Letter From The Executive Board

Dear Wonderful Delegates,

Welcome to ECOSOC at SAIMUN '26! It is our absolute greatest joy to write this letter to you. As your Executive Board, we want to take a moment to tell you how incredibly proud we are of you for simply being here. Stepping into a Model UN committee takes immense courage. Whether this is your very first conference or you are a seasoned diplomat, please know that you are walking into a room filled with warmth, support, and endless possibilities.

Model United Nations is not just about rules and formal debate. It is a space where you get to build something beautiful together. Crafting a resolution is very much like creating a piece of luxury clothing. It requires the high-quality fabric of your research, the careful and intricate embroidery of your clauses, and a timeless design that truly serves humanity. Every single idea you bring to the table is a vital thread in that masterpiece.

If you feel your heart racing before a speech, please take a deep breath and remember that this room is your safe haven. You do not need to be a flawless superhero or a brooding dark knight to make a profound impact. You just need to be exactly who you are. Let your unique passion shine through, be brave enough to bring the thunder to your opening statements, and know that your Executive Board is cheering for you every step of the way. We are a squad, and we are going to figure out these complex global challenges together.

When you move into your unmoderated caucuses, we encourage you to approach your fellow delegates with deep empathy and a highly collaborative spirit. We are not here to defeat one another in debate. We are here to find common ground and build smooth, automated workflows of brilliant ideas that help every single nation thrive.

Please never hesitate to send a note to the dais or raise a point if you need help, guidance, or just a little encouragement. Our primary goal is to ensure you fall deeply in love with the magic of this experience. Believe in your voice, trust in your preparation, and get ready for an unforgettable journey.

With so much warmth, admiration, and encouragement,

The Executive Board,
ECOSOC, SAIMUN’26

Part 1: Understanding Model United Nations

Model United Nations is essentially a spectacular theatre of diplomacy. You will step into the shoes of an ambassador representing a specific country. Your job is to understand your assigned country's values, its history, and its goals. You will then come together with students representing other countries to discuss a massive global problem.

The beauty of MUN is that no single country can solve the problem alone. You will have to talk to each other, listen actively, negotiate gently, and write a collective document called a resolution. A resolution is simply a list of detailed ideas that the committee agrees upon to solve the problem at hand. By the end of this conference, you will have built friendships, honed your public speaking skills, and expanded your worldview.

The Magic of UNA-USA Rules of Procedure

Every game needs rules so that everyone gets a fair turn to play. In our simulation, we use the UNA-USA Rules of Procedure. These rules are designed to keep our debate organised, respectful, and highly efficient. Here is a simplified breakdown of how our committee will flow.

1. Roll Call. At the very beginning of the session, the Chairperson will call out the name of every country. When your country is called, you will raise your placard and say "Present" or "Present and Voting." Saying "Present and Voting" simply means you commit to voting yes or no on the final documents, and you will not abstain.

2. Setting the Agenda. Sometimes committees have two topics. You will debate and vote on which topic to discuss first. Once the agenda is set, the real fun begins!

3. The General Speakers List. This is the default mode of the committee. The Chairperson will ask all delegates who wish to speak to raise their placards. They will write down your names in a list. When it is your turn, you will walk up to the front and deliver a speech, usually lasting around one minute. This is your chance to introduce your country's broad opinions on the topic.

4. Yields (A Very Important UNA-USA Rule). Under UNA-USA rules, if you finish your speech before your time is up on the General Speakers List, you must "yield" your remaining time. You have three wonderful options to choose from:

- **Yield to the Chair:** You simply give the time back to the Chairperson. The committee moves on to the next speaker.
- **Yield to Another Delegate:** You can give your remaining time to a friend from another country who has similar ideas.
- **Yield to Questions:** You invite the committee to ask you questions about the speech you just gave. This is a brilliant way to show off your research!

5. Moderated Caucus. The General Speakers List can be very broad. If you want to focus on a specific part of the topic, you can raise your placard and propose a Moderated Caucus. You will suggest a total time, a speaking time, and a specific focus. If the committee votes yes, the Chair will call on delegates one by one to speak strictly on that specific sub-topic. There are no yields in a moderated caucus.

6. Unmoderated Caucus. This is everyone's favourite part. You can motion for an Unmoderated Caucus, which is essentially a structured break. During this time, you will stand up, walk around the room, find delegates who share your ideas, and start drafting your solutions on paper. This is where the real teamwork happens!

7. Points: If you need help or have a question during the debate, you can use a "Point."

- **Point of Personal Privilege:** Use this if you cannot hear the speaker, if the room is too hot, or if you need to use the restroom. You can interrupt a speaker for this if it is an emergency.
- **Point of Order:** Use this if you believe the Chairperson made a small mistake regarding the rules.
- **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** Use this if you are confused about the rules and need the Chairperson to explain what is happening.
- **Point of Information:** Use this to ask a speaker a question after they have yielded their time to questions.

Part 2: Introduction to the Economic and Social Council

You will be simulating the Economic and Social Council, lovingly known as ECOSOC. ECOSOC is one of the six main organs of the United Nations. It was established by the UN Charter in 1945. Think of ECOSOC as the heart of the United Nations' development efforts.

While the Security Council deals with wars and weapons, ECOSOC deals with making human lives genuinely better. It focuses on the world's economic, social, and environmental challenges. It consists of 54 member states elected by the General Assembly. ECOSOC is responsible for promoting higher standards of living, full employment, and economic and social progress.

Because ECOSOC is deeply concerned with human welfare, the topics debated here are incredibly complex and profoundly important. The decisions made in ECOSOC ripple out to influence education, healthcare, labour rights, and technological advancement across the entire globe. You have a magnificent responsibility in this committee.

Part 3: Introduction to the Agenda

Topic: Addressing Workforce Transformation and Ensuring Inclusive Economic Growth in the Age of AI-driven Automation.

We are standing on the edge of a technological revolution that will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another. Artificial Intelligence and automation are no longer science fiction. They are here right now. They are reading legal documents, performing complex surgeries, writing computer code, driving cars, and painting beautiful artworks.

This brings us to the core of our debate. We have two massive concepts to understand: Workforce Transformation and Inclusive Economic Growth.

What is Workforce Transformation?

Workforce transformation refers to the drastic changes happening in the job market because of technology. Throughout history, technology has always changed how we work. The invention of the tractor changed farming. The invention of the assembly line changed manufacturing. The invention of the computer changed office work.

However, AI is fundamentally different. Previous machines replaced human physical labour. Artificial Intelligence is beginning to replace human cognitive labour, which means tasks involving thinking, analysing, and deciding.

The Threat of Job Displacement. Many traditional jobs are at risk. Consider a taxi driver. If autonomous, self-driving cars become perfectly safe and much cheaper to operate, taxi companies will replace their human drivers with AI. Consider a warehouse worker. Robots powered by AI can now organise, lift, and pack boxes 24 hours a day without getting tired or

needing health insurance. We are looking at a future where millions of jobs might simply disappear.

The Promise of Job Creation. It is important to remember that technology also creates jobs. A century ago, nobody could have imagined a job title like "Social Media Manager" or "Cloud Computing Engineer." AI will create entirely new industries. We will need AI ethicists to make sure algorithms are fair. We will need data engineers to build the systems. We will need prompt designers to communicate with the AI.

The massive challenge for ECOSOC is managing the transition. The truck driver who loses their job tomorrow cannot magically become an AI data engineer the next day. How do we help these displaced workers? How do we build educational systems that prepare students for jobs that do not even exist yet?

What is Inclusive Economic Growth?

Economic growth happens when a country produces more wealth and better services over time. However, history shows us that economic growth is not always fair. Sometimes, a country's total wealth goes up, but all the new money goes to a tiny group of billionaires, while the working class stays poor.

"Inclusive" economic growth means that the benefits of a growing economy are shared fairly among all citizens, regardless of their background, gender, or location.

AI-driven automation presents a terrifying risk to inclusive growth. Currently, a handful of massive technology companies located in a few wealthy nations own the most powerful AI systems. These companies are generating unbelievable profits. Meanwhile, an automated factory in a developing nation might fire thousands of local workers. If we do not act, AI will make the rich unimaginably richer and push the working class into severe poverty. ECOSOC must find ways to share the financial benefits of AI with everyone.

Part 4: Historical Context and Past Industrial Revolutions

To understand where we are going, we must look at where we have been. Humanity has survived three major industrial revolutions, and we are currently entering the fourth.

The First Industrial Revolution (Late 18th Century). This era introduced mechanical production powered by water and steam. Hand production methods shifted to machines. People moved from rural farms to noisy, crowded cities to work in textile factories. It was a time of immense economic growth, but also terrible labour conditions.

The Second Industrial Revolution (Late 19th Century). This era brought mass production fueled by electricity and the assembly line. Trains and telegraphs connected the world like never before. Corporations grew massive. Labour unions had to fight fiercely to establish the weekend, safe working conditions, and child labour laws.

The Third Industrial Revolution (Late 20th Century). This is the digital revolution. Personal computers, the internet, and basic information technology have completely changed global communication. This era automated many administrative tasks and created the globalised economy we know today.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution (Today) We are living in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. This era is characterised by a fusion of technologies that blur the lines between the physical, digital, and biological spheres. AI, robotics, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles, and quantum computing are merging together. The speed of this current revolution has no historical precedent. It is evolving at an exponential rate, disrupting almost every industry in every country.

Part 5: The Dual Nature of AI in the Global Workforce

As ECOSOC delegates, you must look at both the incredible benefits and the severe dangers of AI-driven automation.

The Triumphs of Automation

It is crucial to recognise that AI is a tool of phenomenal power that can lift humanity out of poverty if used correctly.

- **Agriculture:** AI-powered drones can scan fields and apply exactly the right amount of water and fertiliser to specific plants, dramatically increasing food production while saving resources.
- **Healthcare:** AI algorithms can diagnose certain cancers from medical images much faster and more accurately than human doctors. This can bring world-class healthcare diagnostics to remote villages that have internet access but lack specialised medical personnel.
- **Safety:** Robots are taking over the most dangerous jobs on the planet. Robots now inspect deep-sea oil rigs, defuse explosives, and clean up nuclear waste, saving countless human lives.
- **Productivity:** AI can eliminate the incredibly boring and repetitive tasks that humans dislike. This theoretically frees up human beings to pursue creative, artistic, and deeply fulfilling endeavours.

The Dangers and Vulnerabilities

Despite the bright possibilities, the risks are keeping economists awake at night.

1. The Polarisation of the Workforce Economists warn of a "hollowing out" of the middle class. AI tends to replace middle-skill jobs, such as bookkeeping, clerical work, and basic manufacturing. We might be left with a workforce divided into two extremes. On one side, high-skill, highly paid professionals like software developers and executives. On the other side are

low-skill, low-paid workers in jobs that are too physically complex or require too much human empathy to automate, such as caretakers, cleaners, and retail workers.

2. Premature Deindustrialisation in Developing Nations This is perhaps the most critical issue for the Global South. Historically, poor countries became wealthier by using cheap human labour to manufacture goods for rich countries. This allowed them to build infrastructure and a middle class. However, if a robot in a wealthy country can manufacture a t-shirt cheaper than a human worker in a developing country, the wealthy country will bring its factories back home. Developing nations might lose their primary pathway to economic growth before they even have a chance to modernise.

3. The Gender Divide Studies suggest that automation may disproportionately affect women. Many of the clerical, administrative, and retail jobs facing the highest risk of automation are currently held predominantly by female workers. Furthermore, women are heavily underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. If the new jobs being created are primarily in tech, we risk widening the global gender wealth gap.

4. The Psychological Toll Work provides many people with a sense of identity, purpose, and community. Even if a displaced worker receives financial assistance, losing their livelihood to a machine can cause severe psychological distress, leading to social unrest and political instability.

Part 6: Bloc Analysis and Country Stances

In Model UN, countries with similar economic situations and political beliefs often team up to write resolutions. These groups are called blocs. Understanding which bloc your country belongs to will help you find friends and allies in the committee.

The Developed Nations Bloc (The Global North)

Examples: United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, The Republic of Korea. These countries are the pioneers of AI technology. They host the headquarters of the world's largest tech corporations. Their primary goal is to encourage innovation and maintain their technological supremacy. However, they also face severe internal challenges. They have ageing populations and are actively using automation to fill labour shortages. Their main focus in this committee will be funding lifelong learning programs, reforming higher education to focus on STEM, and debating new tax structures to fund social safety nets for displaced workers. They want minimal international regulations that might slow down their technological progress.

The Emerging Economies Bloc

Examples: India, Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, Indonesia. These countries have rapidly growing economies and massive, youthful populations. They are incredibly ambitious and want to become tech superpowers themselves. However, a large percentage of their populations still

work in traditional manufacturing, agriculture, or the informal sector. Their greatest fear is that AI will replace these jobs before their citizens can be retrained. In this committee, these nations will demand technology transfer from the wealthy countries. They will fight for international funds to help build their digital infrastructure and expand access to high-speed internet. They want to ensure they are creators of AI, not just consumers of foreign technology.

The Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

Examples: Somalia, Haiti, Afghanistan, Yemen, Chad. These nations face the most severe challenges. Before they can even begin to worry about advanced AI replacing jobs, they must deal with fundamental issues like extreme poverty, lack of reliable electricity, and limited internet access. This bloc is deeply terrified of the "Digital Divide." They fear that as the rest of the world accelerates into an AI-powered future, they will be entirely left behind, isolated, and forgotten. Their primary objective in this committee is to secure massive financial aid and infrastructural support. They will argue that the UN must prioritise basic technological connectivity for all before focusing purely on advanced AI regulation.

Part 7: Solutions and Policy Options (What your Working Papers should look like)

When you enter Unmoderated Caucuses, you will need to propose actual solutions. Here are some brilliant policy areas your resolutions should explore.

1. Revolutionizing Education and Lifelong Learning. Our current education system was designed for the Second Industrial Revolution. It teaches students to memorize facts and obey bells. We need an education system for the AI age. Resolutions should focus on teaching critical thinking, emotional intelligence, and complex problem-solving. Furthermore, education cannot stop at age 18 or 22. We must establish government-funded "Lifelong Learning Accounts" where workers receive money every year specifically to learn new skills as their industries evolve.

2. Social Safety Nets and Universal Basic Income. If massive job displacement occurs, how do people buy food? Many economists are proposing a Universal Basic Income. This is a system where the government gives every single citizen a set amount of money every month, unconditionally, regardless of whether they work or not. This provides a safety cushion for displaced workers. You can debate how to fund this. Some delegates might propose a "Robot Tax," where corporations pay a tax for every human worker they replace with an automated system.

3. Empowering the Global South and Bridging the Digital Divide. Resolutions must include actionable plans to build digital infrastructure in developing nations. You could propose an international fund managed by the World Bank or ECOSOC to subsidize the construction of fiber-optic cables and satellite internet in rural areas. You must also include frameworks for fair

"Technology Transfer," ensuring that wealthy tech companies share their foundational AI models and knowledge with universities in developing nations.

4. Transitioning to the Green Economy A brilliant way to create new jobs for displaced workers is to combine AI policy with climate change policy. Displaced factory workers can be retrained to install solar panels, build wind turbines, and upgrade public transportation systems. ECOSOC resolutions should heavily promote the creation of these "Green Collar" jobs.

5. Protecting Labour Rights in the Gig Economy. AI has facilitated the rise of the gig economy, such as ride-sharing apps and freelance platforms. These workers often lack health insurance, paid leave, and job security because the algorithm treats them as independent contractors rather than employees. Resolutions must update international labour laws to ensure that gig workers managed by AI algorithms receive fair wages, transparency, and basic human rights.

Part 8: Key Questions a Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)

To help guide your research and your speeches, consider these essential questions. A strong, award-winning resolution will attempt to answer as many of these as possible in profound detail.

1. How can the international community accurately predict which industries and specific job sectors are most vulnerable to immediate AI displacement?
2. What specific educational reforms must be implemented globally to shift the focus from rote memorization to skills that AI cannot easily replicate, such as creativity and empathy?
3. Who should bear the financial responsibility for retraining displaced workers? Should it be the individual, the corporation that replaced them, or the national government?
4. Is Universal Basic Income a realistic global solution, and if so, how can it be implemented and funded across nations with vastly different economic capacities?
5. How can the United Nations prevent "premature deindustrialization" in the Global South and ensure developing nations remain competitive in a heavily automated global market?
6. What international frameworks can be established to encourage wealthy technology corporations to share AI resources, infrastructure, and training with developing nations?
7. How can we update international labour rights to protect workers who are managed entirely by algorithms rather than human managers?
8. How can member states ensure that the deployment of AI algorithms does not reinforce existing gender and racial inequalities within the workforce?

Part 9: Glossary of Important Terms

As a diplomat, you must speak the language of international economics. Use these terms in your speeches to sound incredibly knowledgeable!

- **Algorithm:** A set of mathematical rules or instructions given to an AI program to help it learn, analyse data, and make decisions.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The simulation of human intelligence processes by computer systems, including learning, reasoning, and self-correction.
- **Automation:** The use of technology to perform tasks with minimal human intervention.
- **Digital Divide:** The gap between demographics and regions that have access to modern information and communications technology and those that do not.
- **Gig Economy:** A labour market characterized by the prevalence of short-term contracts or freelance work as opposed to permanent jobs.
- **Global North / Global South:** Terms used to denote the socioeconomic and political divide between the wealthy, developed nations mostly located in the Northern Hemisphere, and the developing nations mostly located in the Southern Hemisphere.
- **Machine Learning:** A subset of AI that enables systems to learn and improve from experience without being explicitly programmed.
- **Premature Deindustrialization:** A phenomenon where developing countries lose their manufacturing jobs to automation in wealthier nations before they have achieved high-income status.
- **Reskilling / Upskilling:** The process of learning new skills so you can do a different job, or of training people to do a different job.
- **Universal Basic Income (UBI):** A sociopolitical financial transfer policy concept in which all citizens of a given population regularly receive a legally stipulated and equal financial grant paid by the government.

Part 10: A Trainer's Guide to Excellent Research

I know looking at an empty Google search bar can be daunting. Let me break down exactly how you should prepare for our conference. Follow these steps, and you will be a superstar.

Step 1: Understand Your Assigned Country. Before you even search for AI, you must understand who you are representing. Go to the CIA World Factbook or BBC Country Profiles. Find out your country's population, its main exports, its GDP per capita, and its type of government. Are you a wealthy tech giant or a developing agricultural nation? This dictates everything you will say in committee.

Step 2: Read the CIA World Factbook Economy Section. Look at what percentage of your country's population works in agriculture versus manufacturing or services. If 60% of your people work in agriculture, you must focus your AI research on farming and rural connectivity.

Step 3: Search for Official Government Documents. Type the name of your country into a search engine alongside phrases like "National AI Strategy," "Ministry of Technology," or "Labour policies on automation." Many countries have officially published their blueprints for the next ten years. If your country has a National AI Strategy document, read the executive summary!

Step 4: Check the United Nations Databases. Go to the official website of the International Labour Organization. Search for their reports on the "Future of Work." Look at ECOSOC's past resolutions regarding technological advancement. Seeing what the UN has already done will help you realize what still needs to be done.

Step 5: Formulate Your Position. Once you have all this information, write down three clear goals your country wants to achieve in this committee. Whenever you feel lost during the actual debate, look back at these three goals to ground yourself.