

RULES ADDENDUM: UN SUMMIT FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Introduction:

1. These rules shall, along with the Long Form of the Rules of the General Assembly Plenary, constitute the rules of procedure for the UN Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
2. In the event that this document should conflict with the Long Form of the Rules of the General Assembly Plenary, this document shall take precedence.

I. COMPOSITION

Rule 1 – Membership

1. The Summit shall consist of all members of the United Nations.
2. Each member shall have no more than one representative in each body.
3. The Secretariat may invite Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to participate as observers in the meetings of the Summit. NGOs are not considered “members” of the Summit. NGOs will not have the right to vote on substantive or procedural matters.

III. AGENDA

Rules 5/6 – Adoption and Revision of the agenda

The agenda provided by the Secretary-General shall be considered adopted as of the beginning of the session. At the discretion of the President, the Summit may vote to reorder, divide, or merge items within the agenda. Any such motion must be considered by the President to result in an agenda within the mandate of the Summit.

The vote described in this rule is a procedural vote and, as such, observers are permitted to cast a vote. For purposes of this rule, “those present and voting” mean those delegates, including observers, in attendance at the meeting during which this motion comes to a vote.

VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 20 – Speeches

4. At the beginning of discussions on each topic by the Summit, NGO representatives will be invited to make speeches immediately prior to the initial opening of the speakers list on that topic for members of the Summit. NGOs are allowed to speak for 2 minutes each; at the discretion of the chair, this time may be changed to the current speakers’ time for members on the speakers list. NGOs may not make formal speeches during any other part of formal session.

Rule 27 – Decision of competence

Decisions of competence are motions in which representatives challenge the relevance of a given agenda item or proposal to the Summit. No motions for a decision of competence on the agenda of the Summit shall be permitted.

Rule 30 – Proposals and amendments

Proposals and substantive amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Secretariat, with the names of twenty percent of the members of the Assembly that would like the Assembly to consider the proposal or amendment. The Secretariat may, at its discretion, approve the proposal or amendment for circulation among the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be put to the vote at any meeting of the Assembly unless copies of it have been circulated to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of proposals and amendments, even though such proposals and amendments have not been circulated. If the sponsors agree to the adoption of an amendment, the proposal shall be modified accordingly and no vote shall be taken on the amendment. If any sponsors should oppose the adoption of an amendment, a substantive vote on the amendment shall be taken prior to the consideration of the proposal during voting procedure. A document modified in this manner shall be considered as the proposal pending before the Assembly for all purposes, including subsequent amendments.

For purposes of this rule, all “proposals” shall be in the form of working papers prior to their approval by the Secretariat. Working papers will not be copied, or in any other way distributed, to the Summit by the Secretariat. The distribution of such working papers is solely the responsibility of the sponsors of the working papers. Along these lines, and in furtherance of the philosophy and principles of NWMUN and for the purpose of advancing its educational mission, representatives should not directly refer to the substance of a working paper that has not yet been accepted as a draft resolution.

After approval of a working paper, the proposal becomes a draft agreement segment and will be copied by the Secretariat for distribution to the Summit. These draft agreement segments are the collective property of the Summit, as such, the names of the original sponsors will be removed. The copying and distribution of amendments is at the discretion of the Secretariat, but the substance of all such amendments will be made available to all representatives in some form.

VII. VOTING

Rule 37 - Method of voting

1. The Summit shall normally vote by a show of placards, except when a representative requests a roll call vote, which shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members. The name of each present member shall be called in any roll call vote, and one of its representatives shall reply “yes,” “no,” “abstention,” or “pass.”
2. The Summit shall approve the final draft agreement through a roll call vote. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the President.
3. The vote of each member participating in a roll call vote shall be inserted in the record.

Only those members who designate themselves as “present” or “present and voting” during the attendance roll call, or in some other manner communicate their attendance to the President and/or Secretariat, are permitted to vote and, as such, no others will be called during a roll-call vote. Any representatives replying, “pass,” must, on the second time through, respond with either “yes” or “no.” A “pass” cannot be followed by a second “pass” for the same proposal or amendment, nor may it be followed by an abstention on that same proposal or amendment, nor may the representative explain their vote.

Rule 41 - Amendments

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from, or revise part of another proposal. An amendment can add, revise, or delete any part of any proposal.

Rule 43 - Order of voting on proposals

If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same agenda item, they shall be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. Prior to entering voting procedure, the President shall announce if a draft agreement segment contradicts or overlaps with another draft agreement segment in any way. Upon the passage of any draft agreement segment, all other draft agreement segments that contradict or overlap with it shall be considered rejected without a vote.

For purposes of this rule, “the order in which they were submitted” shall refer to the order in which proposals were approved by the Secretariat and thus the order in which proposals became draft resolutions. The second portion of the rule means that only one draft agreement segment for Preamble may pass; only one can pass for Final Provisions, etc. Therefore, delegates are advised to merge all draft agreement segments for a given agenda item together unless there are irreconcilable differences in approach, which shall be resolved by voting; if this should happen, the first draft agreement segment that passes will be included in the final draft agreement.

Following the consideration of all draft agreement segments pursuant to these rules, draft agreement segments that have been approved by the Summit shall be considered part of the final draft agreement. This final draft agreement shall be put immediately to a vote of the Summit, and shall require a two-thirds majority to be adopted (and opened for signature).