

The Africa We Want

Africa Tunayotaka

LAU Model African Union Handbook

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I. Preface

The Lebanese American University is pleased to have your esteemed school join us in exploring the world of the African Union.

Kindly find in the next few pages your guide to the Lebanese American University Model African Union program (LAU MAU). In it, you will find a description of the program, the schedule of the training sessions and LAUMAU conference, our attendance policy, a description of the tasks of a school's representative (called an advisor and/or student advisor), general rules adhered by the Lebanese American University, a map of the Lebanese American University campus in Beirut, a description of each of the LAU MAU teams, an index with definition of LAU MEU key words and LAUMAU Directory.

II. Index of MAU Terminology

Before you proceed with this handbook, kindly find below an index of key terminologies of the MAU program. They shall help you in comprehending the content of this booklet.

- A. Advisor** – The school official responsible for a particular MAU delegation.
- B. Background Guides** – Information regarding the topic discussed in a MAU committee, distributed to the delegates before the conference. Required to begin research on the country's position.
- C. Delegate** – A student acting as a representative of a country in a Model AU committee for the final conference.
- D. Delegation** - The group of students from one school representing a country in respective committees at the MAU Conference.
- E. Final Conference** – A two-day conference at the end of the Model AU program, where students become delegates representing their countries in MEU committees.
- F. Head Delegate** – a member of the school's delegation who is also its leader.
- G. Position paper** – Written by a delegate before the final conference, the position paper represents a country's position regarding the topic being discussed.
- H. Secretariat** – The staff of the Model AU.
- I. Secretary-General** – The leader of a Model African Union.
- J. SR Help Desk** – Short for School Relations Help Desk, a desk with secretariat members ready to answer all your questions regarding deadlines, distribution into classes, and registration. It is also the desk where attendance reports should be deposited.

- K. Registration Desk** – The advisor or the head delegate of each school should pass by the registration desk on every session to register the school's attendance.
- L. Training Material** – The information on a particular Training Session, which is imparted by the trainer to prepare the student for the Final Conference.
- M. Training Session** – A training day where students come to a previously selected Lebanese American University campus to learn about several topics that will prepare them for the Final Conference.

III. LAU Model African Union in Brief

i. *Introduction*

The Model African Union is a simulation of the African Union and its agencies. The Lebanese American University is proud to launch its first ever High School Model African Union program.

The purpose of the program is to bring Lebanese High School students and the community at large the opportunity to deeply explore the African Union and its strategic geographic potential as well as the AU Member States and their thriving economic and human capabilities, and the interconnection and interrelatedness among the AU Member States at the commercial, cultural, and social levels in order to understand the nature of the African continent in world politics.

The Training Sessions increase students' cognition about African Union, rules of procedure in an African Union conference, research and interpretation skills, writing a position paper, public speaking and role playing, conflict resolution and negotiations, caucusing and resolution writing, among others.

By the end of these sessions, the students will become delegates (representatives) of countries and AU political parties who take part in African

Union session simulations. The simulations occur over the course of a two-day Conference where students play the role of African leaders and politicians and discuss various current topics.

In order to participate, each delegate must pay a fixed fee of USD 100.00 and each advisor must pay a fixed fee of USD 50.00

***Public and Semi-Private schools are exempted from this fee.*

ii. *Certificates*

- i **Certificate of Participation:** All students who adhere to the attendance policy will receive a Certificate of Participation (attendance policy discussed later on in the handbook).
- ii **Advisors' Certificate:** To show appreciation to the advisors' cooperation, registered school advisors will be awarded a Advisors Certificate.

iii. *Awards*

- i. **Position Paper:** Delegates who present an excellent and well-written position paper will receive the Position Paper Award.
- ii. **Diplomacy Award:** Delegates who showcase a remarkable sense of diplomacy during their debate in the Final Conference will receive a Diplomacy Award. The diplomacy award translates into a 25% scholarship at the Lebanese American University.
- iii. **Secretary-General:** Delegates who showcase excellent diplomatic skills and present a well-written position paper will be awarded the Secretary-General Award. The Secretary-General Award translates into a 50% scholarship at the Lebanese American University.

- iv. **Best Delegation Award:** Schools with the highest ratio of awards with respect to the size of their delegation receive the Best Delegation Award.

iv. *Training Session Times & Location*

LAU Model African Union Training Sessions take place at the LAU Beirut Campus **only**. Sessions are held between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Below are the dates for the 1st LAU MAU:

Date	Event
Saturday , October 5, 2019	OCE SM Inauguration Ceremony
Saturday , November 2, 2019	Training Session I
Saturday , November 16, 2019	Training Session II
Saturday , January 18, 2020	Training Session III
Saturday , February 29, 2020	Final Conference Day I
Sunday , March 1, 2020	Final Conference Day II

Kindly bookmark your calendars for these dates, and please note that they could be tentative. Any changes will be communicated to you in due time.

v. *Delegation Size & Restrictions*

Delegation size in MAU can range from a minimum of **4** delegates and a maximum of **16** delegates.

Delegates can only partake in a program once, but the delegates are not allowed to be part of more than two or more programs during the same year. If a delegate wants to be part of the 1st LAU MAU, they can only participate GCLAUMUN and not any other program.

vi. *LAU MAU Topics*

- Introduction to LAU MAU and the African Union
- Research and Interpretation | Rules of Procedure
- Research and Interpretation | Role Playing
- Public Speaking | Role Playing
- Conflict Resolution | Negotiations
- Caucusing and Resolution Writing
- Leadership Skills
- Africa Day | Mock Simulation

vii. *Model African Union Slogan*

In 2013, the African Union established the development plan that they envision for their continent under the name "**Agenda 2063: The Africa we want**". The new agenda prioritizes inclusive social and economic development, continental and regional integration, democratic governance, peace and security, all while focusing on the pan-African ambitions for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity.

These goals and objectives are translated into seven main aspirations and flagship projects which aim to reach them.

Currently, the African Union is working on twelve flagship projects and programmes within the first ten-year implementation plan (2013-2023). The 1st LAU MAU aims to support the delegates in understanding the importance of this agenda and its vitality for the African continent, in addition to grasping the significance of unity despite differences.

viii. Attendance Policy

For your bright students' best benefit, it is highly recommended that they attend all of LAU MAU's Training Sessions. However, some absences may be allowed as long as they are in line with the following attendance policy:

1. Students are only allowed to miss **one session**;
2. The absence would only be taken into consideration if there is a valid reason supported by appropriate documents. Examples of valid excuses include, but are not limited to: Students who were seriously ill should bring medical reports to the next training session; students who had exams or transportation issues should bring a school report, as for those who were outside Lebanon, should have a copy of their stamped passport page.
4. All reports should be handed to the School Relations Help Desk present at the next Training Session. The report should include the full student name, official school name, and the name of the School Relations Coordinator.
5. Please note that the excuses provided will be subject to evaluation.
6. Students who miss a second training session will not be awarded a certificate of participation.
7. Attendance during the Training Sessions will be taken twice, once before the lunch break and once after the break; if any student is absent in either roll call, he/she will be considered absent.
8. Lateness may also be considered an absence.

9. The purpose of this policy is to provide your devoted students with an opportunity to prosper and learn in a serious, well disciplined, and enjoyable environment with the highest standards of education and sense of commitment.

ix. Roles and Duties of Advisors and Head Delegates

As mentioned in the index at the beginning, an advisor is “the school's official responsible for a particular MAU delegation”. The School Relations Coordinators contact the Advisor to notify schools and students in whatever they need to know. Kindly find below a list of an advisor's tasks.

1. It is highly recommended to have an email account (Gmail account is preferable), to be familiar with mail and computer issues, and to check email for updates and reply to the SR Coordinators' emails.
2. Keeping the students (especially the head delegates) updated with all the upcoming tasks and important dates, especially Training Sessions.
3. Attending all advisors' meetings during the Training Sessions and it is greatly appreciated if advisors participate in **advisors' sessions**.
4. Attending advisors' workshops/lectures (if any).
5. Telling the students about their assigned classes before entering TS1.
6. Respecting the **deadlines** with regard to registration forms and other important tasks.
7. Informing students of attendance policy and therefore ensuring their **attendance on the first training session** and presenting valid excuses if they should miss any other sessions.

8. Attending the advisors and Head delegates' meeting during the sessions is highly recommended as the Secretariat always seek the advisors' feedback.

9. Observing the training sessions to make sure that their students are benefiting from the training but, naturally, **without any intervention** during the holding of the sessions.

To ensure their comfort during the training sessions, advisors may be seated in the university's Cafeteria in the Beirut campus.

A school's esteemed advisor is a highly appreciated asset for the success and the benefit of the school's delegation and for the success of the LAU MAU program.

This is why, as noted above, a school's registered advisor will receive an Advisor's certificate after the Conference in recognition and appreciation of his/her efforts.

In case the advisor is not present, the **Head Delegate** performs the tasks of the Advisor. The Head delegate is a current MAU delegate that also holds the responsibility of leading the **school delegation**, speaking on behalf of the remaining students, and attending the **Head Delegate meetings**.

x. LAU Rules

Since your students will be hosted in our campuses, we provide below excerpts from the Lebanese American University "Student Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct".

A non-exhaustive list of misconduct includes:

1. Cheating, fabrication, falsification, forgery, multiple submissions, plagiarism, complicity, or other forms of academic dishonesty.
2. Disruption, or interference, which impedes, impairs or obstructs teaching, research, administration.
3. Failure to provide proper identification upon request by University officers.
4. Conduct or discourse which is disorderly, obscene, or indecent use of Cellular phones in classrooms.
5. Tampering with or misuse of fire or any other safety equipment, or disregarding, circumventing, or disabling any security or safety device or system.
6. Possession, use, or distribution of alcoholic beverages.
7. Manufacturing, possession, use, exchange, trafficking, or distribution of narcotics or other controlled substances.
8. Disruption of the normal on-campus operations or activities through direct or indirect prohibited activities defined herein.
9. Violation of the Lebanese law on University premises or at University sponsored or supervised activities.
10. Placing of notices, posters, signs, handbills, etc. anywhere on University premises without proper authorization."

In addition to the above, and as of 2011-2012 Academic Year, the Lebanese American University became a non-smoking academic institution, thus ***smoking is prohibited within university campuses and premises.***

LAU Model African Union Directory :

Executive Directory:

Name	Position	Email Address
Prof. Elie Samia	AVP of Outreach and Civic Engagement Simulation Models Program Director	esamia@lau.edu.lb
Ms. Ghina Harb	Outreach & Leadership Programs Manager and Model African Union Program Coordinator	ghina.harb@lau.edu.lb
Mrs. Dana Hibri Ashi	Executive Assistant Central Communication Officer	dana.hibri04@lau.edu.lb

Student Leadership Directory:

Name	Position	Email Address
Joy Farhat	Secretary General	joymfarhat@gmail.com
Joumana Atara	Deputy Secretary-General	joumana.atara98@gmail.com
Mohamad Ali Kalasina	Director of School Relations	mohamadalikalassina@gmail.com