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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

*Model UN
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Message Control*

REFERENCE:

10 January 2008

Dear Mr. Paur,

I write on behalf of the Secretary-General to thank you for your letter of 17 December 2007, in which you invite the Secretary-General to be a guest speaker for the opening ceremony of the conference of the Geneva International Model United Nations – Association, during the period from 29 March to 4 April 2008.

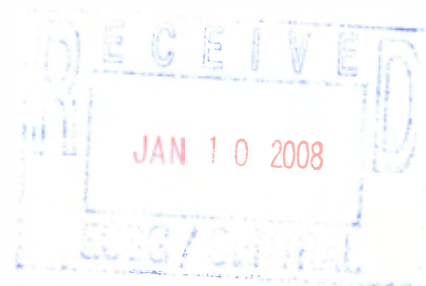
While the Secretary-General appreciates your request, the demands on his schedule at that time will not make it possible for him to attend. However, I am pleased to provide a new message from the Secretary-General to the participants, reflecting the latest developments at the United Nations and in the wider international arena.

Many thanks for your interest and support.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Meyer
Director of Communications

Mr. Kaspar Paur
President
Geneva International Model of
United Nations – Association
Geneva



28-00139

Telephone: +1 917 367 6025 Fax: +1 212 963 5965
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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**MESSAGE TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE GENEVA
INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS
29 March – 4 April 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 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

Nathan Henninger/NY/UNO
10/01/2008 11:57 AM

To kaspar.paur@gimun.org
cc Sebastien Lawson/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Ruxandra
Ferascu/NY/UNO@UNHQ
bcc
Subject Message of the Secretary-General to the Geneva
International Model United Nations - Association conference,
29 March - 4 April 2008

Dear Mr. Paur,

Please find attached a letter from Michael Meyer, Director of Communications of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, along with our best wishes for a successful conference.

Thank you.

Best regards,


Nathan


Nathan Henninger
Communications and Speechwriting Unit
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
United Nations
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Fax. 212 963 5965
Email:henninger@un.org



SDOC2610.pdf

Annika Savill/NY/UNO
10/01/2008 09:15 AM

To Sebastien Lawson/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc Kaori Minami/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Ruxandra
Ferascu/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sanghwa Lee/NY/UNO@UNHQ,
Yeocheol Yoon/NY/UNO@UNHQ
bcc
Subject Re: FOR ADVICE PLSE: Geneva International Model
UN-Conf. 2008, 29 Mar-4 April 2008, Geneva. 

History:  This message has been replied to.

Many thanks. We will do a written message, as usual for MUN conferences.

Sebastien Lawson/NY/UNO

Sebastien Lawson/NY/UNO
09/01/2008 07:57 PM

To Annika Savill/NY/UNO@UNHQ
cc Yeocheol Yoon/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Sanghwa
Lee/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Kaori Minami/NY/UNO@UNHQ,
Ruxandra Ferascu/NY/UNO@UNHQ
Subject FOR ADVICE PLSE: Geneva International Model UN-Conf.
2008, 29 Mar-4 April 2008, Geneva.

Dear Annika,

GIMUN is back again this year with a request for an "official written message or video statement concerning the GIMUN for their website and publications." Your advice would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Best regards,

SL



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Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
U.N. Secretary General
Executive office of the Secretary-General
United Nations
10017
United States of America

Geneva, 17th December 2007

Re: Invitation to the GIMUN-Conference 2008

Dear Mr. Ban-Ki Moon,

By way of introduction, my name is Kaspar Paur and I am the President of the Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN), a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the ECOSOC.

First of all, I would like to thank you for the letter we have received from you through Mr. Nathan Henninger (Communications and Speechwriting Unit) on 22nd October, 2007.

Being one of very few NGOs that are entirely student-run, we strive to fulfill the following mandate:

- Acting as a gateway for young people from all over the world to the U.N.
- Giving the generation that has to deal with tomorrow's problems a voice

Among the many projects and events we organize, the annual GIMUN Conference simulating several U.N. committees is the core of our work. We have the enormous privilege that we're able to open the doors of the "Palais des Nations" for around 200 students from 60 different nations every year.

By representing a certain country in a committee, these young women and men are being given the chance to truly comprehend the way the U.N. is working – an experience that even the best professor cannot provide his students with in a lecture.

This conference is taking place during the period from 29th March - 4th April 2008, with the opening ceremony on 31st March 2008 in the morning.



Given your pre-eminent global stature and your great commitment to young people, it would be a great honour and quite frankly a 'dream coming true' for us to have you as our guest-speaker for the opening ceremony or for any other time during the GIMUN-Conference.

If this is not possible, we would kindly like to ask you if you could send us either an official written or video statement concerning the GIMUN for our website and publications.

In the hope that your visit to the GIMUN will be possible, I thank you for time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Kaspar Paur
President of the GIMUN-Association
kaspar.paur@gimun.org

Annex: - Brochure of the 8th annual Conference in 2008
 - GIMUN Annual Report 2007