

The point of this lesson is to display how many different ways you can look at a single resolution. While there are always many ways to look at a resolution, we do not encourage trying to discuss everything in a single speech. It is better to discuss a few issues well than to barely touch on every issue. Please be aware that the questions will always be different depending on the resolution you are looking at.

Sample Resolution:

To: The General Assembly
From: New Zealand
Subject: Climate Change
Date: March 31, 2011

Recognizing the recognized and proven dangers of global warming,

Noting the drastic increase of the release of greenhouse gases by emerging industrial nations,

Urging currently developing nations to impose environmental restrictions on the release of greenhouse gases,

Distressed by coastline flooding due to rising sea levels caused by melting ice caps,

Concerned that the potential for environmental refugees fleeing these areas is increasing,

Calls For:

1. **Requests** grants from the World Bank to create sources for public transportation;
2. **The encouragement** of governments to create alternative sources of public and private transportation, and to discourage individual automobile usage;
3. **Recommends** grants to be made from the World Bank to manufacturers for the purpose of creating cheaper, more efficient hybrid vehicles;
4. **Encourages** partial forgiving of national debt for using alternative sources of energy (i.e. solar, wind, hydro) for factories, homes, businesses, etc. as will be determined by the United Nations Energy Task Force;
5. **Urges** the developed nations to set up a central fund so that poor countries can become in compliance with Kyoto and other climate agreements.

Analyzing the Operative Clauses:

1. **Grants from the World Bank to create sources for public transportation,**
 - **Does your country support receiving money from the World Bank?** Many small and developing nations do not like World Bank loans because they are often

hard to pay back. Furthermore, the World Bank has strict requirements for giving loans. When providing a loan, the World Bank will develop a pay-back strategy for your country that you **MUST** follow or they will call back your loan. This plan often means restricting your economy even if you do not like it.

- **How much will this cost the World Bank?** This clause only tells you that the World Bank will provide grants for public transportation. It does not say up to what amount or for what kinds of transportation, so you have no way of knowing how much this will cost.
- **What kind of public transportation?** This is an extremely vague clause. This clause tells you that grants will be given for public transportation, but for what kind. Are we building airports, bus systems, roads, trains? This would be a problem for countries which are concerned with taking on too much too fast.

2. The encouragement of governments to create alternative sources of public and private transportation, and to discourage individual automobile usage,

- **What kind of alternative sources?** This clause is a deceptive one. It only says that governments should be encouraged to create alternative sources of public and private transit, but it does not say that these alternative sources of public or private transportation necessarily have to be Green or good for the climate. A coal train is an alternative to a bus, but it isn't very green. A hummer is an alternative to a Prius, but it isn't very green. This resolution says it is about climate change, but this clause may not be.
- **Are you reliant on the automotive industry?** Is your nation a great manufacturer of cars or a large producer of oil? This type of clause could cut sharply into the profits of your corporations. Your country may be for combating climate change, but maybe you'd rather encourage the use of greener individual automobile usage rather than crippling the industry altogether.

3. Grants to be made from the World Bank to manufacturers for the purpose of creating cheaper, more efficient hybrid vehicles,

- **Again, are you a fan of the World Bank?**

4. Partial forgiving of national debt for using alternative sources of energy (i.e. solar, wind, hydro) for factories, homes, businesses, etc. as will be determined by the United Nations Energy Task Force,

- **How do you feel about forgiving national debt?** If you are a small country with a ton of debt that you cannot pay off or support then this section is great for you, but if you are one of the nations owed money, you would not look favorably upon this.

5. The developed nations to set up a central fund so that poor countries can become in compliance with Kyoto and other climate agreements.

- **How does the funding affect you?** Are you a developed nation or a poor country? As a poor country, this clause works out great for you because you are reaping the benefits of having your country built up in a green way without having to pay for it. If you are a developed nation, however, you are footing the bill for everyone else. Do you really want to take that on? Can you afford to pay for the green initiatives of others or is that money needed for initiatives in your own country?

- **How will this fund be monitored?** As a developed nation, you would be extremely concerned with throwing around money without knowing exactly how it will be watched. This clause does not provide any way of knowing that the money you put into this fund would actually get used by countries to come into compliance with Kyoto. Are you willing to risk money you set aside for green projects being used to fund terrorists or militant groups?
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Analyzing the Overall Resolution

These are just some general questions you would ask yourself about the resolution:

- **Do I recognize global warming or climate change?** Yes, there is a difference. Your country may believe in climate change which is naturally occurring, but does it believe in Global Warming which is human induced?
- **Is this resolution helping the right people?** This resolution calls on an awful lot to be done in poor countries which will be increasing their contributions to global warming in the near future, but developed nations are the biggest contributors currently. Is such a plan in line with your countries beliefs, or do you believe that it is more important to have industrialized nations do something about their overwhelming contributions first?
- **Is this the best way to achieve the goal?** The goal of this resolution is to combat Global Warming through addressing Greenhouse Emissions, but does this resolution achieve that, or is there a better way to do it?