

UNITED NATIONS



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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

08/02/08

MESSAGE TO THE PEEL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
Mississauga, 7 March 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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 the 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 of 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

FEB 8 2008

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
CABINET DU SECRETARIE GENERAL

## OUTGOING FACSIMILE

DATE: 8 February 2007

<b>TO:</b> Ms. Halley Paxton Communication Assistant Peel District School Board	<b>FROM:</b> Michael Meyer Director of Communications Executive Office of the Secretary-General
<b>TEL NO</b>	<b>TEL NO</b> 1 212 963 4092
<b>FAX NO:</b> 905 890 6747	<b>FAX NO:</b> (212) 963-5965
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Message to the Peel District School Board Model United Nations Conference, 7 March 2008	
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSMITTED PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE</b> 2	

Dear Ms. Paxton,

Further to your letter of 15 January 2008 to the Secretary-General I am pleased to send you his message to the Peel District School Board Model United Nations Conference, along with our best wishes for a successful event.

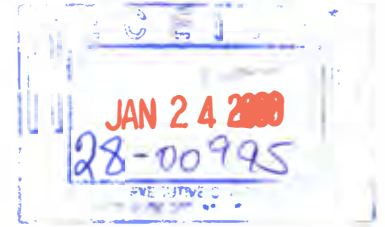
Yours sincerely,

pp

Michael Meyer

January 15, 2008

Ban Ki-moon  
Secretary-General  
United Nations  
New York, NY 10017



Dear Mr. Ban:

The Peel District School Board is hosting its 13<sup>th</sup> annual Student Model United Nations for secondary school students on March 7.

At this event, students gain valuable knowledge and experience by researching their chosen countries and participating in the event as a whole. The topic of this year's Model UN is *Arms Trade*.

I would really appreciate it if you could send a letter of greeting for inclusion in our delegate package. Your message will be read by all of the participants and your endorsement will be very motivational for everyone involved.

We would like to receive your letter before February 22, if possible. Please send the letter to my attention at the address listed below. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 905-890-1010, ext. 2461. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Halley Paxton  
Communications Assistant  
Peel District School Board  
5650 Hurontario St.  
Mississauga, ON L5R 1C6

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