



Opening Speech Guidelines

Opening speeches are normally presented at the beginning of the conference. To do so, a delegation needs to “motion to open the speakers’ list”. It is highly recommended that you add your country to the speakers and present your country's position and the overall idea of the resolution you came up with. Opening speeches are usually written in the following format:

1. Hook:

a. An engaging way to grab your audience’s attention.

i. Types of hooks:

1. Question:

a. Do you think it is possible for us to live in a world without poverty?

2. Quote:

a. Fifty years ago, United States President John F. Kennedy said ‘Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.’ Today, ask know what the world can do for you, but what you can do for the world.”

3. Statistics:

a. Over 1 billion people around the world live on less than US\$1.25 a day. Over 1 billion people live in extreme poverty.

4. Story/anecdote:

a. One year ago, in rural Pakistan, a girl was walking to school, minding her own business, when a gunshot rang out- and she was shot in the head. The Taliban did not want her to go to school - they did not want any girls to go to school. But that girl survived, and today she fights for girls’ right to education around the world. That girl’s name was Malala.

2. Point:

a. The purpose of your speech.



- b. What has your country done/ what do they believe.
- c. Example:
 - i. The Republic of Korea believes that education is a human right, and that all people should have access to education

Korea has a very strong education system, and some of the most

Well-educated students in the world; Korea know the value of education.

So Korea believes that all countries and all people should have proper access to education. And historically Korea has supported many UN and NGO programs that provide education, especially to those living in developing countries.

3. Action:

- a. Tell your audience to go and do something.
- b. Propose resolutions.
- c. Example:
 - i. To provide universal access to education, Korea proposes the creation of an international fund called 'Education for All' that will support 3 programs in developing countries: building schools, training new teachers, and preventing girls from dropping out of school.

Korea calls upon the international community to create and donate to this fund. If you like this idea, feel free to send us a note or meet us in the next unmoderated caucus to discuss this further.

Remember, opening speeches are normally between 60 and 90 seconds. Keep your speech to simple, short, and to the point.



Opening Speech Rubric

Substance: What is being said?	1	2	3
Main point (typically country policy) is clear			
Supporting points were relevant and strong			
Included a fact or a statistic			
Speech contains concrete ideas instead of fluff			

Structure: How is it organized?	1	2	3
Listener was interested in the speech due to a hook			
Listener can identify the main point			
Listener can identify the call to action			
Clear transitions were made between each section or each supporting point			

Style: How is it delivered?	1	2	3
Speaker made eye contact with different sections of the audience			
Speaker's feet were steady or were used to enhance certain points			
Speaker's hands were steady or were used to enhance certain points			
Speaker's volume was appropriate for the size of the room			
Speaker's speed made the speech easy to understand and remember			
Speaker's tone made the speech interesting			