

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the team at the United Nations Refugee Agency in Canada I would like to extend sincere greetings to all of you who are taking part in the Canadian Online Model UN conference. We are particularly pleased that this year, you have taken up the call for participating in the Model UN Refugee Challenge.

This year, delegates will have the opportunity to debate and recommend solutions for key issues related to asylum and forced displacement. An unprecedented 79.5 million persons are currently displaced globally and under the mandate of the UN Refugee Agency. We are reaching out to you because we believe that young leaders like yourselves have a central role to play in finding and supporting solutions to one of the biggest crises in the world today.

I am confident that your experience with the Model UN will further refine your advocacy and analytical skills, and at the same time give you an appreciation of what is possible to achieve in navigating complex situations through strategic engagement and effective communication.

As you partake in the Model UN over the next few days, I hope that you will be inspired and empowered to make a positive difference in the world. Please accept my best wishes for a productive and enjoyable COMUN 2020.

Sincerely,



Rana Khan
Head of Toronto Office
UNHCR Canada