



**41st Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools
December 12-14, 2022**

MODUS OPERANDI

The 41st Model OAS General Assembly for High Schools will take place from **December 12 to 14 , 2022** in a **virtual format**.

Prior to the MOAS, students will work on their position papers and General Statements. Position papers are due by **December 5th** and must be emailed to moas@oas.org.

During the MOAS, students will meet in their assigned Working Groups to draft their resolutions with the guidance of the OAS expert. Following the drafting of resolutions, students will debate and vote upon the draft resolutions in their respective Committees.

It is critical for MOAS Authorities and all delegates participating in the MOAS to have a thorough understanding of the [Rules of Procedure](#).

Delegations and Committees

Delegations will be composed of three (3) student delegates. Students will be assigned to one of **3 different Committees** (1 delegate per Committee):



The professor in charge of the delegation will choose the Chief of delegation (Art. 7), and the delegate for each committee (Art. 8).

The country will be assigned once the delegation has met all registration requirements.

PRIOR TO THE MOAS

Working Groups

Delegates will be distributed by the MOAS Team (once country assignments have been provided) into two (2) working groups per Committee.

Refer to the Working Group Flowchart on page 7 of this document for more details on working group procedure.

The Working Group Leader will be charged with leading the delegates assigned to his/her Group and sending the draft resolution to the MOAS Team.

The MOAS Team will help identify a Working Group Leader for each Group. The Leader will have specific functions and responsibilities. The Working Group Leader will participate in a training session.

Working Group Leaders - Responsibilities

The Working Group Leader will be selected prior to the Model based on experience and participation of the school in previous Models and will oversee the discussions within their respective working group. Working Group Leaders are expected to:

- a. Attend the mandatory training session. This will be hosted by the MOAS Coordination Team.
- b. Ensure that every delegate in their working group participates in the preparation of the draft resolution.
- c. Attend a meeting with the MOAS Coordination at the end of the first day of the MOAS.

- d. Moderate meetings in the Working Groups.
- e. Oversee the selection of a Secretary who will have the responsibility of taking notes and typing the draft resolutions in Word format.
- f. Ensure that the draft resolution is in Word Format and is sent to the MOAS Coordination Team: moas@oas.org no later than **December 13, 2022**.
- g. Present the resolution to their respective Committee.

Draft resolutions procedure

- a. Delegates in the Working Groups will draft one resolution with the support of the OAS Expert. This draft resolution must include all the proposals from the delegates, and must have between 4 and 6 operative clauses and a corresponding preamble;
- b. The draft resolution will be typed by the Secretary, read, and discussed in its entirety for its approval at the Working Group level. The [List of Reading Material](#) and the [Instructions for Drafting Resolutions](#) provided by the MOAS Coordination as part of the preparation documents, are key for this process;
- d. The resolutions issued by each of the Working Groups will be reviewed by the OAS Expert before being sent to the MOAS Team;
- e. Once the recommendations and/or changes suggested by the OAS Expert have been incorporated, **the draft resolutions must be forwarded by the Working Group Leader to the Committee Secretary and the MOAS Team (moas@oas.org)**;
- f. Each Working Group leader will present the draft resolution to their respective Committee. Any delegate from the Working Group can answer questions during the debate of its resolution.

Topics

Each Committee will be assigned two (2) different topics as seen in the [Agenda of Topics](#). Each Working Group will address its assigned topic and formulate a draft resolution.

DURING THE MOAS

During the Model, students will meet in their assigned Committees to debate the draft resolutions.

Debate of Resolutions in the Committees

In each Committee, the draft resolution proposed by the delegates in each Working Group will be debated. This process will be carried out by the Chair following the “Instructions for Debate”, Articles 49 -56 of the Rules of Procedure.

Draft resolutions will be shared on the screen by the Committee Secretary.

The debate of each draft resolution will be conducted as follows:

- a. The Committee Secretary reads the title, the countries presenting it, and the operative clauses. *(The Committee Secretary will share his/her screen, open the draft resolutions in Word and make any necessary amendments);*
- b. The working group leader presenting the proposal offers a speech to introduce the draft resolution to the Committee. The working group leader will have three (3) minutes to offer a speech to introduce the proposal.
- c. The Chair opens the floor for intervention by delegates, who can ask questions, offer comments (either for or against the resolution), or propose amendments. **If time is limited**, only three (3) questions and four (4) comments will be allowed, two (2) in support of the resolution and two (2) against and three (3) amendments;
- d. The Committee Secretary drafts a speakers list of the delegations that have requested the floor;
- e. The Chair gives the floor to the speakers as they appear on the List. However, in order to provide continuity to the debate, the Chair may alter the order of the speakers in the list to conclude the discussion on a given clause. Once that discussion is finished, the next speaker will have the floor;
- f. When applicable, the Chair calls for a vote on the proposed amendments;
- g. The Chair calls for a vote on the proposal being debated (as amended or as originally presented);
- h. The Chair announces the result of the vote, determining whether the proposal has been approved or rejected.

Refer to the Debate Flowchart on page 8 of this document for more details on debate of resolutions in the Committees.

Amendments

If a delegate wishes to propose an amendment to a draft resolution, he/she must be on the speaker's list to present a motion to amend the resolution. A motion for amendment is acceptable only when it adds, eliminates or changes part of a draft resolution; if the motion seeks to totally replace the original proposal or is not directly related to the point made in the resolution, it is not considered to be an amendment and cannot be accepted. The Chair will decide on this matter. Amendments must be sent via chat to the Committee Secretary who will inform the Chair and proceed to read the amendment.

Points of Order

During the discussion of a topic, any delegate may raise a point of order to immediately address a procedural error. A point of order does not apply to a matter of substance during a debate. The Chair must urgently act upon points of order. If any delegate appeals

a point of order, this motion needs to be seconded in order to proceed to voting procedure. The vote of the majority will approve the motion as appealed.

Voting Procedure

Each country delegation has the right to one (1) vote.

One of the main goals of the MOAS exercise is that the delegates reach consensus through negotiation and compromise. If this is not possible a vote will be taken.

Majority means the vote of half of the delegations present plus one (as a minimum). In certain cases, as specified in these rules, a two-thirds (2/3) majority will be required.

When calling for a vote on a motion or resolution, the MOAS President and Chairs will ask ***“if any delegation objects”*** to the issue being debated. If no delegation raises its hand, then the motion or resolution will pass by **consensus**. If even one delegation raises its hand, the Committee must enter into voting procedure.

During the vote, the Chair will ask for “those in favor,” “those opposed,” and “if there are any abstentions.” With the assistance of the Committee Secretary, the votes will be tallied and announced by the Chair.

Elections of MOAS High School Authorities for 2023

Elections will be conducted during the 41st Virtual MOAS, except when authorities are elected by acclamation. Elections by acclamation occur when all the delegates vote in favor of the candidate. If a delegate opposes the candidate, the winner will be determined by majority vote.

Only registered participants may be candidates for elective office (Secretary General, President, Committee Chair and Vice Chair) of the Model OAS General Assembly.

A candidate must obtain the support of four (4) delegations in addition to his own delegation for the nomination to be valid. Candidates must not have more than five (5) signatures on their nomination form. A country delegation may support **only one (1)** candidate for each office. However, signing a nominating petition for a candidate does not bind a delegation to vote for that candidate.

Candidates are allowed to make a three (3) minute presentation about their qualifications for the position for which they are running.

Candidates originating from any of the Preparatory Committees may run for the position of Secretary General as long as they have the support of the Chiefs of Delegation (in the General Committee) on their nomination forms.

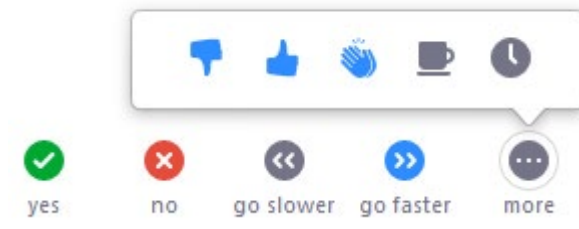
Only Chiefs of Delegation may sign nomination forms for President and Secretary General, and they may not support more than one (1) candidate for each office.

In cases when only one person is to be elected and no candidate obtains the vote of the majority of the Member States on the first vote, a second and, if necessary, a third round of votes will be taken. The second round is limited to the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes during the first round.

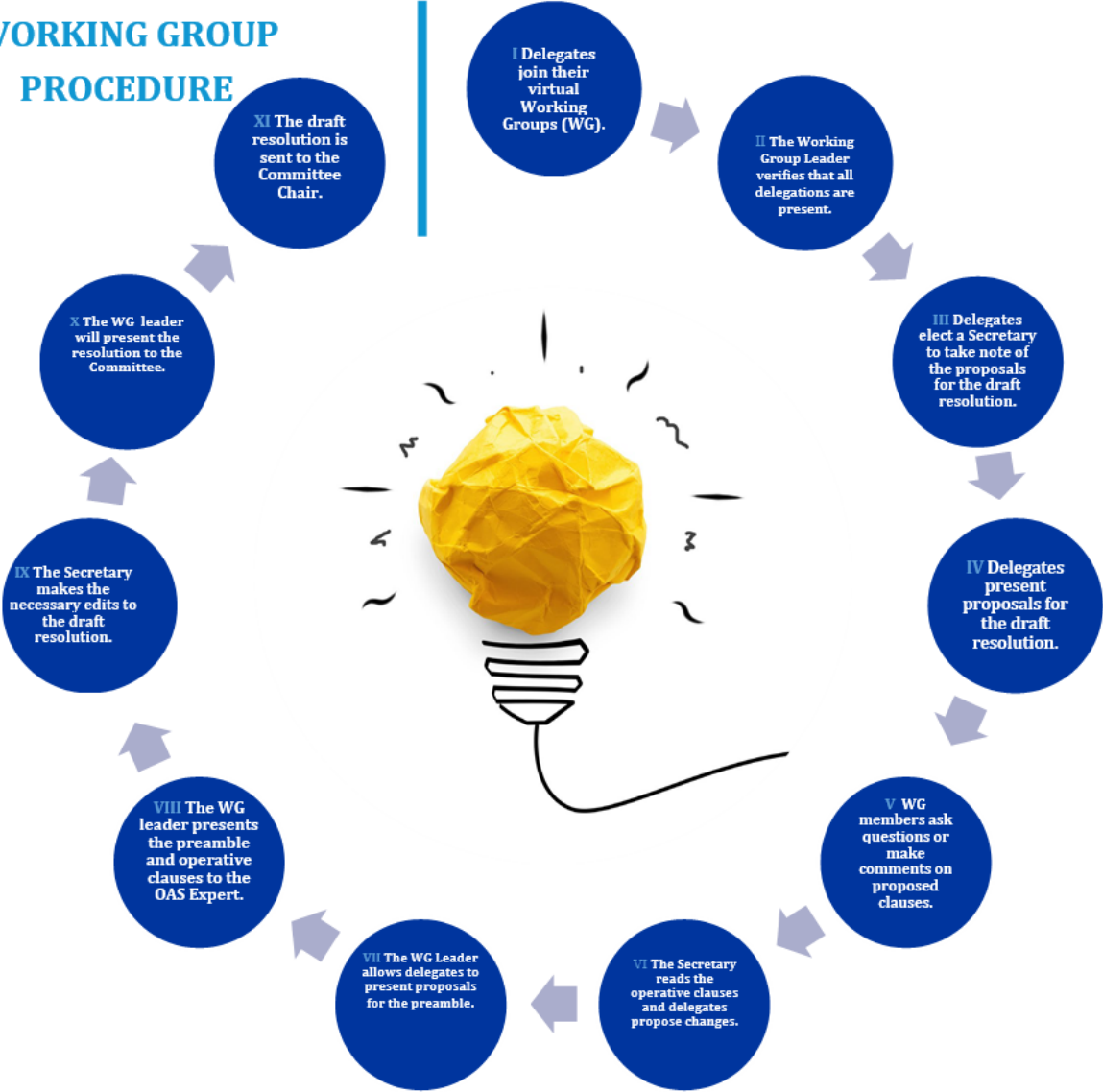
Voting on the Zoom Platform

To vote on a motion or resolution:

1. Click the *chat* button;
2. View the different options for non-verbal feedback located at the bottom of the chat pop-up window;
3. To vote IN FAVOR, click the green button that says YES;
4. To vote AGAINST, click the red button that says NO;
5. To ABSTAIN, click “more” and choose the thumbs down icon.



WORKING GROUP PROCEDURE



DEBATE OF RESOLUTIONS IN THE COMMITTEE

