



# **CAMUNICATION**

The Official Newsletter for CAMUN 2014

Day 1 - February 20th 2014

## **Starting off with a bang**

### **An exciting opening ceremony**

The much awaited inauguration of CAMUN 2014 was welcomed with momentous enthusiasm, another milestone as we continue to grow in our journey to excellence. The gusto of the ceremony was adorned by the presence of our honorable guests – His Excellency Mr. Gerard Michels, Ambassador of the Netherlands to UAE, Ms. Barbara McKenzie, Mr. George Matthew and Mr. David McLaughlin.

Delegates were introduced to the story of Nicknora Gongich, a former child soldier and an advocate of education for children in rural, unstable societies. He narrates the story of his torture during the civil war in Sudan, emphasizing on the need to educate those children that have been manipulated to perpetrate violence. He remarked that it is essential to 'arm children with pens and books, not weapons'. We were then addressed by our chief guest, H.E. Mr. Gerard Michels, who talked about the importance of diplomacy in the current realm of political tension and its significance in the United Nations throughout history, reiterating 'generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind', and underlining the inevitability of compromise. He speculates on the innumerable possibilities that the future beholds and unpredictable course of major powers, suggesting a redesign of UNSC structure, but remarking that in utopia, there would be no P5. After a few brief words by Secretary General, CAMUN 2014 was declared open.



# “THE ART OF POSSIBLE”

## Interviewing the Dutch Ambassador

*\*As told to Ritvik Sinha*

Diplomacy is the striving peacemaker's blank canvas. His Excellency Mr. Gerard Michels, Ambassador of the Royal Kingdom of Netherlands to UAE served as the perfect ambassador for real-life diplomacy at the opening ceremony of



**Q. You've held positions of authority in places like India, Japan, Kenya, Belgium and now UAE. Honestly, are you completely sick of flying?**

H.E. Even though airlines try to make you comfortable, sitting in an aluminium cigar for hours on end isn't enjoyable. What I am fond of is being in a new environment, immersing yourself in a new culture.

**Q. Model UN in general involves imagining what a real delegate would do. How's real-life diplomacy different?**

H.E. Multilateral diplomacy plays a pivotal role. Conferences are high-pressure environments and people can slow down the decision-making process because of their resolute nature. Take them outside the main meeting room and wheedle out any differences. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. But a personal approach goes a long way in real-life diplomacy.

**Q. We've prepared a rapid fire round, which might not be related to diplomacy. Firstly, what are Netherlands' chances at the FIFA World Cup in Brazil?**

H.E. Very, very reasonable. We usually do well until the later stages and then something goes wrong. But hopefully this year will be different.

**Q. Any last words to CAMUN2014?**

H.E. I think your Vice-Principal, Mr. Jason King, summed it up when he said "Be in the moment." You have to use all available resources at your disposal and be aware of your surroundings.

*\*For the full exclusive interview, please log on to CAMUN's official YouTube page.*

# OF CHILD SOLDIERS AND JUICE BOXES

## Happenings at the UNPBC

UNPBC had an interesting ten-minute moderated caucus regarding the rehabilitation of child soldiers. Member states actively debated the topic, suggesting various probably solutions, ranging from medical and psychological aid to wounded children to the provision of education to survivors.. In a serious turn of events, the delegate of Australia was forced to publicly apologise to the delegate of South Africa after the latter had been offended by remarks about her country.

At the time of coming to press, UNPBC was exploding with innovation. And empty juice boxes, the content of which were evidently



## INTERVENTION –CAUSE OR CURE?

### DISEC on day one

Many enthusiastic delegates took the chance to express their opinions on the widespread of terrorism in LEDC's. Heated discussions, caused by an intense topic, lead to delegates arguing back and forth intesively. Iran and USA were heavily involved in a moderated caucus that was put in motion, with the discussion of whether USA exceeds its boundaries through intervention by both political and military through the way of terror. As the discussion progressed, it gave the delegates a chance to think and express ways of how they think the issue can be solved, all while keeping the spirit of innovation alive in a passionate manner.



# GREEN PEACE SNOWED IN

## Arctic security divides SC

The Security Council was already having an active discussion on Woman Peace and Security when a crisis arrived. 30 peaceful protesters advocating against the drilling in the Arctic were illegally detained by USA, only to be followed the Russian declaration of the nuclearization of Arctic to defend their oil interests. USA took a defensive stance questioning the credibility and legitimacy of the turn of events, stipulating that Greenpeace may have miscalculated events and therefore have misdirected hostilities. The Russian nuclearization was a decision met with heavy opposition from Rwanda and Australia.



# HOW OLD IS TOO YOUNG?

## Child marriage intensifies debate

SOCHUM embroiled in the controversial dialectic on child marriage as the committee was divided in abject dichotomy on the issue. Two opposing blocs continue to propagate for and against arguments and there was surprisingly significant opposition on the intent to eradicate child marriage and culminated into a heated debate between Germany and Yemen, as well as Yemen and CAR. The delegate of Yemen, with the support of most other Arab states in the committee, objected to participating in the global partnership to end child marriage given the vague and questionable definitions of the terms 'child'

and 'marriage'. Yemen concluded with

establishing a common ground with both CAR and Germany, assuring Germany their condemnation of domestic violence and abuse in all marriages and agreed to working to bridge communication gaps.

