

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

09/01/08

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
Vancouver, 10 – 13 January 2008

This year provides a unique opportunity to enhance the central role of the United Nations in world affairs. A number of developments align to make this so: the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the midpoint in the work to reach the Millennium Development Goals and the high-level meeting on financing for development; the climate change negotiations; the unprecedented peacekeeping operation in Darfur.

As the vast international agenda expands the possibilities for collective action by States and people, it also calls on us to strengthen the capacity of the Organization to serve nations and populations in need, while upholding the principles of the Charter and values of United Nations.

We must deliver results for a more prosperous and healthy world. Passing the midpoint to the 2015 deadline for the Millennium Development Goals, we face a development emergency. Millions of people are still trapped in structural poverty and go hungry every day. In sub-Saharan Africa, despite pockets of progress, not a single country is on track to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

We must deliver results for a more secure world. This year will put us to new tests in peacekeeping, bringing it to an unprecedented scale, complexity and risk level. Success depends first and foremost on how Member States match the mandates they have set. It depends on their political support and on their actual contributions -- troops, police, vital capabilities and finance.

We must deliver results for a more just world. A global awareness campaign is already underway to mark the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. And we must work to ensure the Human Rights Council lives up to the high expectations of the international community.

Global threats in the 21st century spare no one. They require us to advance the global common good by securing global public goods – in the areas of climate change, global health, counter-terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation. The United Nations is uniquely placed to lead this effort.

The challenges ahead are daunting. But the United Nations has proven, at various stages of its history, that it is capable rising to new challenges.

You have a key role to play in building a better understanding of our United Nations – what it is, what it does, and what it can do. I thank all of you for your commitment, and wish you a most stimulating conference.

Ban Ki-moon



Ruxandra Ferascu/NY/UNO

09/01/2008 12:59 PM

To mun@irsa.ca

cc

bcc

Subject Message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the University of British Columbia Model United Nations Conference, 10 - 13 January 2008

Dear Ms. Filippova,

Further to your request I am pleased to send you the Secretary-General's message to the University of British Columbia Model United Nations Conference, along with our best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely,

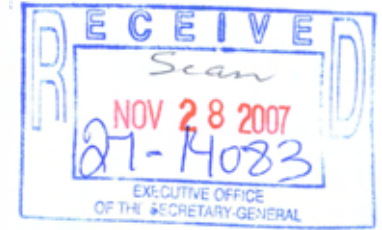
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

MRM



Office of the Secretary-General
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November 20, 2007

Your Excellency the Honourable Secretary-General,

This year I was honoured by being appointed the Secretary-General of the University of British Columbia Model United Nations (UBCMUN) annual conference that takes place in Vancouver, Canada. I am writing to request whether you would be so kind as to write a letter of support to delegates attending the conference.

UBCMUN is an annual project of the International Relations Students Association (IRSA) at the University of British Columbia. As the largest conference of this type Western Canada, we offer post-secondary students from Canada and the United States an occasion to learn more about international relations while exercising their public speaking, principled negotiation, debate, and research skills.

From January 10th to January 13th, 2008 we will have the pleasure of simulating nine committees that, as we believe, will attract students from different academic fields: UN Security Council, International Court of Justice, UN Conference on Trade and Development, UN Human Rights Council, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, World Health Organization, North Atlantic Council, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and International Press Corps. Given the importance of the issues addressed by these committees, we strongly believe that the conference will serve as a significant milestone in shaping students' vision of the world and their perception of the challenges facing our generation.

On behalf of the International Relations Students Association and the Model United Nations of the University of British Columbia, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your time and consideration in this matter. We would be honoured by your letter with words of encouragement to young diplomats.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Anna Filippova'.

Anna Filippova

Secretary-General
University of British Columbia Model United Nations
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