

2002 AMUN International Conference Convenes with Record Participation

Opening Plenary Session welcomes Representatives

JESSICA HEIKKILA
IPD Reporter

Over 1,000 people and 125 nations gathered together to listen to the Opening Plenary session of AMUN yesterday evening. Representatives gathered together as they waited for the session to begin, and started their own informal conference. Representatives were introducing themselves, starting informal topic discussions, talking about the drive to Chicago, and getting ready to debate.

As the crowd settled in, Secretary-General Shannon Dunn gave an introductory speech, informing participants of the various chairs, directors and other

conference roles.

Executive Director Brian Endless began the night with a speech on diplomacy and the United Nations. Endless stated that "We live in an interdependent world, and no nation is immune to the problems facing the world community."

The main theme of the night focused on various aspects diplomacy and his speech was the centerpiece of that theme. He also gave perhaps the most important piece of information, "Practice real diplomacy and involve others—both traditional allies and potential adversaries."

While the main point of the conference this week is to discuss international issues and develop resolutions, an extremely impor-



Over 1,000 Representatives, Faculty Advisors, Observers and Secretariat members were in attendance for the Opening Plenary Session.

tant aspect of doing this lands on your diplomatic ability. After his informative speech, and a few other remarks, the conference opened.

The nations represented at this conference are here to work towards peaceful international relations and to discuss important issues that affect all of them.

Hopefully our diverse nations can work together towards a common goal to resolve disputes behind a diplomatic table instead of on the battlefield.

African Nations Dominate ECOSOC

MICHAEL ANDERSEN
IPD Reporter

A large, well-organized cluster of African representatives led a general charge in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to set "sustainable development" as the first item of the council's agenda Saturday night.

As representatives spilled out of the room during the body's first caucus of the weekend, African diplomats seemed eager to sideline philosophical differences in order to present a united front when the body reconvened. Members politely resisted repeated efforts by representatives from Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to frame African politics as a struggle to overcome the intellectual residue of a European "imperialist mindset."

"We might as well stick to what we can accomplish here instead of getting into a big fight," said South African Representative Courtney Rickert when an exchange between Libyans and a pair of visitors from Korea and

Japan threatened to dominate debate.

"Economically we are weak, socially we are weak, but we are a voting bloc," Roland McKay of Burkina Faso told fellow representatives, urging them to make the most of what power they had.

While other groups of representatives continued to debate which of five general issue areas should be considered first, the African caucus was already discussing which areas its members wished to push as second and third priorities.

Some of these other caucuses, though, did seem to be leaning toward choosing sustainable development as the body's first priority when the recess ended.

After delegates took their seats, Alex May of Nigeria, one of several diplomats who dominated debate at the Africans' caucus, moved to set sustainable development as the body's first priority. Without strong or united opposition, the proposal passed by a wide margin.

Security Council Examines Zones of Conflict

The United Nations Security Council found itself charged with responding to several world events during its first session late yesterday evening.

Simulation Director Gregory E. Adams provided the body with information on topics ranging from the death of a UN official in the West Bank to ethnic violence in Burundi.

Russia called for immediate action in the matter of a reported joint military strike by the United States and the United Kingdom on a mobile radar in southern Iraq, where the Security Council lately has focused most of its attention.

"We're going to have to talk about it," said Chinese Representative Erica Albertson. "Just be-

cause it's difficult doesn't mean we should put it off."

Other representatives disagreed, arguing in favor of dealing with the West African crisis. Russian Representative Rohan Mandelia said the matter could be addressed quickly, allowing the committee to move on to other matters.

"It may not be possible for us to finish" if matters such as military action against Iraq are addressed first, said Mandelia.

The Council appeared to side with Russia, as it was considering a draft resolution on Burundi at the close of its evening session. Mandelia said most of the work was done and a vote would come quickly.

General Assembly Committees Set Agendas

First Committee

CARSON RIZOR
IPD Reporter

The United Nations First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) has begun the lengthy and difficult process of deciding how to regulate the use of anti-personnel mines. In a procedural move, the committee voted to address the topic, the first of two before the group.

Despite apparent agreement on the importance of discussing the topic, representatives were divided on how to proceed. North Korean representatives Chase Meyer and David Campbell say landmines are necessary to protect their borders, and accuse the United States of creating that need.

"The United States poses a threat to our security because it has been historically hostile [to us] and President Bush has explicitly threatened our country. If they were to pull out, we could work toward peace with our southern brothers and would not need land mines to keep out American forces," said Meyer.

United States representative Ben Weimert declined to comment on his country's use of anti-personnel mines, but says the U.S. is open to removing mines that are no longer needed.

"The United States is looking to give as much humanitarian aid as necessary to complete the removal of landmines in developing nations," said Weimert. "However, the U.S. would be opposed to any resolution that infringes upon the sovereignty rights of any nation for the purposes of defense."

Outside of the Korean conflict, anti-personnel mines pose an ever-present threat to civilians in many African nations. Representatives from those nations are seeking international aid in their removal.

"Most of the African nations want the removal of landmines," said Zimbabwe representative Ryan Wright. "Obviously, cost is prohibitive." Wright said the mines are a world problem, so funding for removal should come from the international community.

cussing the second topic area. Brazil suggested the committee first address this topic, which includes emphasis on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership.

Caucusing began immediately as member states broke into large regional groups. G-77 nations combined to share ideas about public-private partnerships, regional cooperation, and reducing tariffs. Kara Nichols, the representative from the Republic of Congo, commented, "The Republic of Congo would really like to pursue regional partnerships." The representative expressed thankfulness for current aid and an interest in "moving more towards long-term interests."

Geoff Stanley, the representative from Nigeria, said the nation was "most concerned with developing ourselves." Nigeria hoped to move toward a larger manufacturing sector and to reduce dependency on oil exports.

Latin American states gathered to draft a resolution regarding economic cooperation. Kristen Patrick, the representative from Argentina, said the nation was working its "way back up to being a developed country."

The United States representative, Mark Grams, said the United States supported the move to the second topic because, "[it] has more of a feature to eradicate poverty." Grams expressed concern regarding the ineffectiveness of the Programme of Action over the last two decades.

The Mexican representative, Leslie Simdom, agreed with the United States' opinion regarding the inadequate implementation of the Programme of Action. She said Mexico hoped to define, "what worked for us in the past and use that to work with least-developed nations."

Drew Kniffin, the representative from Greece, disagreed with the move to discuss economic cooperation and argued it was putting "the cart before the horse." He explained that globalization must be addressed before there can be a discussion of economic cooperation.

The Arab states' caucus emphasized the importance of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in promoting economic cooperation and discussed reforming its structure to prioritize regional groups instead of granting special status to nations with higher levels of trade. Oman representative

Nate Jones expressed a desire to create a "level playing field" for negotiations within the WTO.

Over the next few days, the Second Committee will continue to discuss the relationship between developed and developing countries, regional economic cooperation, public-private endeavors, multilateral solutions, and the proper role of the state.

Third Committee

ANTHONY PERROZZI
IPD Reporter

The first official meeting of the Third Committee of the General Assembly convened late yesterday evening to discuss issues of international drug control and the protection of children in armed conflict.

The session began with an explanation of procedural rules and general concerns about the conference for the first hour. Following the explanation, representatives motioned for a suspension of the meeting to hold an informal caucus outside the room and passed the motion by majority vote. Representatives quickly separated into smaller groups that consisted of countries in the same voting bloc. The priority of each bloc was to reach a consensus on which issue to address first on the speaker's agenda at tomorrow morning's committee session.

"The purpose of putting this bloc together is to reach a consensus," said Elliott Parr, a representative from Guinea. "We can accomplish a lot if we agreed on a particular issue to talk about first."

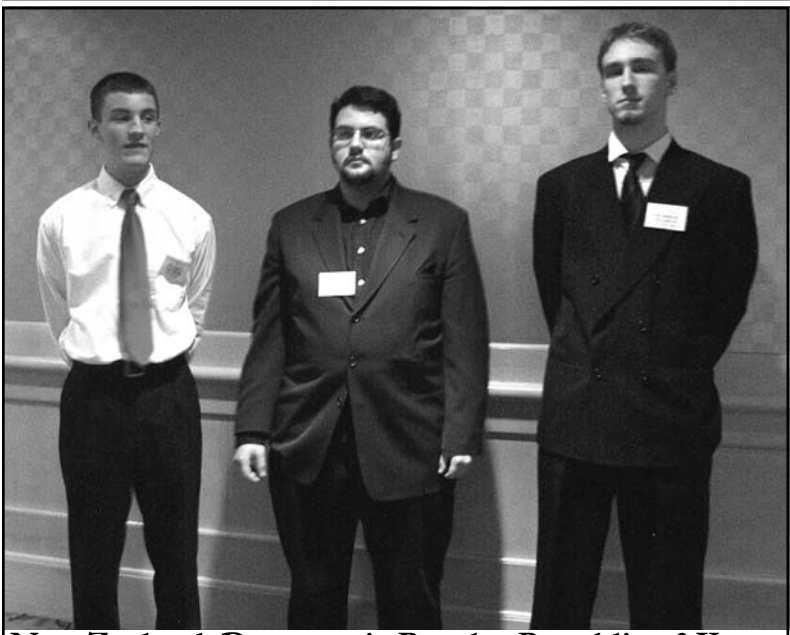
One of the larger blocs in the informal caucus was that of the African countries. The majority of African nations represented in the bloc wanted to address the protection of children in armed conflict first because they said it took precedence over international drug control. However, representatives from South Africa were strongly opposed to placing the protection of armed children in conflict first on the agenda.

"South Africa would like to start with international drug problem because we feel it is a very critical problem and a priority for our country," said Lauren Derebey, a South African representative.

Another major bloc that formed during the caucus consisted of mostly eastern European countries. Representatives from



Representative Justin Meyers of Denmark (foreground center) leads the European Union in discussions of topic selection in the General Assembly First Committee.



New Zealand, Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea Urge Ratification of 1989 Protocol For Children

In a news conference held late yesterday evening, Representatives from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and New Zealand called for the United States and Somalia to join all other UN nations in ratifying the 1989 Convention on The Rights of the Child. The protocol in effect, bans the active recruitment and use of children under the age of 16 in armed forces and active conflict among other things. The alliance is an unusual one considering both nation's position on human rights and nuclear weapons. Representatives are shown from left to right: Blake Wilson of New Zealand, Aaron Jorbin and Austin Smokowicz of the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea.

Committee agendas discussed in General Assembly

GA FROM 1

Kazakhstan and Brazil supported international drug control as the priority issue. Their reasoning was that international drug control crosses many international borders, which is important in a world that is being increasingly affected by the impact of globalization. Also, these representatives said that international drug control is a more defined, clearer topic than the children's rights issue.

"Children's rights in armed conflict has so many ambiguities that we won't get to the second issue. International drug control is much clearer," said Janet Lee, representative from Brazil.

Using the same rationale, some countries in the eastern European

bloc said international drug control should be placed second on the speaking agenda because it is a simpler, clearer issue to discuss.

"The issue that is simpler should be placed second on the agenda," said Kate Eyerman, a representative from Belarus. "I'm not looking down at international drug control or saying that it is non-essential to our session, but I believe it is a simpler issue to discuss."

Although many of the blocs in the informal caucus did not reach a universal consensus among their groups, much progress was made in the discussion that occurred. The selection of the issue that will be officially debated will take place in today's morning committee session at 8:30 a.m.

Press Release | Norway

The Kingdom of Norway wishes to extend its support for the rights of children involved in armed conflict worldwide. Norway identifies with and extends its help to these children, and would like to further its position by submitting a resolution in the Third Committee on Sunday.

Norway would like to see the United Nations Children's Rep-

resentative reclassified and designated as a permanent position in order to better serve the world and to achieve its goals.

Norway would be glad to discuss the topic with all interested states and would appreciate the support and endorsement of the resolution from any and all concerned Member States. Thank you!

Personal Notices

SC/HSC Dais Staff: You're doing great! Keep up the good work!

-Ryan

EEE: You've got your first personal. You go girl!

-"That boy"

RETRO FLASHBACK

The AMUN Representative Dance!
CRYSTAL BALLROOM B-C, 10:00 P.M. - 2:00 A.M.

INTERNATIONAL PRESS DELEGATION

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Publication Policy:

Editorials, Press Releases, Personal Ads, cartoons or any other contributions to the *AMUN Daily Chronicle* should be submitted, in writing, to the IPD Office in the Atlanta Room. Any topic concerning the Conference or world issues is acceptable.

All submissions must be legible to be accepted. The Secretariat reserves the right to accept, edit or reject all submissions.

2003 Country Lottery

The lottery for AMUN 2003 will be held on Monday, 25 November 2002, at 11:00 a.m. Take the first step toward getting the country of your choice and sign up now. There is a \$50 non-refundable deposit per country required at the time of application, and it will be applied toward your school's 2003 fees.

As an added incentive to all lottery participants, any school which registers through the lottery will receive a \$5 per delegate discount on all delegate fees for the 2003 AMUN Conference. The AMUN 2003 Conference dates are 22-25 November 2003. At the conclusion of the lottery, all future delegation assignments will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please direct any questions about this lottery process to the Secretary-General, who can be reached through the Conference Services Desk in the ballroom lobby.

Lottery applications are available from the Conference Services Desk and are due to the Registration/Finance Office (Atlanta Room) by Monday at 11:00 am.

World Court Sets Docket, Elects President

AMANDA ZULAUF
IPD Reporter

The 2002 AMUN International Court of Justice (ICJ) opened its first session by electing a president and establishing the court docket.

Secretary-General Shannon Dunn swore in the justices who then went on to elect Representative Rebecca Brown of Finland, as president of the ICJ. Brown defeated Representative Nyika Kupa of Uganda.

Over the next several days, the court will be hearing three cases of international concern: *Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda*, *Liechtenstein v. Germany*, and *Spain v. Canada*.

The events during a forcible boarding and violations charge against a Spanish vessel outside of Canadian waters compose *Spain v. Canada*. A vessel flying the Spanish flag, the *Estai*, was seized on 9 March 1995, just beyond Canada's Exclusive Economic Zone. The justices will seek to obtain answers concerning applicability of international and domestic laws regarding this case.

Laura Woodruff, advocate for Spain, commented, "We're hoping that under international law, the ICJ will find Canada was wrong in its confiscation."

In response, Courtney Stover, advocate for Canada, stated, "Spain was overfishing outside Canada's economic zone, a repeated offense largely overlooked by

Human Rights Commission Forms Into Committees

JESSICA HEIKKILA
IPD Reporter

The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) set off debate over which topic to bring to the floor with many objections and many proposals. After two hours of debate and caucusing, the group decided to bring the refugee topic to the floor. There were plenty of ideas but not enough approval, which halted most of the debate. While the African and Middle Eastern nations were almost at a consensus to bring Rights of Refugees to debate, the European

New Sessions for AMUN Faculty Advisors

Based on requests from Faculty Advisors (FAs) at previous AMUN Conferences, this year we will feature two sessions intended for and coordinated by FAs at the Conference. The sessions are:

Faculty Session I, Sunday, 10:00 - 11:00 am: What is the "Best" Form of Model UN Organization for Your School - Club, Team or Credit Course?

Faculty Session II, Monday,

the international community. There is a delicate balance of state actions within their domestic and economic boundaries. We desire to draw attention to these environmental issues."

Liechtenstein v. Germany centers around World War II reparations. The dispute centers primarily around a painting owned by Liechtenstein nationals prior to World War II, and currently in Germany's possession. Released information asserts that Liechtenstein pleads for compensation for its property from Germany, while Germany is expected to question the ICJ's jurisdiction.

Liechtenstein representative Nish Nirmal commented, "We are hoping for the right decision, to make sure that Germany doesn't use other's land as theirs."

The court will also hear *Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda*, a dispute over armed activities between the two parties. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) requests the ICJ to rule against Uganda, thereby forcing Ugandan troops currently occupying eastern portions of the DRC to leave the region. Uganda questions the admissibility of this case under ICJ court rules. If the court finds jurisdiction, it must consider both the Lusaka Agreement and the DRC's right to seek compensation.

Opening deliberations for the ICJ are set to begin at 8:30 am in the Comiskey Room.

Union felt that Right to Development was a more important topic.

During a caucus, the nations split into several different groups, with many proposals. Ideas were flowing, and nations were voicing their ideas. Turkmenistan representative Kim Higgins stated that "more international cooperation is needed to support refugees," while another caucus group discussed defining the term refugee, adequate protection of refugees, and international programs to help refugees. The nation of Italy represented by Paul Boehart pro-

posed that a split of topics would be the best way to cover both areas and gain ground on either side. Once consensus was reached in separate areas, the sub-committees would then rejoin, and this would hopefully bring more cohesion to the group. However, there was not enough support of this idea to implement it.

While no preliminary resolutions were reached, it was not from a lack of interest. There are several different blocs within this committee, and the final vote will depend upon their ability to work together.

accomplish our mutual goals and many great ideas that can be shared with others. These sessions are intended to provide a forum for that exchange.

AMUN is pleased to provide this opportunity for informative sessions which are specific to faculty interests. We always welcome suggestions for future faculty session topics.

Meetings for Delegation Leaders

AMUN strongly believes that the best way to improve the Conference is to listen to the people who matter the most, the Representatives. We are always open to new ideas on ways to improve the Conference, and are interested in getting your opinion at every opportunity.

This is the driving philosophy behind our two Permanent Representative meetings. All Permanent Representatives and Faculty Advisors are welcome to come to these meetings. AMUN always welcomes suggestions and comments, and this is the best opportunity for schools to interact with senior AMUN Staff in a relaxed setting conducive to sharing and brainstorming new concepts.

We look forward to seeing all Permanent Representatives and Faculty Advisors at the meetings, to be held in the Toronto Room:

- The first meeting, held on Sunday from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., is intended to discuss any matters relating to AMUN rules and procedures throughout the simulations. Please bring all questions and comments regarding rules to this meeting.
- The second meeting, held on Monday from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., will address any other logistical or preparatory issues.

As always, feel free to see a member of the AMUN Executive Committee at any time to share your feedback.

ICJ Docket

Sunday, 24 November

8:30 am - Justice Preparations
9:00 am - Oral Arguments:
Spain v. Canada
10:30 am - Deliberations
12:00 pm - Lunch Break
1:15 pm - Deliberations
5:00 pm - Dinner Break
7:10 pm - Release of the Opinion: *Spain v. Canada*
7:45 pm - Oral Arguments:
Liechtenstein v. Germany
9:15 pm - Deliberations
10:00 pm - Court Adjourns

Monday, 25 November

8:30 am - Deliberations
1:00 pm - Free Afternoon
6:15 pm - Release of the Opinion: *Liechtenstein v. Germany*
6:50 pm - Oral Arguments:
Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda
8:20 pm - Deliberations
10:00 pm - Court Adjourns

Tuesday, 26 November

8:30 am - Deliberations
12:00 pm - Lunch Break
1:30 pm - Deliberations
4:00 pm - Release of the Opinion: *Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda*
4:15 pm - Court Adjourns