# BIGMUN 2018 – 8th ANNUAL SESSION

# Crisis Committee Guide

## FEBRUARY 21st – FEBRUARY 25th

# 1. What is the Crisis Committee?

The Crisis Committee (CC) is BIGMUN's only forum which operates "in real time". What is meant by this is that the topic of discussion is constantly developing, as events theoretically unfold in the crisis which the Chairs of the CC have meticulously prepared.

In the CC, Delegates must constantly respond to the developments which take place. Additionally, the crisis for the CC is first announced at the conference, meaning Delegates do not write position papers, but must still research their country's attitude towards the UN and attitude towards the UN's endeavours. Despite many differences between the CC and other forums, Delegates' focus is still on creating a resolution.

# 2. Presenting the Crisis

On the first day of session (Thursday 22$^{nd}$ February 2018) the crisis will be announced. There will be documents and speeches to introduce the crisis and there will be ample opportunity to ask questions. In the start – and with later developments – Delegates are given time to do research and to discuss with other Delegates what their country's response to the entire situation should be.

# 3. Participating Countries and Their Place in the Crisis

Usually, the crisis is place specific and may therefore impact some countries more than others. The placement of a country in relation to the crisis will not give it more power, however, Delegates should consider if their actions are acceptable to the nations affected by the crisis.

All the P5 countries (the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France and China) will be represented in the CC. Supplementing these nations will be a broad spread of Delegates representing other countries.

# 4. The Use of Technology in the Crisis Committee

In the CC technology will be used to a large extent and mainly in the following ways:
- The resolution will be made in a Google Doc and shared with Delegates, so they may view it and write amendments which align with what is already written.
- The Credits overview will be made in a Google Sheet and shared with Delegates, so they can follow their country's balance live.
- Amendments can be submitted digitally to save on paper.

**Delegates should bring a laptop or similar device to the conference.**

# 5. Procedure and General Practice

The CC follows an ad-hoc procedure and no nations have a veto power. This means that single amendments are discussed at a time, contributing to one resolution, and that no nation has the power to table an amendment without calling and winning a vote.

Seeing as there is only one crisis, there will also only be resolutions on this one topic. It is only expected that one resolution will be completed.

Aside from the added pressure of not knowing the crisis before the conference, the procedure is the same as with other Special Committees at BIGMUN, except for the inclusion of Credits, explained later in this guide.

In the CC, amendments can only be passed if sufficient funding is found amongst the Delegates in the committee. The cost (in Credits) to pass an amendment is decided upon by the chairs, depending on what the amendment entails. Before the Credits are addressed, an amendment must be passed through normal voting procedures. An average cost per Delegate is then made and announced to the Delegates. This is simply a recommendation and is NOT a binding amount they must give.

Following the announcement of the recommended contribution, the Chairs will read through the roll call list and ask Delegates how much they wish to contribute. When their country name is read out, they simply respond with the amount of Credits they wish to contribute. Delegates can choose not to contribute if the amendment does not align with their country's views.

Should enough Credits be given, the amendment passes. If there are excess Credits, then there are three options which can be pursued:
1. Delegates who donated the most Credits may be given some Credits back
2. The Credits may be stored and used on the next amendment, should the Delegates agree to this
3. Each Delegate who contributed may receive an equal share of the leftover Credits in rebate.

If there are insufficient Credits, the Chairs will proceed to another roll call list asking for further contributions. If there still aren't enough Credits contributed, then the amendment fails.

# 6. Overview of Voting Procedures Including Credits:

1. There is a *motion to move into voting procedures* on the amendment (this procedure only applies to whole amendments, not amendments to the 2nd degree).
   a. Chairs call for those in favour and against.
2. If the motion passes, the Chairs see if there are Credits stored from previous amendments. If so, Chairs ask the Delegates if they wish to use these Credits on the amendment. A simple vote decides this.
3. If more credits are required, a roll call is done, whereby each Delegate says how many (if any) Credits they will contribute to the amendment.
   a. If enough Credits are given, then the amendment passes.
   b. If too many Credits are given, then the amendment passes and:
      i. The Delegates who gave the most are given a fair amount in return, decided upon by the Chairs **and/or**
      ii. The Credits are saved for the next amendment, if the committee agrees to this by a simple vote **and/or**
      iii. An average of the remaining Credits is made and each Delegate who contributed to the amendment is given this in return.
   c. If insufficient Credits are given, then the Chairs announce that there are insufficient Credits to pass this amendment and that more will be required.
      i. They enter the roll call procedure and ask Delegates if they wish to contribute.
         1. If enough Credits can be found to meet the requirements, then the amendment passes.
         2. If there are still not enough Credits to meet the requirements, then the amendment fails.

*NOTE: Once in the Credits procedure, there may be no motions.*

**Delegates should familiarise themselves with this procedure.**

# 7. Credits and How They Work

The CC is the only forum at BIGMUN where Credits are used. Credits function as an abstract form of currency and are used to pass amendments.

At the start of the conference, each Delegate is awarded 100 Credits. Every day, the Chairs will allocate more Credits to each Delegate, though the size of the daily top-up is at their discretion. P5 countries (the U.S.A., the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, France and China) will be awarded 15-20% more in Credits than other Delegates to reflect their actual financial contributions to the United Nations. This privilege may be revoked by the Chairs should it be abused.

A Google Sheet will be shared by the Chairs to all Delegates and show how many Credits each Delegate has available to them. After each amendment passes, the Google Sheet will be updated. Daily top-ups will also be registered on the Google Sheet.

**Delegates in the CC should make sure to have a Google account.**

**Delegates in the CC should bring a device (laptop or tablet) to ensure they can participate fully in debates.**

Pledging amendments is binding and it is therefore not possible for Delegates to retract a pledge of Credits. It is not possible to transfer Credits between nations.