the election of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary General for the next session of the WMOAS General Assembly;
- A third, Closing Plenary Session; and
- A Closing Ceremony

Plenary sessions of the Model OAS General Assembly require full participation of delegations. Delegations must be present for the Inaugural Plenary and cannot depart prior to the Closing Ceremony. Certificates of Participation presume participation throughout the entire schedule of the General Assembly.

Article 28

WMOAS General Assembly sessions are open to properly accredited delegates, alternates, observers and staff, and to other accredited individuals as described in Article 7.

V. Agenda

Article 29

The Agenda of the Inaugural Plenary Session of the Model OAS General Assembly shall include the following (in order):

- Opening statement by the President of the WMOAS General Assembly;
- Establishment of the Order of Precedence of delegations, by lot;
- Reaching agreement on the Plenary Session's Modus Operandi;
- Additions to, or deletions from, the Draft Agenda; and
- Adoption of the agenda.

Article 30

Approval of the motion to adopt the agenda or to change it in any way requires a two thirds vote of the member states represented at the Model.

Article 31

The first committee session of each of the Committees shall have as its order of business the following topics (in order):

- Opening statement by the Committee Chair;
- Introduction of the Committee Officers and staff (Vice Chair, Rapporteur, Vice Rapporteur, Technical Secretary, and OAS Consultant(s));
- Brief comments by OAS Consultants on matters pertaining to the committee's agenda topics and functioning;
- Agreement on the committee's particular Modus Operandi; and
- Such other procedural matters deemed appropriate by the Committee Chair.

Article 32

The second and subsequent committee sessions of each of the Committees shall be for the purpose of considering Items of Business (Article 41). The Coordinator(s) may designate specific committee sessions for specific tasks, and this will be seen in the Program. Generally, business is conducted according the Order of Precedence. The Chair will attempt to establish a schedule so that delegates will know when debate on specific resolutions will begin.

Article 33

All resolutions approved by committees (other than the Fourth Committee) that wholly or

in part require the use of funds from the OAS budget must also be approved by the Fourth Committee, by a two thirds majority vote. All such resolutions (revised for amendments, if necessary), shall be turned into the Committee Chairs at the beginning of specific committee sessions as designated in the Program; Chairs will present these to the Secretary General for referral to the Fourth Committee.

The Fourth Committee will follow the same procedures for consideration of these Proposed Draft Resolutions defined in Article 50. However, Fourth Committee delegates are not bound by the co-signatures of their counterparts in the other committees, as they seek to prioritize initiatives presented to them by other committees and creatively consider feasible funding for them.

Article 34

The agenda of the last session of each Committee shall include, in addition to other pending business as determined by the Chair:

- Election of the Committee Vice-Chairperson for the next session of the Model General Assembly (except in the case of the General Committee);
- Election of a Committee Chairperson for the next session of the Model OAS General Assembly (except in the case of the General Committee);
- Closing remarks by the Chairperson.

Article 35

The Second Plenary Session shall be for the purpose of the election of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary General of the next WMOAS General Assembly.

Article 36

The closing plenary session of the General Assembly shall be for the express purpose of adopting or rejecting all resolutions approved by committees during their sessions. Declarations and courtesy resolutions may be introduced directly at this plenary session.

Article 37

The closing ceremony shall include:

- Remarks by the Secretary General of the General Assembly and/or other invited speakers;
- Presentation of the officers for the next MOAS General Assembly;
- Remarks by the Coordinator(s) of the General Assembly; and
- Other procedural and ceremonial matters as deemed appropriate by the Secretary General, in consultation with the Coordinators.

VI. Debate and Procedure

Article 38 - Quorum

A majority of the registered delegations representing member states of the WMOAS shall constitute a quorum at the Plenary Sessions and committee meetings of the WMOAS General Assembly. In order for a vote to be taken, two thirds of the registered delegations must be in attendance at Committee Sessions or Plenary Sessions.

The Quorum may be adjusted only by the Coordinator(s), who may judge that the business of the WMOAS General Assembly might be negatively affected by any situation reducing the number of delegations in attendance at the Model.

Article 39

At the start of each Plenary and Committee session, the Chair will call the meeting to order, and the Rapporteur will call the roll to determine attendance, consistent with Article 25. Delegates who arrive after the roll call has been completed must be recognized by the Chair before the delegation may take part in the proceedings.

Article 40 – Items for Committee Business

Items Submitted for consideration in committee sessions at the WMOAS shall be in the form of Proposed Draft Resolutions (PDRs) or White Papers. Each registered delegate at the WMOAS General Assembly may introduce one item to be considered in committee: either a Proposed Draft Resolution or a White Paper. If a delegation submits two items in one committee, the two items must focus on different agenda topics. [Note: for the 2010 WMOAS General Assembly, the option of submitting a White Paper is reserved for Delegates who are members of the General Committee.]

Article 41 – General Committee Business

From time to time the General Committee may be tasked with an immediate crisis confronting the hemisphere, which will require the Committee's attention. The crisis and its method of introduction will be determined by the Coordinator(s) and the Chair of the Faculty Council, in consultation with the President, Vice-President and Secretary General.

When informed of the crisis by the Coordinator(s) and the Chair of the Faculty Council, the Secretary General will convey the particulars of the crisis to the President of the Model. The President will immediately call the General Committee to convene itself as the Permanent Council with the President of the Model presiding. The President and the Permanent Council will confront the crisis according to the provisions of the Charter of the OAS and the Inter-American Democratic Charter, if relevant. The President will make timely reports to the Secretary General of the progress of the Permanent Council in resolving the crisis who will inform the committees of the General Assembly. The President, The Secretary General, the Coordinator(s), and at least one member of the Faculty Council shall meet to develop an appropriate schedule for the General Committee's work on the crisis, in light of other scheduled work already on the agenda.

Article 42 – Submission and Organization of Business Items

Proposed Draft Resolutions and White Papers shall be presented via steps outlined by the Coordinators. This will include an opportunity for electronic submission of PDRs prior to the convening of the General Assembly. Delegates will also have the opportunity to present Proposed Draft Resolutions during the General Assembly, following procedures outlined in the Program.

All Proposed Draft Resolutions and White Papers must be available in electronic format, regardless of when they are initially presented by delegates. PDRs cannot be debated in committee sessions unless they have been approved by Faculty Review and have been made available to the Secretariat in an appropriate electronic form.

All submitted and approved items, whether Proposed Draft Resolutions or White Papers, are organized into three packets:

- The Electronic Packet will consist of all approved White Papers and all Proposed Draft Resolutions approved by the faculty review process prior to the General Assembly.
- The Working Group Packet will consist of all Proposed Draft Resolutions designated for the Working Group procedure, consistent with Article 45.
- The Washington Packet will consist of all other Proposed Draft Resolutions, including those submitted in Washington during the General Assembly, those submitted electronically after the deadline for electronic submission, and those not revised and approved during the electronic review process prior to the General Assembly.

Article 43 – Review of Proposed Draft Resolutions

In order for a Proposed Draft Resolution (PDR) to be considered for Faculty Review, it must conform to all of the following items:

- The PDR must deal specifically with a topic on the agenda of the committee in question;
- The PDR should be faithful to, and consistent with, the country's official position.
- The PDR must conform to the stylistic standards of the WMOAS General Assembly. The Coordinator(s) will provide the standard proposal format. Proposals that do not comply with the proposed format will be automatically rejected; and
- The PDR must be approved by the Faculty Advisor for form and substance and forwarded to the Faculty Review panel by the Faculty Advisor.

During the period of electronic review of Proposed Draft Resolutions, items may be rejected by a single faculty reviewer. Rejected PDRs may be resubmitted, consistent with the Program of the General Assembly, while delegates are in Washington. In the case of PDRs submitted in Washington (for the "Washington packet"), rejection of a PDR shall require the decision of two faculty reviewers.

Article 44 Consideration of Proposed Draft Resolutions

During the General Assembly in Washington, PDRs approved for the Electronic Packet will be considered by Committees only if:

- The paper copy is identical to the electronic version approved during the review

- process;
- The paper copy bears the signature of the Faculty Advisor; and
 - The PDR bears the signatures of at least five (5) delegates representing at least five (5) delegations, other than the proponent's, indicating commitment to support the proposal as originally presented.

Article 45 – White Papers (General Committee Only in 2010)

A White Paper is a submission that includes all of the following: 1) general research on one topic of the Committee agenda for the General Assembly, 2) an explanation of the position of the member state the delegate is representing at the General Assembly, and 3) any additional information on the agenda topic that the delegate deems would help the Committee in its deliberations on Proposed Draft Resolutions on that agenda topic.

A White Paper shall not require any vote or debate, but will include a proponent statement as well as a Question period.

Article 46 – Review of White Papers

In order for a White Paper to be considered in Committee, it must be submitted via the electronic submission process prior to the General Assembly, for Faculty Review, consistent with the provisions in Article 43. White Papers not approved during the Faculty Review process prior to the General Assembly may be submitted for consideration for the Washington Packet, according to the schedule in the Program.

Article 47 – Presentation of White Papers

All White Papers in the Electronic Packet will be presented in Committee Sessions prior to any Proposed Draft Resolutions on the Committee's agenda. White Papers will be presented by delegations following the Order of Precedence, starting with all delegations that have submitted a White Paper on the first agenda topic, and then all delegations that have submitted a White Paper on the second agenda topic, and so on, until all White Papers in the Electronic Packet have been considered. Presentation and debate on Proposed Draft Resolutions shall begin after all White Papers have been presented.

White Papers in the Washington Packet will be presented following the same guidelines, but only after all Proposed Draft Resolutions in the Electronic Packet have been presented or withdrawn, and after PDRs in the Working Group Packet have been presented or withdrawn.

Article 48 – Working Groups

After Proposed Draft Resolutions are submitted, they will be reviewed by a WMOAS Faculty reviewer. At the discretion of the faculty reviewing the PDRs, two or more PDRs may be considered similar enough in content that they be combined into a single PDR, to be prepared by the delegations that had submitted the original PDRs, organized as a "Working Group."

The resulting Proposed Draft Resolution will now be co-sponsored by at least two, and perhaps more, delegations. PDRs produced by a Working Group require a total number of signatures equal to at least six delegations: that includes the members of the Working

Group, who are the co-sponsors, plus enough other co-signatories to total at least six member states.

Working Group Proposed Draft Resolutions, once prepared by the delegations, shall be signed by a Faculty Advisor and reviewed by a Faculty Review Panel during the Model.

Article 49

Delegates assigned to a Working Group may not re-submit their original individual Proposed Draft Resolution. The members of the Working Group will select the primary presenter for the PDR. The Chair of the Committee, only in the case of Working Group PDRs, may allow another delegate member of the Working Group, at the request of the primary presenter, to respond to questions during the Question period. This shall not affect the overall limit on questions, as described below.

Article 50 – Consideration of White Papers and Proposed Draft Resolutions

Committees considering White Papers shall follow these steps:

- formal presentation of the White Paper, including the proponent statement (Article 48);
- a Question period (Articles 49 and 50); and
- an acknowledgment by the Chair of the presentation of the White Paper.

Committees considering Proposed Draft Resolutions shall follow these steps:

- formal presentation of the PDR, including the proponent statement (Article 48);
- a Question period (Articles 49 and 50);
- Optional inquiry concerning Consensus (Article 66);
- Establishment of a Speakers List (Article 51);
- Debate, including any amendments;
- a Vote on the PDR, either in its original form or as amended; and
- an announcement of the results of the Vote, with adoption or rejection of the PDR.

Article 51 – Presentation of Business Items in Committee Sessions

An item is formally presented to the Committee in the following manner:

1. The Chair reads the title of the Item;
2. In the case of Proposed Draft Resolutions, the Rapporteur reads the Operative Clauses in the PDR;
3. The Chair automatically recognizes the proponent of the Item to be considered; and
4. The proponent presents a statement to the Committee. The proponent's statement should deal directly with the Item being considered.

Article 52 – Question Period

Immediately following the proponent statement, the Chair will recognize delegates who

may wish to ask questions concerning the Item under consideration. All questions must pertain specifically to the Item, and must be of an informational nature and must not be an attempt at debate. All questions must be made in the form of a question. All questions and answers must be conducted through the Chair, or they will be ruled out of order.

Article 53 – Limiting Questions

On all Items considered by the Committee, the number of questions during the Question Period is limited to three, not including “follow-up” questions that might be permitted at the discretion of the Chair. Other than permitted “follow-up” questions, no delegation may ask more than one question during the consideration of a Proposed Draft Resolution or White Paper. During the Question Period, any delegate may move to limit the number of questions or to end the question period immediately. This procedural motion must be approved by a two thirds vote.

Article 54 - Speakers List

After the Question Period, a Speakers List will be opened for discussion of the proposal being considered. Speakers will be identified as being in favor of the proposal or against the proposal, for purposes of balancing the debate.

Article 55 – Delegate Recognition

No delegate shall address the body without the approval of the Chair. The Chair shall call on member states in the order in which they signify their desire to speak, to the extent possible when there are many simultaneous requests. The Chair shall call the delegate to order if the remarks made are not relevant to the subject under consideration, or if the speaker has exceeded the allotted speaking time. If speaking time remains at the conclusion of a speech, the delegate may yield their remaining time only to the Chair.

Article 56 - Motion to extend Speakers List

Once the Speakers List has been exhausted, the Chair, Vice-Chair, or any delegate may move to extend the speaker's list. This procedural motion will be subject to a majority vote by the committee, unless the Chair observes that there is no objection to extending the Speakers List.

Article 57

Delegates who have spoken on prior Speakers Lists may be recognized to speak on subsequent Speakers Lists, however priority will be given to delegations who were not recognized on prior speakers lists. Sponsors of proposals may also participate on any subsequent Speakers Lists.

Article 58 - Points of Order

During the discussion of a topic, any delegate may raise a point of order, to address a procedural error immediately. The Chair shall promptly act upon points of order. Any delegation may appeal the Chair's decision, in which case the appeal shall be put to a

simple majority vote. While raising a point of order, a delegate may not discuss the substance of the Item under discussion; rather, the delegate's point must focus on the perceived procedural error.

Article 59 - Suspension of Debate

The Chair, Vice-Chair, or any delegate may propose suspension of debate on a Proposed Draft Resolution. This motion, if approved, tables the PDR, without a vote or conclusion of the Speakers List. A Motion to suspend debate is debatable: only two delegations may speak in favor of, and two against, this procedural motion, which then shall be put to a simple majority vote.

Any tabled Proposed Draft Resolution may be reconsidered subsequently, via a Motion to Take Item From Table, which requires a Second, is not debatable, and requires a Majority Vote.

Article 60 - Closing of Debate

At any point in a debate, the Chair, Vice-Chair, or any delegate may propose that debate be closed. This procedural motion, if approved, ends debate, and the Committee moves to an immediate vote on the matter being considered. A Speakers List on the motion to close debate shall be limited to two delegates who wish to speak against the motion to close debate. This Speakers List may not be extended. This procedural motion shall be declared approved if voted for by a two thirds majority of the member states.

Article 61 - Amendments

At any time during the consideration of the proposal, a motion may be made to amend it by a delegate on the Speakers List speaking against the Proposed Draft Resolution. The text of proposed amendments must be submitted to the Rapporteur in legible writing, or printed, on an Amendment Form. Action on an amendment must be completed before the proponent of the amendment can use his or her allotted time on the Speakers List for speaking on the Proposed Draft Resolution. If the amendment fails, the delegate may continue to use his or her time allotted on the Speakers List.

Article 62

A motion shall be considered to be an amendment to a proposal only when it constitutes an addition to, or deletion from the proposal, or changes part of the proposal. A motion that would totally change the original intent of the proposal or that is not directly related to it may not be approved for form and substance, at the discretion of the Chair.

When the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the exclusion of another, as determined by the Chair, the latter shall not be put to consideration or a vote.

Article 63 – “Friendly Amendments”

All amendments must follow these procedures. No "friendly amendments" are permitted.

Article 64 - Withdrawal of Items and Amendments

The proponent of an Item, an amendment, or a procedural motion may withdraw the Item, amendment, or motion before it has been put to a vote. Any delegation may re-introduce an Item, an amendment, or a procedural motion that has been withdrawn. In the case of Working Group Proposed Draft Resolutions, any motion to withdraw or to re-introduce the PDR must be a consensus motion of all co-sponsors.

Article 65 - Reconsideration of Decisions

Delegates may move to reconsider earlier votes in any committee or in Plenary Sessions. If there has been a roll call vote on the earlier question, a motion to reconsider can be made only by a delegation that has voted in the affirmative in the roll call vote. Motions for the reconsideration of decisions must be approved by a 2/3 vote.

Article 66 - Suspension or Adjournment of the Session or Meeting

During the discussion of any topic, the Chair, Vice-Chair, or any delegate may propose that the session or meeting be suspended or adjourned.

- A motion to suspend session recesses the current meeting for an amount of time specified by the proponent of the motion.
- A motion to adjourn ends the committee session until the next scheduled meeting.
- This procedural motion shall be put to a simple majority vote immediately and without discussion.
- A committee may suspend session for the purpose of a moderated caucus, during which delegates remain seated and the Chair will operate under the terms of the motion approved for said purpose.

Article 67 - Order of Procedural Motions

Motions shall have precedence in the order set forth below from highest ranking to lowest:

- Suspension of the session;
- Adjournment of the session;
- Suspension of debate to table the topic under consideration; and
- Closure of debate on the topic under consideration.

VII: Voting

Article 68 - Right to Vote

Each delegation shall have the right to one vote.

Article 69 - Majority Required; Consensus Voting

In both the Plenary Session and in the Committee Meetings, decisions shall be taken by the vote of a majority of the member states registered for the Model, except in those cases in which these Rules of Procedure may provide otherwise. On matters of procedure, after

a motion has been made and seconded, the Chair will ask if there are any objections. If there are none, approval will be understood; if there are objections, a vote will be taken.

During the consideration of any Proposed Draft Resolution, at the conclusion of the Question Period, the Chair shall ask if there is any opposition to approving the PDR "by consensus." If there is objection, the Committee will proceed to the creation of a Speakers List, and the normal procedures will be followed (Article 50).

Article 70 - Voting on Proposed Draft Resolutions

After debate is closed, the Proposed Draft Resolution being considered, along with any approved amendments, shall be put to a vote immediately, assuming the presence of a quorum (Article 38). PDRs shall be voted upon in the order in which they are presented. PDRs are approved by a majority vote.

Article 71 - Voting Procedure

Votes shall be taken by a show of placards, but any delegation may move for a roll-call vote, which shall be automatically granted, using the Order of Precedence of the delegations, established at the Inaugural Plenary Session. Votes shall be taken by secret ballot only in the cases and in the manner provided for in the Rules and Procedure. No representative may interrupt the voting, except for a Point of Order relating to the manner in which the voting is conducted. The voting shall be considered terminated when the Chair has announced the results.

Article 72

When taking a vote by a show of placards, the Chair shall ask for "those in favor," "those opposed," and "abstentions." When named in a roll call, a delegate shall answer "yes," "no," or "abstain."

Article 73 - Voting on Amendments

When several draft amendments to a proposal are presented, the consideration and vote of each draft amendment shall be taken in the order in which they were proposed. All delegations, regardless of their status as co-sponsors or co-signatories, may vote in favor of draft amendments. The adoption of an amendment to a proposal releases cosignatories from their obligation to vote in favor of the proposal. A simple majority is required to approve draft amendments.

Article 74 - Voting by Parts

Prior to the vote on any PDR or amendment that contains several parts or Operative Clauses, any delegation may move for Voting by Parts. If the Chair perceives no opposition to this procedural motion, he or she will proceed to conduct the vote by parts. If there is opposition, the procedural motion will be put to an immediate vote, without debate. The procedural motion to vote by parts is approved by a simple majority.

If voting by parts is accepted, each operative clause of the proposal shall be voted upon

individually, in order. The resulting PDR or amendment, which will consist of operative clauses approved by majority vote, shall be put to a final vote. When all the parts of a PDR or amendment have been rejected, the PDR or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Article 75 - Explanation of a Vote

After the voting on a draft resolution or amendment has ended, any delegate may request the floor -- via a Point of Order – in order to give a brief explanation of the delegation's vote. If a delegation has abstained, it must explain its vote. The Chair shall use discretion in limiting time spent on explanation of votes.

Article 76 – Completion of an Item

When debate and voting are completed on a Draft Resolution, the Chair shall announce the next Item of Business to be considered. Immediately after that announcement, there shall be an interim caucusing session, to last no longer than three minutes. During the interim caucus session, delegates will remain in the committee's meeting room. At the conclusion of the caucus session, delegates will return to order immediately, to begin the discussion of the announced Item of Business.

VIII: Elections

Article 77

The Second Plenary Session shall be scheduled prior to the Closing Plenary Session for the express purpose of electing the President, Vice-President, and Secretary General for the subsequent session of the WMOAS General Assembly. These officers shall serve for the duration of the Model session for which they have been elected.

Article 78

Elections of officers of the Model OAS General Assembly shall be by secret ballot, except when officers are elected by acclamation, which shall happen only if there is but a single candidate for a position.

Article 79 – Multiple Ballots

If no candidate obtains the vote of a majority of the member states on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken. The second and any subsequent ballot (due to tie votes) shall include only the two candidates with the largest number of votes on the first ballot. For purposes of elections, the “majority” is the number established at the beginning of the General Assembly.

Article 80 – Certifying Candidacies

Only registered participants (observers excluded) may be candidates for the elective offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Any Candidate for these positions must obtain the support of at least

five delegations, in addition to his/her own delegation, for the nomination to be valid. A delegation may support only one candidate for each office; however, signing a nominating petition for a candidate does not bind a delegation to vote for the candidate in question.

In order to be a candidate for any elected position in the subsequent WMOAS General Assembly, participants must affirm in writing to the Coordinator(s) that they will be able to, and will, attend the subsequent WMOAS General Assembly, and that they will prepare themselves to undertake the duties of the position to which they wish to be elected.

Article 81 – Nominating Signatures

Only Head Delegates may sign nominating petitions for President, Vice-President, and Secretary General, and they may not sign more than one for each office. Each delegation must designate one delegate (either delegate or alternate) to sign nomination petitions and vote for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the committee to which they have been assigned. That designee may not sign more than one nominating petition for each position.

Article 82 – Candidate Presentations

Nominated candidates shall be allowed to make a three minute presentation of their views and qualifications.

Article 83 – Term Limits

Elected officers may not run for a second term for the same office at the following session of the WMOAS General Assembly.

IX. Documents for the Model OAS General Assembly

Article 84

All delegations, as part of their preparation for the model, shall be responsible for obtaining all documents relevant to their Proposed Draft Resolutions, White Papers, and other research. As soon as possible after the conclusion of the General Assembly, the Coordinator(s) of the model will provide will provide electronic access to a final document containing the work of each Committee during the WMOAS General Assembly.

X. Responsibilities of Participating Institutions

Article 85- Registration Fee

Each participating institution shall ensure prompt payment of the Registration Fee established by the Faculty Council of the Washington MOAS.

Article 86 – Faculty Advisor

Each participating institution shall appoint a member of its faculty to serve as advisor to the prospective student delegation, preferably an individual versed in Inter-American affairs and the functioning of international organizations, particularly the OAS. The advisor shall be the focal point of contact for the institution, the student delegation, and the Coordinator(s) of the Model.

Article 87

The Faculty Advisors shall accompany their respective student delegations to the WMOAS General Assembly sessions, and are responsible for the ethical conduct of their delegations and for the following of the rules of conduct determined by the WMOAS and the OAS, in alignment with the rules of the meeting places.

Article 88 - Delegates

Faculty Advisors shall select student delegations sufficiently in advance to permit proper preparation for the Model, choosing as participants individuals enrolled in subject areas with a relationship to Inter-American affairs, for whom participation in the WMOAS can prove useful for their academic development.

Article 89 - Preparation

Faculty Advisors should take an active role in all phases of preparation for the Model, scheduling and attending discussion sessions, assigning research topics to individual students, monitoring the progress of their efforts, and stimulating them to work as a team. The quality of the proposals presented by the delegations clearly reflects the quality of work of the Faculty Advisor.

Article 90 – Academic Credit

Faculty Advisors shall seek to ensure that student delegates receive academic credit for participation in sessions of the WMOAS General Assembly.

Article 91 – Attendance and Notification of Absence

Faculty Advisors should ensure that their student delegations attend all officially scheduled conferences, meetings, and ceremonies for the entire duration of the Model. Should conditions make it necessary to leave any event early, the Coordinator(s) of the WMOAS General Assembly must be notified immediately.

Article 92 – Faculty as Observers

Once the General Assembly session has begun, Faculty Advisors shall assume the role of observers, confining advice and comments for delegates to venues outside of Committee and Plenary sessions. Advisors and faculty assigned as Technical Consultants (Article 93) to committee sessions shall avoid direct participation in proceedings, except in an emergency, or at the request of the Committee Chairperson, or, in his or her absence, the

Vice-Chairperson, or the Rapporteur or Assistant Rapporteur.

A member of the WMOAS Faculty Council shall be assigned overall responsibility for each Committee for the purpose of responding to questions on the Rules of Procedure and for the purpose of observing the behavior of Faculty Advisors regarding their status as “observers,” as described in this Article and others. Officers of the Model may discuss faculty behavior with the member of the Faculty Council at any appropriate moment.

Faculty Advisors shall not address any Committee at any time, nor speak with their delegates during debate and other formal proceedings. Concerns that may arise during the General Assembly should be addressed to the Coordinator(s), or to the Faculty Council representative for the Committee. Faculty Advisors shall not address Committee officers during formal sessions, nor express concerns to officers except in the presence of a member of the Faculty Council and/or the Coordinator(s).

Article 93 – Technical Consultants; Review Panels

During the Model, the Coordinator(s) will ask faculty advisors to serve on Review Panels evaluating Proposed Draft Resolutions, to assist at committee sessions, and other such duties, as needed. Faculty Advisors are asked to fulfill these duties as Technical Consultants, to help ensure that the Rules of Procedure are followed by all participants.

Article 94 – Post-Model Briefing

Upon returning to their respective institutions, Faculty Advisors should meet with the student delegations to evaluate the meeting in terms of the participation. The Coordinator(s) and the Faculty Council will welcome suggestions and observations.

Article 95 – Evaluating Student Performance

If students earn academic credit for courses connected with participation in the WMOAS, it is recommended strongly that grades be based, at least in part, on a combination of the student’s written work and on the student’s performance at the Model. It is recommended that judgment should not be based on the number of Proposed Draft Resolutions accepted or the number of White Papers presented or the number of times the delegate speaks in committee sessions, but on preparation before the Model, and on "staying in character" during the Model. It is recommended that students be graded on their efforts to reach consensus in the committee.

Article 96 – Archives

Faculty Advisors shall be responsible for maintaining a permanent OAS reference library composed of background materials or other materials generated by earlier sessions of the WMOAS.

Article 97 – Accommodations

Faculty Advisors should ensure that student reservations for accommodations are made as far in advance as possible and in accordance with the guidelines established by the hotel that hosts the General Assembly.

XI: Awards

Article 98 – Awards

During each WMOAS General Assembly, awards shall be presented in each Committee to the delegation that proposed the “Best Proposed Draft Resolution.” The award will be based solely on the content of the PDR, and not on its presentation, debate, or disposition.

Faculty Reviewers shall nominate, to the Coordinator(s) at least two or three Proposed Draft Resolutions from the Electronic Packet. The Faculty Review Panel for each Committee may nominate additional PDRs from those submitted as part of the Working Group Packet or the Washington Packet. The nominated PDRs will be voted upon by the members of each Committee’s Faculty Review Panel. The identity of PDRs nominated for these awards shall be kept anonymous and not publicized during the Model, except as provided below.

During the Model’s Closing Ceremonies, the Coordinator(s) will award Certificates acknowledging the winner of the Best PDR award for each Committee. Other nominated delegations will be mentioned verbally at the closing ceremonies.

XII. Adjudication of Rules Disputes

Article 99 – Adjudication of Disputes

For purposes of the adjudication of disputes concerning the Rules of Procedure, the Coordinator(s) shall meet with at least one member of the Faculty Council and decide by majority vote any dispute presented to the Coordinator(s).

XIII: Changes to the Rules of Procedure

Article 100 - Governance

The WMOAS is governed by the Coordinator(s) and a Faculty Council. The Coordinator(s) shall be considered member of the Faculty Council, with full voice and vote in that group’s deliberations.

- The Coordinator(s) shall have final authority over the day-to-day operation of the Model when the WMOAS General Assembly is in session, and shall prepare materials and administer policies to ensure the efficient operation of the Model, included but not limited to the authority and duties described in these Rules of Procedure in other articles. The Coordinator(s) is/are appointed by the Executive Board of the IDDA, consistent with its Bylaws.
- The Faculty Council shall be responsible for the overall design and operation of the WMOAS General Assembly -- in addition to specific duties and responsibilities described in these Rules of Procedure in other Articles. The Faculty Council shall consist of five members, chosen from among the Faculty Advisors attending the Model, and elected during the annual Faculty Advisor

- Business meeting during the Model (and Coordinator(s) appointed by the Executive Board of the IDDA). The elected Council members shall serve terms of two years, and shall be elected on a staggered basis. The members of the Faculty Council shall elect a Chair from among their members. The Faculty Council shall meet during the Model and to the extent possible, at least one time during the summer months.
- The Executive Council shall consist of the Coordinator(s) and the Chair of the Faculty Council, and shall exercise authority in the case of tie votes or emergency situations.

Article 101 – Changing the Rules of Procedure

Proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure of the WMOAS shall be submitted to any member of the Faculty Council and/or to the Coordinator(s) of the Model. If possible, proposed changes will become part of the agenda of the Faculty Advisor business meeting during the General Assembly, in order to provide an opportunity for discussion for all Faculty Advisors.

Authority to change the Rules of Procedure rests with the members of the Faculty Council, subject to the approval of the IDDA Executive Board and provisions of the Bylaws of the IDDA, the sponsoring organization.

Any changes in the Rules of Procedure shall be communicated to all Faculty Advisors and made available electronically as soon as possible after the completion of the General Assembly. Normally, no changes in Rules of Procedure shall be implemented within six months of the next General Assembly.