**Position Paper Writing**

Position papers are an expository writing you create before the committee convenes to outline your position.  The purpose of a position paper is to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the issue at hand and address it in a proper manner.

In general, a position paper is one page in length, single-space, and with three main paragraphs in 12-pt Times New Roman font for each committee topic (or one and a half to two pages in length, double-spaced). They should also have a header comprised of the delegate’s committee, topic, country, and school.

Try to hit these 3 big things in your paper. Each can be a paragraph or you can split them up:

**Thing 1** should be an introduction to your topic and your country’s perspective on the

topic. Talk about the relevance of the topic to your country and how the topic affects a global/regional  population.

**Thing 2** should explain your country’s past actions concerning the topic on a national,

regional, and international level. Be specific and show what was done and the results of each action. Bonus points for finding previous UN work or UN resolutions your country has been a part of.

**Thing 3** should elaborate on possible solutions. Please be as specific as possible and

develop each solution thoroughly. This is your opportunity to show the thoroughness of your

research and explain what solutions you will be proposing at the conference itself.

Position papers are graded! In nearly all cases, the position paper is necessary to receive any kind of award, and better quality papers will impress the dais and improve your chances at an award. Take them seriously.

Any good chair will tell you that reading a good position paper means that they are already looking to call on certain people that they believe know their stuff off that bat, WHICH IS A HUGE ADVANTAGE.

**Average example:**

General Assembly

Agricultural Development and Food Security

Federal Republic of Germany

Changing weather patterns, non-sustainable farming methods, and the migration of rural populations to urban centers has brought the issue of starvation and food insecurity to the forefront of international debate.  Drought has been a primary concern for agricultural regions for millennia, and in food insecure areas a drought can be the difference between life and death.  From the drought in the United States of America in whose losses exceeded $40 million to the drought in Kenya which has left 3.75 million hungry, from developed nations to the least developed, food insecurity is on the rise. It is not only droughts that are causing food insecurity in the world, but changing weather patterns in general. The world is seeing more and prolonged droughts, debilitating flooding and encroaching desertification. This and the migration of rural (primarily agricultural) populations to the cities have brought starvation and food insecurity to more people than ever before.

 In 2008 the Federal Republic of Germany pledged an extra $11 million to support the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. The new funds bring Germany's 2008 contributions to $14.2 million. The Federal Republic of Germany wholeheartedly supports resolution A/RES/65/178, *Agriculture Development and Food Security* as well as A/RES/64/197,*Agricultural Technology for Development*. The Federal Republic of Germany supports the development of regional and local food systems which can play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, while also conserving energy, improving health, and increasing the overall resiliency of the farming and food system worldwide.

 Crop selection and farming methods beginning at the farm level are integral to sustainable agriculture.  Native plants and regional irrigation systems must be investigated and the cultural knowledge of indigenous people should be tapped to provide for food sources that will be sustainable. It is, however, also important to note that there are significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the global food system beyond the farm gate.  This includes food and fiber processing, transportation, storage, and distribution activities, which are much higher than those from the agricultural production sector alone.  Research indicates that sustainable, regional and local food processing and distribution systems can significantly decrease the greenhouse gas emissions and empowers communities to choose food production systems that promote local economies and adapt to changing environments.