

**TAMOAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
GUIDELINES FOR DEBATE**

ADOPTING THE MODUS OPERANDI

The “Guidelines for the Debate of Resolution” listed below can be adopted as the Modus Operandi of each committee. The only changes that each committee chair may propose are:

- The number of speakers on the “Speaker’s List”
- The order in which the speakers in defense and against the resolution will speak
- The time allowed for each speaker
- The number of questions allowed
- Time allowed for questions

The Chair proposes the committee’s modus operandi, which may be amended by motions from delegates and decided by simple majority. The modus operandi as a whole will be voted in by a simple majority.

For election guidelines, please refer to the *TAMOAS Rules of Procedure*. A short form listing the applicable Parliamentary Procedures is included at the end of this packet.

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEBATE OF RESOLUTIONS

1. The Rapporteur reads the number of the resolution to be debated, its title, the proponent country or countries, the co-signatory countries, and the operative clauses.
2. The Chair recognizes the proponent and gives him/her the floor.
3. The proponent has **three (3)** minutes to present his/her proposal.
4. The Chair opens the floor for questions which are directed to the proponent through him/her. Up to **three (3)** questions may be asked.
5. The Rapporteur draws a Speaker List of **six (6)** speakers: **three (3)** speakers in favor and **three (3)** speakers against the resolution.
6. The speakers will speak in a rotating order (one in favor, then one against, etc.). Each speaker can speak for a maximum of **two (2)** minutes.
7. **Three** questions can be asked to each speaker as points of information. These are directed through the chair at the end of each presentation. There shall not be loaded or otherwise inappropriate questions. It is the chair’s decision whether or not to call a question out of order. If a delegate cannot rephrase the question, the debate will resume and the remaining questions will be asked.
8. If necessary, any delegation or the committee chair may propose to extend the speaker’s list by no more than **two** speakers for and/or against. This motion requires a second and will immediately be put to a vote without debate. Result is decided by simple majority.

9. The List of Questions may also be extended through the same procedure. It cannot be extended by more than **two** questions.
10. The proponent of the resolution is allowed to have a short 30 second rebuttal after the speaker's list has been exhausted.
11. Once debate has been exhausted, the committee moves immediately to a direct vote. This requires no motion. When the chair announces the results they become official and definitive.
12. Co-signatories are obligated to vote for a proposal unless it has been amended.
13. Should any delegation wish to explain their vote, they may ask the chair for permission. Up to **three** delegations may present an explanation of their vote for no more than **one** minute each, without debate.
14. A motion may be made at any time to close debate and move to a direct vote. Such a motion requires a second and will be decided by a **two-thirds majority**. If there is any objection, it may be challenged by up to **two** speakers against and supported by the delegation that made the motion. Each speaker has **one** minute.
15. A motion may also be made to suspend debate and put the resolution aside indefinitely. This also requires a second and will be decided by simple majority. If it is objected, the motion may be debated by up to **two** speakers for and against; each speaker has **one** minute.
16. Topics may be added from the floor. Any such topics must be addressed in the Inaugural Plenary Session during the agenda adoption. Additional topics require a 2/3 vote of delegations to become part of the agenda and will only be considered following the adoption of the draft agenda of topics. Once the agenda is adopted, with any additional topics that may be presented, in the Inaugural Plenary, the agenda stands throughout the debate and may not be further amended. Resolutions based on topics not on the draft list of topics may be caucused, but will not be accepted for debate until such time as the topic is added to the agenda during the Inaugural Plenary. Please refer to Section VII, Articles 31-33 of the *TAMOAS Rules of Procedure*.

AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments are submitted in writing to the chair and must be legible and to the point. If an amendment is illegible, it will not be accepted.
2. Amendments cannot alter the intent of the proposal. Use extreme caution with regards to the content of the amendment and what it proposes to change. Amendments that simply edit a resolution are fine, and may be put to a direct vote.
3. In order to submit a proposed amendment the delegate who submitted it must be on the speaker's list **against** the resolution.
4. Co-signatories may not submit amendments.
5. Amendments take precedence over any other business of the committee.

If an amendment is deemed acceptable, the procedure is as follows:

1. Amendments take precedence, therefore, as soon as the proposed amendment is in the hands of the Chair, the committee finishes whatever business it is involved with and moves on to address the amendment.
2. If a speaker on the Speaker's List is presenting his/her argument, the committee will listen to the presentation and once finished, the amendment will be addressed. Consequently, the Speaker's List will be interrupted.
3. The rapporteur reads the amendment to the committee.
4. The proponent of the amendment has **two** minutes to speak.
5. A speaker's list is drawn with **two** speakers for and **two** against the amendment. Each has **two** minutes.
6. **Three** questions may be asked to the proponent; **two** questions to all other speakers.
7. When debate is exhausted, the committee moves immediately to a direct vote on the amendment, which is decided by a simple **majority**.
8. No explanation of votes is allowed, in the interest of time.
9. Should more than one amendment be submitted, each will be addressed in sequential order. After one amendment has been voted upon, then the next one will be addressed.
10. If an amendment passes, the original speaker's list shall be redrawn and the co-signatories of the original proposal shall be released of their voting obligation.
11. If an amendment is rejected the rapporteur will read the names of the remaining speakers on the original Speakers List and debate will resume.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

1. Should a delegate exceed the allotted time limit during debate, he/she will be notified by the Chair and will be allowed to wrap up his/her speech.
2. During caucusing, or if a session ends early, delegates need to show consideration for the other committees that may still be in session and keep noise levels low at all times. All fully caucused resolutions must be submitted to rapporteurs of the designated committee.
3. At the Inaugural Plenary Session, the head delegates (in General Committee) of each country are allowed **two (2) minutes** to give an opening statement. Please refer to the *TAMOAS Rules of Procedure* for further information
4. During debate, all delegates should refrain from using personal pronouns.
5. All delegates should be familiar with all the pertinent documents, topics, and the *TAMOAS Rules of Procedures*. Any questions regarding protocol or procedures must be addressed to the respective committee chair.

TAMOAS General Assembly Parliamentary Procedures Short Form

Art	Motion	Purpose	Interrupt	Second	Debatable	Vote
Parliamentary Points						
77	Point of Order	To address procedural error	Y	N	N	N/A
79	Point of Personal Privilege	To address immediate physical needs; heat, noise	Y	N	N	N/A
78	Point of Inquiry ¹	To ask a question about procedure to Chair	Y	N	N	N/A
49	Point of Information ²	To ask a question about a speech to a speaker	N	N	N	N/A
Procedural Motions (in Order of Precedence)						
81	Suspend Meeting	To close meeting for caucus, lunch or break	N	Y	N	1/2
81	Adjourn Meeting	To close meeting until next scheduled mtg. time	N	Y	N	1/2
63	Suspend Debate (Table)	To table proposal or amendment	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
25	Refer the Issue	To refer proposal to Gen. Com. for consideration	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	2/3
64	Remove from Table	To take from Table	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
65	Close Debate	To end debate & vote on resolution or amendment	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	2/3
66	Previous Question	To end debate & vote on all the matters (R & A)	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	2/3
77	Appeal the Chair ³	To object / appeal decision of Chair	N	Y	N/A	1/2
43	Change Order of Agenda	To change the agenda topic order	N	Y	N	2/3
55	Extend Speakers' List	To limit /extend total length of debate	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
49	Extend Questions' List	To allow for more Points of Information in debate	N	Y	N	1/2
54	Set /Change Speaker's Time	To specify speaker's debate time initially	N	Y	N	1/2
72	Divide the Question ⁴	To vote on substantive proposal separately in parts	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
48	Introduce Resolution	To bring up resolution / proposal to floor	N	Y	N	N/A
56	Introduce Amendment	To delete, add, change parts of proposal	N	Y	N	N/A
75	Reconsideration ⁵	To reconsider a proposal passed or failed	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
Other Rules and Motions						
43	Adopt Agenda	To adopt agenda as is	N	Y	N	1/2
32	Set /Change Order of Agenda	To set or change the agenda for topic discussion	N	Y	2+ / 2 -	1/2
70	Roll Call Vote	To demand roll call vote instead of placard vote	Y	Y	N	N/A
37	Call for a Quorum	To determine number of delegations present	Y	N	N	N/A
80	Right of Reply ⁶	To reply to comments of other members	N	N	N	N/A
44	Set the Modus Operandi	To set time and agenda during General Assembly	N	Y	N	2/3
<i>If speaking time remains at the conclusion of a speech, the delegate may yield in one of the following ways:</i>						
Yield to the Chair		The delegate forgoes any remaining time.				
Yield to Questions		The delegate is open to Points of Information.				
Yield to Another Delegate		Remaining time is given to another delegate to make comments.				
Yield by Making a Motion		Speech concludes with a motion, remaining time is forfeit, and committee must consider the motion.				

1. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may interrupt the speaker only if it concerns the issue before the committee.
2. Point of Information is used if the speaker has yielded his/her remaining speaking time to questions.
3. To appeal the Chair's decision, the Appellant must voice immediately following the decision.
4. The motion to divide is not in order once voting begins.
5. This motion is in order only when made by a delegate from the prevailing side.
6. The Right of Reply is in order only when the request is first submitted to the Chair in writing.