

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

MESSAGE TO THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE (PIMUN)
Paris, France, 28-31 May 2015

As the United Nations addresses grinding poverty, devastating conflicts, the outbreak of the Ebola virus, human rights abuses and the emerging humanitarian crisis in Nepal as a result of the recent earthquake, I take heart from the rise of a new generation of global citizens learning about our work. Thank you for your interest in the United Nations.

Your meeting comes at a critical moment for our common future. Not since the end of the Second World War have there been so many refugees, displaced people and asylum seekers. Never before has the United Nations been asked to reach so many people with emergency food assistance and other life-saving supplies. Diplomacy is on the defensive, undermined by those who believe in violence. Diversity is under assault by extremists. Disarmament is viewed as a far-off dream. I am glad to know you will be discussing many of these issues in your Model United Nations.

Hope may be distant, but it is there: in changing mindsets; in new coalitions; and in clinics, classrooms and other places where the development agenda is making remarkable progress.

Global poverty has been cut in half. More children are spared death from preventable diseases, and more women survive pregnancy and childbirth. There is still much work ahead, but these and other gains show the power of the Millennium Development Goals - the ambitious, 15-year, anti-poverty campaign launched at the United Nations in the year 2000.

Responding to the growing impacts of climate change, later this year, leaders will gather in Paris for the 2015 United Nations Climate Conference.

Today, an inspiring and inclusive global conversation is taking place on a new development agenda for the next fifteen years. More than seven million people have voted online in the My World survey. I encourage all of you to log on and chime in.

People around the world are crying out for protection from violence, greed and inequality. They understand that the world needs greater international cooperation for the common good. In striving to answer this call, the United Nations counts on your engagement. I hope you learn all that you can in PIMUN 2015 and apply those lessons in actions to create a better future.

Message to Paris MUN
Drafter: JJ
Proofread by: BV
Approved by:
Authorized:
Date:

signed on 29/5

Ki Moon Ban
BAN Ki-moon