

## FMUN Position Paper Guidelines

A position paper is a brief overview, which clearly outlines the delegate's strategy vis-à-vis the committee issues and the country that is being represented. They are used by the committee chairs to measure the degree of readiness of the committee but also allow delegates to have a preliminary outline for their research.

A position paper is not required, but recommended for all delegates. Here are a few guidelines that will allow you to build your position paper.

1. All position papers must have a minimum length of 1 page and a maximum of 2 pages. The typing must be in "Times New Roman" at 12 point.
2. Properly identify your position paper. On the top left corner, write which country you are representing and on the top right corner identify the name of your school. It is not necessary to put your name anywhere because you will be known throughout the conference as your country's name rather than your own.
3. Write the name of your committee at the center and italicize it. It is important for the conference staff to be able to readily identify each one and give it to the appropriate dais.
4. Number the topics and write the topic title in bold and center it.
5. The actual body of the paragraphs on the topic should contain the following elements.
  - A general sentence clearly stating the country's position.
  - An elaboration of the position (may include quotes from the UN charter, agreements the country has ratified or any other international document which might be relevant to the topic).
  - References to the country's past experiences with the topic if applicable.
  - And a conclusion restating the position on the topic.
6. Always remember that the use of the first person should not be used when discussing a position. Use such expressions as: "our government", "our country", "our nation", the country name etc.
7. Here is a sample position paper for your reference.

*Delegation from*

**Indonesia**

*Represented by*

**Tallahassee Community College**

*Position Paper for the United Nations Development Programme*

Around the many nations of the world today, there are millions struggling to get by under bleak conditions far removed from the conditions present at this assembly of the United Nations Development Programme. The true struggle we face in our meeting is to remove our minds from rhetoric and politics and bid them: enter the refugee camps, the war-scorched towns, the forlorn farms plagued by drought and debt, the ghettos, the slums, the towns in which starvation, disease, violence, and poverty are plenty and basic necessities are scarce, and suffer our minds to witness the lost life and the wasted potential. The issues before us are post-conflict development, sustainable energy and the environment, and urban development. Indonesia is a strong believer in the vital nature of each, and a strong believer that the recommendations put forth by the United Nations Millennium Project should be implemented. Let it not be forgotten that the millions will ultimately bear witness to our actions here at this Council, and let that realization rally our resolve, our commitment, our compassion, and our mercy.

### **I. Post-Conflict Development**

Around our many nations, conflict is a rampant force, destroying, killing, terrorizing, sowing salt into societies, working counter to development, progress, human well-being, and everything the United Nations Development Programme seeks to implement. For these reasons, post-conflict development is one of the primary focuses of Indonesia. An organization mindful that mere relief and donations are not the end of development of any kind, Indonesia acknowledges that true development does not reach fruition until relief is ceased and the society in question stands firm on its own, independent of aid. Indonesia continually strives to reach this end, in compliance with the recommendations of the United Nations Millennium Project. In response to the call to “outline a private sector promotion strategy” Indonesia has responded with financial consulting and business loan programs to stimulate entrepreneurship, and the Work for Food program, which provides employment by using local civilians to distribute aid.<sup>1</sup> Always in recognition that the ultimate end is “to end aid dependency,” all of Indonesia’ endeavors aim to nurture the grassroots of a society in order to achieve autonomous growth.<sup>2</sup> In Kosovo, Indonesia has worked with Serbian and Albanian businesses to build interethnic links using common economic interest as the foundation for cooperation. In Lebanon, Indonesia works with clusters of villages on issues of common concern in order to revitalize economies in under-served communities, improve infrastructure, strengthen local organization, and promote peace and reconciliation. However, post-conflict development is not simply a reaction to conflict as its name infers, but through establishing infrastructure and interdependence can proactively prevent

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations. *United Nations Millennium Project Report*. United Nations Development Programme, “10 Key Recommendations,” [http://Unmp.forumone.com/eng\\_html\\_07.html](http://Unmp.forumone.com/eng_html_07.html) (accessed February 12, 2005)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

conflict from reoccurring. For these reasons, Indonesia strongly urges all able countries and NGOs to focus on establishing a stable, enduring infrastructure that interconnects political opponents in these afflicted areas.

## **II. Sustainable Energy and the Environment**

The infrastructure that fortifies a civil society, however, can not run on human energy alone. People need natural energy with which to cook food, heat homes during winter, and obtain water for drinking, bathing, and growing crops. Without efficient, sustainable energy sources with which to do these things, civilians must toil long hours and even risk their lives in some circumstances to gather wood for fuel, creating deforestation problems and distracting much time that could be used to generate income. Without an efficient method of obtaining water, civilians are not able to grow food and often die of hunger, thirst, or water contamination. Indonesia has remedied these problems in many places by implementing the use of gas and wind energy, irrigation systems, wells, and safe reservoirs. These initiatives are in compliance with the Millennium Project goal “to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources” as well as Indonesia’s belief that the futures of humans and their environment are inextricably linked. As with all Indonesia initiatives, local civilians are trained in the maintenance of these energy sources, acknowledging the end of establishing these energy sources as locally run infrastructure. With respect toward this issue, Indonesia charges all countries able with the responsibility of using environmentally sustainable energy and further beseeches all countries able to assist those not able in so doing.

## **III. Urban Development**

Perhaps the most apparently appalling poverty situations are found where vices in a society such as discrimination and segregation lead development to progress while alienating some members of a society from that progression. In these situations, overcrowding, disease, crime, and hunger live adjacent to development and prosperity, as the oppressed are ostracized from opportunities. To combat urban decay, Indonesia has provided loans and financial consulting for victimized groups, as well as business incubator programs including corporate governance, business financing, fiscal management, market systems, stewardship, and social responsibility training. Indonesia has established disease awareness, testing, and treatment programs in urban slums, and also provided health care training programs. These efforts are concurrent with the Millennium Project’s recommendations to “focus on...urban productivity, health, education, [and] gender equality.”<sup>3</sup> And again, the business and health care training initiatives aspire to leave a society that develops and functions independently and is capable of assuaging its own needs. Indonesia not only requests that countries contribute to improving living conditions and equality of opportunity in developed countries, but through education and social programs concentrate on alleviating prejudices and unequal distribution of wealth inside their own borders.