



SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS

While the GA and other UN bodies usually only speak through reports and resolutions, the Security Council has another option: the submission of a “Presidential Statement.” The use of Presidential Statements is extremely common in the UN Security Council; it is often the case that they are used more frequently than resolutions.

A Presidential Statement is a written statement, made by the President, noting that the Council has been discussing a specific topic and stating the general course of that discussion. These are frequently made at the beginning of or after a significant event in a crisis situation. These statements are usually no more than one sentence to one or two paragraphs in length.

At AMUN the Security Council President does not craft this statement, as happens at the UN in New York. Instead, members of the body craft a statement together during consultative session. Once the President confirms the language is finalized and all Members agree to the statement, the Presidential Statement is adopted and moves through Delegate Services for final publication. These statements are usually clear and simple enough that they are agreed to by the entire body, although they have little real weight (unlike resolutions, which are technically binding on Member States). Presidential Statements are often used when Members want to make a strong statement, but when, for reasons of their own, one or more Member States (often Permanent Members) find it politically inexpedient to pass an actual, binding resolution on the subject.

SAMPLE SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

Statement by the President of the Security Council:

At the meeting of the Security Council, held on 22 May 2002, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The Situation in Sierra Leone,” the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council welcomes the elections held in Sierra Leone on 14 May 2002. It congratulates the people of Sierra Leone on the peaceful and orderly way in which the elections were held. It commends the National Electoral Commission and all those responsible for the successful management of the elections, and commends UNAMSIL for their invaluable supporting role. The Council notes that the various electoral observation groups were impressed by the Sierra Leonean people’s commitment to democracy and their determination to vote. The Council calls on all political parties and their supporters to work together to strengthen democracy and thereby assure continuing peace.

The Security Council will continue to pay close attention to developments in Sierra Leone and the Mano River region. The Council requests the Secretary-General monitor the situation there closely and to keep the Council informed of any significant developments.”

SAMPLE AMENDMENT FORM

On Floor_____

AMENDMENT FORM

Committee: The General Assembly

Amendment Letter: _____

Assigned by Rapporteur

Topic: Protection of Human Rights and...

Resolution Number: 1

REMOVE from the preambular clause starting with ‘Recognizing’
“by all means in accordance with the United Nations Charter”

REMOVE the whole preambular clause beginning with ‘Deeply concerned’

ADD the following preambular clause after ‘Recognizing ...’
“Fully alarmed by the use of terrorist actions against civilian targets,”

REPLACE operative clause 1 (a) with
“Prevent future actions of terrorism through:”

REPLACE in operative clause 4
“make an effort” with “make additional efforts”

ADD operative clause 7
“Further reminds all States to follow applicable protocols of the Geneva Convention when dealing with those suspected of terrorism.”