

## How to Crisis

Welcome to the crisis portion of HAMUN! For those of you that have participated before in a MUN crisis committee, welcome back to the chaos. For those of you who are new to crisis, you are about to take part in the most exciting and captivating committees at this conference. This is a brief guide filled with information that will help you get right into committee. I have included detailed information regarding different parts of procedure that are unique to crisis committees and the methods of communication with the crisis staff that you can take as an individual and a committee.

Procedure within crisis committees is very different from standard committees in many ways. Overall, delegates are still required to show professionalism and respect the authority of the chair, however, the procedure and flow of the committee is very loose and much more fast-paced. Moderated caucuses are the default, there is no speakers list, and the flow of committee will involve rotating between moderated caucuses, unmoderated caucuses, and voting on action orders. Here is an overview of the points and motions available to delegates at HAMUN crisis:

### Points:

- Point of inquiry – use this if you have a question about procedure
- Point of information – use this if you have a question for another delegate that has spoken
- Point of order – use this if you believe that the chair is following incorrect procedure
- Point of personal privilege – use this if you have a personal issue (restroom\*\*, too hot, etc.)

### Motions:

- Motion to open session
- Motion for a moderated caucus (specify speaking time, length, purpose)
- Motion for an unmoderated caucus (specify length, purpose)
- Motion to vote on submitted action orders\*
- Motion to adjourn

### Trials\*

- New and unique to crisis, trials are a formal method of dealing with suspected traitors
- Trials must be introduced through a directive (explained below) and require a 2/3 majority vote
- Trials utilize the following procedure:
  - Once the directive is passed, trial proceedings are entered immediately
  - The first stage of proceedings are deliberations: a 5-minute, 30-second moderated caucus to discuss the accused and their actions (both positive and negative)
  - The second stage consists of a 1-minute speech “for” and another “against” the accused
  - The final stage is the vote to determine guilt and requires a 2/3 majority to convict
- These proceedings are flexible – follow your chair’s instructions during these proceedings
- Guilty delegates receive a new character, have a clean slate, and should be greeted warmly back into committee

\*this is unique to crisis; also, there is no speaker’s list in crisis and no motions related to the list

\*\*please try to use the restroom during breaks or at last resort during unmoderated caucuses

Crisis committees are typically a re-enactment of a historical scenario or fictional world, or they can be a simulation of a potential future situation. These scenarios are presented in the background guide for your committee and are brought to life by the crisis staff through crisis updates. Crisis updates are small skits and announcements to the committee that reflect changes to the scenario that the committee is in and typically present new problems or changes to prior problems that the committee must then adapt to or solve. Crisis staff will present updates based off of problems they would like to introduce or problems caused by committee members through their communication with crisis staff (watch out for spies and traitors trying to sabotage from within).

Each of you is in a joint committee, which means that one or two other committees have objectives and priorities different than your own and are likely in direct conflict with your committee's goals. Therefore, your communication with crisis staff may result in changes in the crisis "world" (the scenario) that will be reflected in crisis updates to both committees since you both share this "world". Individuals may also take actions that they are specifically given in the background guide, by the crisis staff, or by the committee. These so-called "portfolio powers" can be utilized by individual delegates through notes. The committee can take action and communicate with the crisis staff or the other committee as a whole through action orders, which replace resolutions in crisis. Below, I highlight criteria for notes and the different types of action orders:

#### **Notes:**

- Used to communicate directly with crisis staff, other members of your committee, or members of an opposing committee
- **MUST** contain a "To:" and "From:"
  - Permits delivery of the note to the right person and makes sure that you get a reply
  - In the case you are sending a note to another other committee, put their committee name on the note as well
- Be aware that notes should be appropriate and are always read by staffers: **INAPPROPRIATE NOTES CAN RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM THE CONFERENCE**

#### **Action Orders:**

- Action orders are essentially notes sent by the entire committee to either crisis staff or an opposing committee
- Two types:
  - Directives – orders given for crisis staff to execute, within the committee's scope
  - Communiques/Press Releases – announcements to the crisis "world" or another committee
- Directives should be numbered lists and as detailed as possible – more detail means more chances of success in your action
- Communiques/Press Releases should be in a paragraph/speech format and are like an announcement
- There is no real formal format for action orders (no perambulatory or any other clauses)
- All action orders require approval from a simple majority of the committee
  - Trials must be initiated through a directive and require a 2/3 majority approval

Best of luck in committee, and if you have any questions, send a note to crisis staff!