



10 Tips for Writing a SEMAU Resolution

Here are 10 helpful tips for writing a strong resolution for the Southeast Model African Union (SEMAU) Conference:

1. **Understand the Issue Thoroughly:** Base your resolution on solid research and your country's official position. Know the causes, impacts, and existing AU policies related to the topic.
2. **Follow the Proper Format:** Use the correct structure: a heading, preambulatory clauses (context), and operative clauses (action). Maintain formal language throughout.
3. **Use Clear and Precise Language:** Be diplomatic but direct. Avoid vague terms and overly complex sentences.
4. **Start with Strong Preambulatory Clauses:** Provide background, reference past AU and international actions, and establish the importance of the issue.
5. **Focus on Solutions in Operative Clauses:** Propose realistic, actionable steps your country or the AU can support. Be specific about implementation and goals.
6. **Number and Organize Operative Clauses Logically:** Start with general measures and move to specific or technical actions. Keep it structured and easy to follow.
7. **Use Appropriate Verbs:** Begin each operative clause with a strong action verb like "Urges," "Supports," "Calls for," or "Recommends."
8. **Stay In Character:** Ensure your resolution reflects your assigned country's policies and interests.
9. **Collaborate with Allies:** Work with delegates from like-minded countries to create broader support for your resolution.
10. **Proofread and Revise:** Review for grammar, clarity, and consistency. A polished resolution has more impact.

20 Tips to Help Delegates Prepare

A. Preparation & Research

1. **Know Your Country:** Research your assigned country's history, politics, economy, and current events.
2. **Study the African Union:** Understand the AU's structure, organs, major treaties, and policy priorities.
3. **Read Agenda Topics Thoroughly:** Analyze the specific issues your committee will address.
4. **Understand Regional Dynamics:** Learn about alliances, conflicts, and partnerships within Africa.
5. **Use Reliable Sources:** Use AU documents, UN reports, academic sources, and government sites.

B. Position Papers & Resolutions

6. **Write a Strong Position Paper:** Clearly state your country's stance, background, and proposed solutions.
7. **Learn Resolution Format:** Understand how to draft clauses and follow official formatting.
8. **Practice Writing Pre-Ambulatory and Operative Clauses:** Be clear, diplomatic, and solution oriented.

C. Debate & Diplomacy Skills

9. **Know Parliamentary Procedure:** Master the rules of debate and motions used in committee.
10. **Practice Public Speaking:** Be confident, concise, and persuasive.
11. **Stay in Character:** Always represent your country's interests—even if they differ from your own.
12. **Build Coalitions:** Work with like-minded countries to draft and support resolutions.
13. **Be Diplomatic:** Use respectful language, even during disagreements.

D. Logistics & Etiquette

14. **Dress Professionally:** Business attire is required throughout the conference.
15. **Be On Time:** Punctuality shows professionalism and respect for others.
16. **Bring Necessary Materials:** Include research notes, position papers, pens, and printed documents.

E. Teamwork & Self-Care

17. **Collaborate With Your Delegation:** Support fellow country delegates in other committees.
18. **Stay Organized:** Keep track of sessions, deadlines, and documents.
19. **Be Flexible and Open-Minded:** Be ready to adjust your strategy as the debate evolves.
20. **Take Care of Yourself:** Rest, eat well, and stay hydrated to stay focused and energized.

Committee: [Insert Committee Name]
Agenda Topic: [Insert Agenda Topic]
Original Sponsor: [Insert Country Name]

DRAFT RESOLUTION: [Insert Title]

Preambulatory Clauses:

(These clauses describe the issue, provide context, and reference prior efforts, treaties, or declarations. Each clause begins with an underlined word or phrase and ends with a comma. The phrases contained in the template are only recommendations and can be edited as needed. These instructions can be deleted once you have completed the resolution.)

Understanding the significance of [insert issue being discussed],

Recognizing the efforts made by the African Union and its Member States in addressing [insert relevant context],

Recalling the objectives outlined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and Agenda 2063,

Deeply concerned about [insert challenge or problem related to the topic],

Emphasizing the importance of regional cooperation and collective action in resolving this issue,

Acknowledging the role of international and regional partners in supporting African-led initiatives,

Operative Clauses:

(These clauses outline actions the committee recommends. Each clause is numbered, begins with an underlined action word, and ends with a period. The phrases contained in the template are only recommendations and can be edited as needed. These instructions can be deleted once you have completed the resolution)

1. **Urges** Member States to [insert specific action or initiative].
2. **Calls upon** the African Union Commission to [insert proposed responsibility or program].
3. **Encourages** regional economic communities (RECs) to collaborate on [insert area of cooperation].
4. **Requests** increased funding and technical support for [insert project or policy focus].
5. **Stresses** the importance of capacity building and education in [insert relevant sector].
6. **Invites** partnerships with international organizations and NGOs to strengthen [insert initiative].
7. **Recommends** the establishment of monitoring mechanisms to ensure implementation and accountability.
8. **Directs** the continuation of this agenda item for further review in subsequent sessions.



Organs of the Southeast Model African Union Conference

All student delegates will represent their delegation (country) in one of the six organs (committees) of the Model African Union

1. The Executive Council

Description: The Executive Council in the Model African Union (MAU) represents the body of foreign ministers from AU member states and plays a critical role in the simulation. As a high-level decision-making organ, the Executive Council is responsible for addressing major continental issues and coordinating policy across various thematic areas.

Key Functions

- a. **Policy Deliberation:** The Executive Council debates and develops policy recommendations on issues such as governance, development, health, security, and education, often in alignment with the African Union's strategic goals (e.g., Agenda 2063).
- b. **Crisis Management:** During the crisis simulation, the Executive Council is tasked with evaluating an urgent situation affecting one or more African countries. It must quickly analyze the crisis, determine necessary actions, and issue formal charges to relevant committees to develop detailed response strategies.
- c. **Inter-Committee Coordination:** The Council serves as a bridge between committees, ensuring cohesive and coordinated responses to complex issues. It may consolidate input from various committees into a unified communiqué or action plan.
- d. **Diplomatic Leadership:** Delegates in the Executive Council must demonstrate high-level diplomacy, negotiation, and critical thinking, represent their country's foreign policy while working toward continental cooperation.
- e. **Final Presentation:** The Executive Council compiles and presents its final recommendations—often including inputs from the crisis simulation—at the Assembly of Heads of State, serving as the voice of ministerial coordination within the AU framework.

Authority and Purview

In essence, the Executive Council acts as the strategic engine of the Model AU, balancing national interests with Africa-wide goals.

2. The Peace and Security Committee (PSC)

Description: The Peace and Security Committee (PSC) is the AU's standing decision-making body responsible for the maintenance of peace, security, and stability across the continent.



Key Functions

- a. **Conflict Prevention and Early Warning:** The PSC monitors and assesses potential conflicts and crises in Africa. It uses early warning systems to anticipate and prevent conflicts before they escalate.
- b. **Crisis Management and Intervention:** When necessary, the PSC can authorize AU peace support operations (military or civilian) in conflict zones, including intervention in a member state in cases of war crimes, genocide, or crimes against humanity.
- c. **Peacebuilding and Post-Conflict Reconstruction:** The PSC supports countries recovering from conflict by helping them stabilize, rebuild institutions, and promote reconciliation.
- d. **Promotion of Democracy and Good Governance:** It works to uphold constitutional rule, discourage unconstitutional changes in government, and support democratic processes.
- e. **Collaboration with International Partners:** The PSC coordinates with the United Nations, regional economic communities, and other international bodies on peace and security matters.

Authority and Purview

The PSC is composed of member states, elected by the AU Assembly, with voting and decision-making authority.

- It operates somewhat like the UN Security Council, but within an African context, focusing on African-led solutions to African challenges.
- In essence, the PSC is central to the African Union's goal of promoting lasting peace and stability across the continent.

3. The Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

Description: The Committee on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance is responsible for promoting and protecting democratic principles, human rights, and good governance across the continent.

Key Functions

- a. **Promotes Democratic Governance:** The committee works to uphold the principles outlined in the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, encouraging transparent elections, separation of powers, and citizen participation in political processes.
- b. **Protects and Promotes Human Rights:** It supports the implementation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, addressing issues like freedom of expression, women's rights, minority protections, and the rights of marginalized communities.



- c. **Monitors Member States:** The committee monitors the political and human rights situations in AU member states, especially in times of crisis, conflict, or reports of abuse or democratic backsliding.
- d. **Recommends Policy and Action:** It can propose AU responses to constitutional crises, electoral disputes, or human rights violations, and recommend sanctions or interventions when democratic norms are violated.
- e. **Supports Capacity Building:** The committee encourages institutions in member states to strengthen judicial independence, civil society, anti-corruption efforts, and inclusive governance.

Authority and Purview

- Student delegates in this committee debate and draft resolutions on issues like election integrity, press freedom, transitional justice, political inclusion, and the rule of law.
- In short, this committee is vital in shaping an Africa where democracy, accountability, and human dignity are at the forefront of development and unity.

4. The Committee on Economic Matters

Description: The Committee on Economic Matters focuses on issues related to economic integration, development, trade, and financial cooperation across the continent.

Key Functions

- a. **Promotes Economic Integration:** The committee supports the goals of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and works to strengthen intra-African trade, remove trade barriers, and harmonize economic policies among member states.
- b. **Oversees Development Policies:** It reviews and recommends strategies for inclusive economic growth, industrialization, infrastructure development, and poverty reduction, in line with Agenda 2063, the AU's strategic development blueprint.
- c. **Addresses Fiscal and Monetary Issues:** The committee explores topics such as debt sustainability, financial regulation, investment frameworks, and the potential for shared currency systems or regional banks.
- d. **Supports Agricultural and Industrial Development:** It examines initiatives to boost food security, modernize agriculture, and stimulate value-added industries to reduce dependence on raw material exports.
- e. **Encourages Youth and Women's Economic Participation:** The committee emphasizes inclusive growth by supporting entrepreneurship, job creation, and access to finance, particularly for underrepresented groups.

Authority and Purview

Delegates simulate the roles of finance and economic ministers, debating policies and drafting resolutions on trade agreements, investment policies, digital economies, and sustainable



development. In summary, the Economic Matters Committee plays a critical role in shaping Africa's economic future by promoting prosperity, collaboration, and self-reliance among its member states.

5. The Committee on Social Matters

Description: The Committee of Social Matters focuses on issues that impact the social well-being, development, and inclusion of African peoples.

Key Functions

- a. **Improves Health and Education Systems:** The committee develops and supports policies to strengthen access to quality healthcare, combat diseases (e.g., HIV/AIDS, malaria), improve public health infrastructure, and enhance education systems across the continent.
- b. **Promotes Gender Equality and Social Inclusion:** It works to eliminate discrimination and promote the rights of women, children, persons with disabilities, and marginalized communities, in alignment with the AU's Gender Policy and Social Policy Framework.
- c. **Addresses Youth and Employment Issues:** The committee advocates for increased investment in youth empowerment, vocational training, and job creation to reduce unemployment and harness Africa's demographic dividend.
- d. **Protects Cultural Heritage and Identity:** It encourages the preservation of African languages, traditions, and cultural practices, while fostering unity through cultural exchange and Pan-African identity.
- e. **Responds to Humanitarian and Social Crises:** The committee helps develop AU responses to social impacts of conflict, displacement, migration, and natural disasters, ensuring protection and support for affected populations.

Authority and Purview

Delegates take on the roles of social development or health ministers and debate resolutions on public health, education reform, gender equity, youth policy, and humanitarian assistance. In essence, the Social Matters Committee is vital to building a just, inclusive, and resilient African society that prioritizes the dignity and development of all its people.

6. The Committee on the Environment and Climate Change

Description: The Committee on the Environment and Climate Change focuses on addressing the environmental challenges and climate-related issues affecting the continent.



Key Functions

- a. **Develops Environmental Policy:** The committee helps shape AU-wide policies on environmental protection, natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development.
- b. **Combats Climate Change:** It develops strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, including desertification, droughts, floods, and rising sea levels—issues that disproportionately affect African nations.
- c. **Coordinates Continental Action:** The committee works to align national environmental efforts with AU frameworks like the African Climate Change Strategy and global agreements such as the Paris Agreement.
- d. **Promotes Renewable Energy and Green Innovation:** It encourages investment in clean energy, green technologies, and sustainable agriculture as part of a broader effort to reduce carbon emissions and boost environmental resilience.
- e. **Supports Community and Youth Engagement:** The committee highlights the role of youth, indigenous communities, and civil society in environmental stewardship and climate activism.

Authority and Purview

Delegates act as ministers of environment or natural resources, debating and drafting resolutions on climate finance, deforestation, water access, pollution, and cross-border environmental cooperation. In short, this committee leads efforts to ensure a sustainable, climate-resilient future for Africa, balancing development needs with ecological responsibility.

Responding to a Crisis

What You Need to Know

Description: One of the most exciting and dynamic parts of the SEMAU Conference is the Crisis Simulation. During this event, the Executive Council will be presented with a major, unexpected crisis affecting a specific country, region, or the entire African continent. The Council must respond quickly, thoughtfully, and collaboratively to address the situation.

How the Crisis Works (Step-by-Step)

1. The Executive Council will receive and evaluate the crisis. Members must consider their political, social, economic, environmental, and security dimensions.
2. After assessing the situation, the Council will determine which specialized committees should be tasked with addressing different aspects of the crisis.
3. Each committee will receive a written charge (instructions) from the Executive Council. When this happens, all other business must stop so that the committee can focus entirely on crafting a response.
4. Committees must write a clear, well-organized strategy in paragraph form that directly addresses the Executive Council's charge.
5. These strategies will be returned to the Executive Council, which will then draft a comprehensive communique incorporating all committee recommendations.
6. This final communique will be presented during the Assembly of Heads of State as the official response to the crisis.
7. Important: All written work must be carefully proofread for clarity, professionalism, and accuracy.

10 Tips for Responding to a Crisis

1. **Stay Calm and Focused:** A crisis requires urgency, but also level-headed thinking. Don't panic—organize.
2. **Understand the Full Scope of the Crisis:** Identify all key aspects. Think about who is affected, what's at risk, and what's at stake.
3. **Stick to Your Country's Position:** Even in a crisis, your response should align with your nation's interests and principles.
4. **Work Collaboratively:** Build consensus quickly within your committee. Delegate roles if needed.
5. **Prioritize Realistic Solutions:** Focus on actionable, AU-appropriate measures your committee could feasibly implement.

6. **Be Thorough in Your Response:** Address the charge fully and with depth. Consider short- and long-term solutions.
7. **Use Clear and Formal Language:** Keep your paragraph organized, diplomatic, and free from grammatical errors.
8. **Pause All Other Work Immediately.** Once charged, your committee must stop all other debate and focus only on the crisis.
9. **Proofread Your Work:** Sloppy writing undermines strong ideas. Review for clarity, grammar, and formatting.
10. **Enjoy the Process!** The crisis simulation is one of the most fun and engaging parts of SEMAU. It's your chance to be creative, think on your feet, and lead.