**Suggested Position Paper Format**

Position papers serve as an evaluation of the students’ research on their topics. After students have gathered information about their country and the issue, they write a position paper to synthesize their research in order to express their country's policy on the issue.

Position papers allow delegates to organize their ideas and aid in formatting and representing a country's policy. It is important not only to include the right information in a position paper, but also to organize it correctly and use the right kind of language. Delegates should avoid overly complicated language, and keep writing diplomatically. String together simple facts and ideas to convey a point rather than using vague language. Don't forget to cite your sources to show where you found your facts and statistics.

Students often forget to make suggestions for possible resolutions, which can leave them at a loss for ideas when they finally arrived at the conference. A good position paper will make a great introductory speech, will include ideas for resolutions, and will help you stick to your country's policies during debate.

Positon papers often can consist of any number of paragraphs depending on the organization of the writer. It is often easy to think of a position paper as three paragraphs, just one page, as opposed to a daunting paper. However, each position paper should follow the general format as outlined below.

**Appropriate Heading:**

Name of Country:

Name of Committee:

Name of Topic:

**First Section: Opening Statement (3-4 sentences)**

1. *Why is this topic important for the committee to address?*
2. *Why does your country care about this topic in general?*
3. *How does your country justify its beliefs on the issue?*

**Second Section: National and International Actions (6-10 sentences)**

1. *Is the topic an issue in your country?*
2. *What actions has your country taken to address the issue on a national level*
3. *Have government officials spoken on the issue or passed legislation? Include prominent quotes and relevant documentation.*
4. *Can you find any statistics that back up your country's position on the topic?*
5. *Has your country address the issue on an international level?*
6. *What international conventions and resolutions has your country supported?*

**Third Section: Recommendation for Action (3-4 sentences)**

1. *What issues with your country like to address and your committee's resolution?*
2. *What recommendations were your country made to the International Community to address this problem?*