

GROUND RULES FOR TAKING ACTION ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS
(First Committee)

- During the decision-taking stage on each individual cluster, delegations will first have the final opportunity to introduce new or revised draft resolutions on any cluster that will be acted upon that given day. Then, delegations wishing to make general statements or comments, other than explanations of votes on those draft resolutions ready for action in a specific cluster (as will be listed in the daily Informal Papers), will be permitted to do so.
- While sponsors of draft resolutions may make general statements at the beginning of the meeting on a particular cluster, in accordance with the rules of procedure, they may not make statements in explanation of their votes, either before or after action is taken.
- Non-sponsoring delegations will be provided with the opportunity to explain their positions or votes, before voting, in a consolidated statement on all the draft resolutions and decisions upon which action will be taken, in a particular cluster. The Committee will then proceed to take action, one draft resolution after another, without any interruption in between. This will be followed by explanations of positions or votes, after voting, in a consolidated fashion, on all the draft resolutions contained in the specific cluster upon which action had been taken.
- Once the Committee completes action on all draft resolutions and decisions contained in a particular cluster, and delegations have explained their positions or votes after the vote, the Chairman will move to the next cluster and the process will be repeated.
- Delegations wishing to request a recorded vote on any particular draft resolution or decision should inform the Secretariat of their intention, as early as possible, before the Committee begins its action on any individual cluster.
- Delegations wishing to defer action on draft resolutions and/or decisions should inform the Secretariat at least 24 hours in advance of the action being taken. Every effort should be made, however, to refrain from resorting to a deferment of action.