

NIRAMUN High School Conference Position Paper Guidelines

The culmination of your hard work as a delegate is first manifested in your position paper. It brings together the information that you have learned from your background guide and your individual research on your country. Once you have collected this information, it is up to you to analyze your country's viewpoints and develop a statement of policy toward the specific issue as framed by the background guide. In this process, you should identify the major themes of each topic and link them to your country's unique identity and situation.

In addition to helping make sense of the research process, position papers also demonstrate your preparedness to the staff and your fellow delegates. Not only do they represent an integral part of the conference, but also position papers are an important starting point for the caucus process. After finishing your position paper, you should have a clear vision of how your country would like to set the agenda order and reasons to back up your decision.

In summary, position papers are designed to be a brief, but clear statement of your delegation's policy on the given committee agenda topics. They are intended to help you organize your ideas and bring a focus for your work at the conference. Position papers should be well researched and true to the historical foreign policy of delegation. When composing position papers delegates must include:

- A clear and concise position/statement of policy on each of the given agenda topics
- Recommendations/suggestions to improve each of the situations described in the background guides

Delegates *can* include:

- New information regarding the country's history with the issue
- Endorsed conventions and/or resolutions
- Quotes taken from speeches by heads of government/ country documents
- Any other pertinent information

Your paper should develop these three building blocks:

1. Your country's current position

2. Your country's history relating to the issue

3. Areas for negotiation/recommendations for change

Where can I find research on my country's position?

- 1) Relevant documents:
 - The UN Charter
 - UN Millennium Development Goals
 - The Universal Declaration on Human Rights
 - Relevant U.N Treaties or International Declarations
- 2) Statements by prominent UN Officials or Politicians from your country
- 3) Country's that might have a similar position as your own on the issue.
 - What alliances or groups is your country a member of? Do those countries agree or disagree with you on this issue? Why?
 - These groups may be based upon geography, circumstance or other commonality. Some suggested examples of groups are: NATO, OPEC, G-77, and G-8.

How is my Position Paper different from my papers for class?

Position papers are intended to be persuasive, but also present a unified tone comparable to what is found in most UN style writing. It may be helpful for you to review documents conceived by the current and former Secretaries-General, UN documents, and documents composed by your country. What tone does your country use when speaking to this issue? This should be reflected in your position paper. Remember also to use academic word choice and sentence structure.

Format Specifications:

- **NO LONGER THAN 1 PAGE PER TOPIC (for this conference there is only one topic).**
- Single spaced
- Text in 12 point Times New Roman Font
- Title Heading:
 - 12pt Times New Roman Font, Centered
 - The first line should contain only the full name of the representative nation (e.g The United States of America)
 - The second line should be skipped
 - The third line should state "Positions for (*your committee*)" (e.g. Positions for the Un Security Council)
 - A line should separate the header from the main body text
- Topic Headings:
 - 12pt Times New Roman Font, Aligned Left
 - Number each topic with Roman Numerals
 - Each topic heading should state the title of the agenda topic
 - Skip one line between headings and body text
- Indent each new paragraph and do not skip lines between paragraphs.
- Citations are optional, but if used should be footnoted and formatted using MLA style.

Sample Position Paper:

The Federative Republic of Brazil

Positions for United Nations Population Fund

I. Advancing Human Rights through Comprehensive Sex Education

The Federative Republic of Brazil (Brazil) recognizes the need for the promotion and implementation of comprehensive educational programs on an international level in order to advance the health and safety of the global community. Brazil seeks to call attention to the adverse consequences experienced in places where sex education is not promoted. Brazil advocates the implementation of global programs, especially in developing countries, in an effort to advance the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG) before the 2015 deadline. Brazil realizes that the promotion of comprehensive sex education programs would especially promote and target three of the MDGs, including the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women, the improvement of maternal health, and the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS.¹ Brazil acknowledges its approximately 630,000 inhabitants currently living with HIV and affirms the prioritization of developing educational programs to prevent not only the domestic spread of HIV, but also the global proliferation of sexually transmitted diseases.²

Brazil reaffirms the Programme of Action, which was established at the 1994 International Conference of Population Development (ICPD).³ Many of the goals set forth in the Programme of Action maintain close parallels to the United Nations MDGs, including maternal health and the empowerment of women, and therefore, Brazil is actively taking part in promoting programs that will accomplish these goals. The Brazilian government firmly supports the statements made by Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Brazil's ambassador to the United Nations, on March 17th, 2014, which call for the establishment of gender equality as a human right, aided by the development of comprehensive sex educational programs.⁴

The Brazilian government strongly advocates the establishment of a protocol that would enable other countries to develop programs and organizations in tandem with their respective governments. These programs, set in place by governments with the aid of various intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations, would advance the quality of sexual and reproductive health services and develop educational and training programs, starting at the lowest levels of education. These programs would promote gender equity and responsible sexual behavior, in order to further prevent the spread of HIV. The establishment of a protocol would mandate that all signing members develop clinical and educational programs. Also, various nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), like Brazil's Davida, an NGO which works to promote the betterment of workers within the prostitution industry and also to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS, would be encouraged to aid in the promotion and advancement of the aforementioned programs.⁵ For areas of the world that do not have the financial capacity to adopt said measures, a special United Nations Population Fund endowment will be set aside for the purpose of being utilized to establish and develop the appropriate institutions and programs within these developing countries. The protocol would also establish a global taskforce, comprised of volunteers from member countries, which would act to manage the distribution of endowment funds and oversee the implementation of sex education programs and the improvement of healthcare facilities within member countries. The endowment would be mandatorily funded by member states with fully functioning economies, as determined by the global taskforce. The endowment would also be funded by an annual stipend from the United Nations, with the amount being determined every year by a vote of the General Assembly. The three levels of enforcement that this protocol would establish, then, would be first on the local, NGO promoted level, followed by a country's respective national enforcement, and lastly overseen by the global taskforce implemented by the protocol. The adoption of the protocol(s), such as the one advocated above, would lead to the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS and the promotion of maternal health and gender equality, all MDGs which would greatly advance the overall health and physical security of individuals on an international level.

¹ <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

² <https://data.unfpa.org/docs/bra>

³ <http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2009/chartbook.pdf>

⁴ <http://icpdbeyond2014.org/whats-new/view/id/100/brazil-embraces-gender-equality-as-a-human-right>

⁵ http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/90000/1/9789241506182_eng.pdf?ua=1

II. Strengthening International Response to Crisis Migration and Human Mobility to Encourage Economic Development

The Federative Republic of Brazil (Brazil) recognizes the complex relationship between crisis migration, human mobility, and economic development. The movement of vast numbers of citizens has effects, which are interwoven with a variety of security, human rights, and development issues. In some situations, migrants are forced to flee persecution or violence, while in other areas immigration is caused by economic insecurity. The challenges faced by different groups of migrants also vary, from outright xenophobia and racism, to human trafficking and human rights violations. Brazil further acknowledges that the committee must work to provide security to migrants moving across sovereign borders, especially where emergency situations have caused instability and lessened the ability of member states to provide security and safety. The end goal of this committee should be the establishment of protocols which not only further the protection of migrants but also work towards the realization of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

Brazil supports the continuing efforts of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants and the Committee on Migrant Workers. Brazil strongly supports the work of these and other organizations to collect data on migrants, as this data provides member states with insights as to the causes and consequences of migration and what specific needs should be addressed by our body.⁶ This data collection also provides us with information that can be used to prevent crisis migration and to be more fully prepared for such movement of people in the future. Further, Brazil believes the key to the collection of data is how the information provided is used to develop the necessary instruments for alleviating the litany of issues surrounding crisis migration. A fundamental goal of such efforts must be to ease the impact on all states affected by crisis migration and population shifts, especially in the developing world as these states are often without the proper resources to deal with these issues.⁷ Brazil looks forward to working with member states to further develop the use and collection of data on migration.

Brazil also emphasizes the protection of women and children who are migrating throughout the world for economic or security reasons. Brazil strongly believes that this body has a role to play in designing instruments to protect the human rights of individuals from the horrors of sex-trafficking, slave labor, and discrimination. Part of the solution thus rests on achieving the mitigation of these practices through economic and social development. In order to encourage economic development for migrants and for the international community as a whole, we must first secure the human rights and dignity of migrants, especially of those most-at risk.

Brazil believes that these migratory issues could be addressed by the United Nations Population Fund through the creation of a specific funding operation, created for the sole purpose of financing respective intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), most of which are already in existence. These organizations include the Global Migration Group (GMG), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Program (WFP), and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will oversee the dispersal of funds by creating a specific financing plan for all of the organizations receiving these special funds, and each year a new financial plan must be drawn up by the UNHCR. The General Assembly must vote annually to approve each yearly financial plan constructed by the UNHCR. This funding operation should be supported by all financially able members of the United Nations, since all members will be receiving benefits from these organizations, in order to stabilize the migratory effects that nations experience in times of financial turmoil or political crises. A member state's ability to contribute to this funding operation will be determined by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on an annual basis. Brazil firmly believes that the establishment of this financial operation will enable specific organizations, created for the purposes of stabilizing and providing security in the face of mass migrations, to effectively carry out their mandates, leading to an international system where mass migratory transitions are smooth, allowing individuals to assimilate within foreign societies without pain or violence.

⁶ <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Migration/SRMigrants/Pages/SRMigrantsIndex.aspx>

⁷ <http://www.un.org/en/ga/68/meetings/migration/>