

Week 3: Regional Bloc Meetings AND Committee Meetings: recipes for success

Taro, have you ever had a five course meal?

Yes.

Do you know the 5 courses?

I think so...

appetiser, soup, entree, salad, dessert

That's right. To help you understand committees and regional blocs, I'd like to move away from JEMUN for a few minutes and use food as an example.

JEMUN

ok!

I'd like you to imagine a meeting of chefs discussing the topic of an Ideal World Meal.

At this meeting, 60 chefs, each from a different country come together with a goal of making a 5 course meal that satisfies all of the chefs.

That's sounds difficult!



Yes! Each chef belongs to one of 4 regional groups or blocs. These are 1. Africa, 2. Asia, 3. Latin America and the Caribbean, 4. Europe and others.

x15 Africa, x15 Asia, x15 Latin America and the Caribbean, x15 Europe and others

So if there are 60 chefs and 4 regional groups and blocs, there should be 15 chefs in each regional group.

Also imagine that each chef has been assigned to 1 of 5 specialty committees related to the meeting topic Ideal World Meal. Can you guess the 5 committees?

SOUP committee, Appetiser committee, Entree committee, Salad committee, Dessert committee

very good!

Is each of the 4 regions represented equally in each committee?

Yes! For example, in the appetiser committee there are 3 chefs from each of the 4 regions.

So that's a total of 12 chefs in each committee group.

That's right!

So how will each committee decide on their recipe?

The first step is for the chefs to have **regional meetings**.

Why?

Because they need to discuss regional ingredients, cooking techniques, price and preferences for each of the 5 courses.

Then what?

The chefs then leave their regional meeting and share their regional information with their **specialised committee members**.

What does each committee do with the information from each region?

They try to make the best possible committee recipe that satisfies as many chefs and regions as possible.

What if other chefs or regions aren't satisfied with their recipe?

They will have an opportunity to propose changes to the recipe later on in the meeting.

What does each committee do when they have decided on their recipe?

They show their recipe ideas to other chefs in their region to make sure everyone is satisfied.

Is this what happens at JEMUN?

Appetiser committee

Asia

Recipe

JEMUN

The process is the same, but the wording is different.

Tell me more!

So

chefs are called **delegates**, the **agenda** is the meeting theme (example: **IDEAL WORLD MEAL**), and each of 5 courses are called **committees**.

At JEMUN, each delegate is pre-assigned to

- 1: a meeting room that will focus on a topic called **agenda** and
- 2: one of 5 subtopics called **committees**.

Yes, and the 5 committees are subtopics that are closely related to the agenda.

And there are 4 regions?

Agenda

Committees

#1
#2
#3
#4
#5

Agenda: "====="

#1 ~ #3 ~
#2 ~ #4 ~
#5

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Vocabulary

- Committees/Specialized Committees
- Regional Bloc Meetings
- Committee Meetings
- Delegates
- Agenda



Researching the Issues

For you to address world issues at the JEMUN conference, you need to learn about the issues under discussion, the perspective of your assigned country and what your country wants the United Nations to do about the issues. An area that is often problematic when researching issues is the difficulty to differentiate between a country's situation and the country's position on a topic. While knowledge of your country's situation is important, knowing what your government thinks about the issues and what actions their country wants the international community to take is more important. Try to organize your research into three basic divisions.

1. Basic knowledge about the Issue(s)
2. Country's perspective on the Issue(s)
3. Actions to take

Finding readings about the issue(s) and your country's perspective on the issue(s) being discussed can be challenging, but some general sources that can be used as a starting point for your research include:


United Nations: <http://www.un.org/en/>
 UN Data: <http://data.un.org/>
 UN Resolutions: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/>
 UN News: <http://www.un.org/news/>
 UN Chronicle: <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/>
 UN Wire: https://www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/index.jsp

Homework

Access the websites on the previous page and search the internet to fill in the table below for all five committee topics in your meeting room.

Your assigned country: _____ Regional Bloc: _____

Meeting Room Agenda: _____

JEMUN Committee Topics A~E	Basic Knowledge About the JEMUN Committee Topic	Your Country's Perspective on the JEMUN Committee Topic	Actions to take to address the JEMUN Committee Topic
Committee A: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____			
Committee B: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____			

JEMUN Committee Topics A~E	Basic Knowledge About the JEMUN Committee Topic	Your Country’s Perspective on the JEMUN Committee Topic	Actions to take to address the JEMUN Committee Topic
<div>Committee C:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			
<div>Committee D:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>		<div></div>	
<div>Committee E:</div> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			