

The Scintillator

ZENITH MODEL UNITED NATIONS | DAY II, ISSUE I



From the Opening Ceremony

PHOTO: AARZU KAUR SANDHU



Incepted by the Economics Society of Miranda House Arthashastra, Zenith Model United Nations kick-started its third edition on the 15th of March 2014. In its third year, the two day conference promises to be a melting pot of intense debate, blazing intellect and fiery enthusiasm. With the element of fire as its theme, the conference embodies passion, revolution, energy, change and transformational power - the adjectival connotations of its theme. 'A mighty flame followeth a tiny spark,' the foundational catchphrase of Zenith MUN, was aptly exhibited as the mighty flame of intellect to follow was preceded by a sublime opening ceremony. The ceremony's commencement comprised of a briefing video summarizing the simulated councils and their respective

agendas. Following the aforementioned and amidst sustained applause was the introduction of the people who sought to make the conference live up to its previous editions- the Secretariat. Addressing the fervent audience, the Principal, Ms. Pratibha Jolly, welcomed all participants, expressing her privilege at playing host to a passel of future leaders to discuss and debate on pertinently crucial issues of the world and thence reach feasible solutions. This mere initiative, she said, would precede a mighty flame in the participants thereby fostering deeper understanding of the world, awareness of its workings, and commitment to its wellbeing. Thereafter, the Executive Body and the Editorial Board of the MUN's councils were introduced. Welcoming all participants to the conference, Secretary

General Divyanshi Wadhwa emphasized the importance of being aware and solving the world's issues stressing on the need to see ourselves first as humans, and then as citizens without letting territorial borders divide the humanity within. Urging the participants to take awards as an incentive and taking back much more than an award, she declared the Conference open. With the concerted efforts of the able Secretariat and the participants' awareness of the world's maladies and their readiness to find a way out, the Conference is pregnant with the promise of cohesively meaningful debate and pragmatic solutions.

Kartik Maini

Contention Erupts in the Security Council on the Situation in the Middle East

DotA version 20.14: Defence Of The Americans



PHOTO: RITHIK SINGH

The United Nations Security Council discussed the situation in the Middle East marked by mushrooming violent non-state actors. (VNSAs) Kartik Maini reports.

The United Nations Security Council took on an old foe with a history of marked contention - the Middle East, with reference to the VNSAs mushrooming in the region, posing a threat to the world community at large.

The delegate of China emphasized on the international responsibility that befalls on the nation states to solve the problems of legal authorization to VNSAs by some entities and the countries granting safe havens to such organizations. The delegate of the United States of America, in agreement, referred to the situation in Palestine and said that such issues need to be solved by negotiation rather than conflict. He expressed the need to take measures to counter the VNSAs in the Middle East so as to ensure the smooth functioning of democratic structures. The delegate of India sought to get at the root cause of the apparent issues and attributed them to the problems posed by dual policies

of recognition, referring to Hezbollah.

The delegate of Lithuania brought to the fore another facet, emphasizing the danger posed by internal strife in the region. In unison, the delegate of the United Kingdom elucidated on the administrative breakdown of the Al Qaeda group followed by the death of Osama Bin Laden. The delegate of Syria pointed out the perceptual disparity in global perceptions and notions saying that one man's terrorist may be another's hero. The Irish VNSA was a terrorist outfit for the British, the delegate said, but a group for Republicans fighting for land for some.

With contentious debate on the pertinent issues pertaining to the Middle East faced by the world at large, it remains to be seen how the council reaches feasible solutions.

As the Security Council debated on the "Illegal trafficking of arms by Non-State Associations", a recurrent beat in the discussion was the monopoly of the United States of America in terming and deciding the parameters for the operations of Non-State Actors. Terrorism instigated by radical religious beliefs, especially active in the Middle-East including nations Syria, Iran, Israel etc saw serious allegations being played out on the USA whereas the United States of America cited its national security issue as the reason for its current stance on the Middle-East crisis.

Syria openly blamed the United States of America for the current state of affairs in its terrain and the Palestinian issue. The Syrian delegate claimed that the non-state actors in Palestine are sponsored by the US government. He accused the United States of America of having full monopoly in deciding parameters for terrorism, thus marking its hypocritical policies in international relations. Syria alleged that the USA mutilates even international laws and treaties on Non-State actors just to feed its self-motivated agendas.

The United States of America in its defence responded that the reason for Syrian crisis was the incompetence of the Syrian government and the radical Islamic ideologies fed to the general public, imbibed in their very culture. The delegate of the USA remarked that their government was committed to the protection of the interests and security of its people, and therefore justified the reason for waging war on Iraq and its military operations in Palestine. The delegate also claimed that this intervention in Afghanistan is purely due to humanitarian reasons, to restore constitutional law in the regions currently seized under Taliban rule.

While some members of the council seemed to be in favour of Syria's arguments, others agreed with the agenda of the United States of America for safeguarding its people's interests.

While no definite conclusion could be reached to the Palestinian crisis, but currently, the United States of America comes clean of the allegations levelled against it.

Sumedha Arya

USA's International Tribunal Solution Rejected

PHOTO: AARZU KAUR SANDHU



The possibility of forming an international tribunal comprising domestic members and international law bodies to look into rape cases was negated outright this morning.

The delegate of USA put had suggested this as the solution to resolving the law conflict on penalization of the perpetrators in a rape case. The dilemma facing the committee lay in choice of the legal system to be implemented in order to penalize the perpetrator: according to the domestic laws or those formulated by international UN bodies.

The tribunal was a solution put forward especially in response to cases wherein women had been raped in a foreign country. The delegates rejected this proposal citing domestic cultural laws.

In order to establish the frivolity of this suggestion, they referred to the Islamic laws whereby marital rape is not considered as 'rape' as it was deemed the historic right of the husband to have sexual contact with the wife. The United States of America sought to supplement the discussion stating that 'Domestic law supersedes International Law'. Elucidating upon his statement, he laid forward the possibility of clashes at an international level regarding which laws to follow. The committee concurred that the consent of the domestic country was vital. The basic predicament that led to the refusal of setting up of an international tribunal was that the definition of rape and the age limit for ability to give consent for sexual contact was not constant globally. Hence, this tribunal would not prove to be fruitful.

Aishwarya Kaul

'Rape' Discussion Brought to a Standstill

United Nations Women gathered today to address "Rape, Perceptions of Rape, Rape Culture: Role of Formal and Informal Institutions." Following the establishment of the definition of rape by the delegates of the committee, the member nations discussed that what transpires post the filing of the rape case and the determination of what comprises 'rape'.

The delegate of Algeria decided that it is essential that the committee consider Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which is not a legally binding document. The committee decided to establish the meaning of 'rape'. The delegate of Venezuela mentioned a few determinants which would classify a sexual offence as a rape stressing upon the age of the perpetrator,

the ability of the victim to grant consent, validation of presence of consent and asked the committee to determine whether vaginal/anal penetration should be the only determinant or should other sexual offences be taken into account.

As the committee seemed lost in determining the factors that comprised a rape, the delegate of United States of America brought forward the pertinent scenario of what laws should be taken into consideration if a foreign tourist is raped in country he or she doesn't belong to. The committee seemed to ignore the wakeup call by the delegate and continued to revolve around the determinants stated by the delegate of Venezuela.

Saahil Cuccria



PHOTO: AARZU KAUR SANDHU

Never another Hitler, nor another Mother Teresa

A reproduction of Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa hanging in our drawing rooms would not lead to a queue of people snaking round the corner, all waiting to have a look. Such arguments and similar ones were raised by Iraq, South Korea, Belgium and several other nations at the Ad Hoc Committee for banning of reproductive cloning of human beings. A clone would not, and could not, the countries argued, be a mere copy of its progenitor. Finland raised points regarding the fact that a clone's personalities would change – even if Obama, or Hitler, could be cloned, their clones would lead different lifestyles under different circumstances, and just

like twins, as South Korea pointed out, lead a separate existence. People cannot be copied. Our mirror image will never come to life on our side of the looking glass. Perhaps the most profound and pernicious of the misunderstandings about cloning is that genetic identity is equivalent to personal identity. Unfortunately, the idea of clones as copies has found a prominent place in our cloning conversations. USA raised the argument that a clone would have no rights, no self-autonomy and will be socially abused. Immortality, as Belgium stated, would not be granted to anyone. The heartbroken and the bereaved are easy prey for would-be cloning entrepreneurs, however as Iraq

noted, getting a clone of a lost loved one would in no manner bring them back. A need for further research was raised by Uganda, as human reproductive cloning could serve as a morally acceptable remedy for infertility. We all long to be one of a kind, with the ability to make our own choices, forge our own destiny. Having a clone would not snatch that right away from us. Of course, we are profoundly affected by our genetic inheritance but, by and large, genes are about predisposition, not predestination. There is only one Mona Lisa. And there will never ever be another you.

Neerja Gurnani

Ad Hoc Committee Divided Over Ethical Issues of Cloning



PHOTO: PARITOSH ANAND

Cloning as we all know is the process of genetic duplication. In cloning, either a human or a mammal entirely, or an individual cell or genes can be cloned. Different methods have different regulatory bodies to monitor them.

The delegates picked up the topic of ethical issues of cloning and provided the board with important points like that of the misuse of Human Cloning for financial gains and the fact that since it is such a primitive technology right now, the success rate is dismally low. The delegate of Australia said there had been numerous

failed attempts to clone the first mammal before success was achieved in the form of Dolly the Sheep. This he exemplified with numerical facts of astounding disbelief. This, in turn, leads us to believe that there will be numerous numbers of wasted eggs in cloning of humans as well.

The delegate of Myanmar mentioned that a five day old cell has no lesser value than a five year old child. The Committee was repeatedly debating on the fact that if in the future clones do exist, whether they would be provided with the same set of rights as any normal human or would they

be provided with a different set of rules and if yes, then on what basis and why not the ones which normal humans have.

Estonia and Tunisia completely disapproved of the debate over ethical issues and affirmed that any further discussion of the same was futile. Also, the delegate of the United States of America raised the point of autonomy and whether a human clone has the right to choose for himself or not.

Harsh Sinha

We need to detect and counter ideologies behind terrorism: UNICRI

Pallav Kumar Singh reports on complimenting paradigms from CTITF.

The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) stressed on the need for a global deliberation to understand the ideologies behind terrorism. The statement was issued in the general body meeting of Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF).

The delegate of UNICRI further elaborated on the need for information integration and working in tandem with international counter terrorism bodies. “Coalition of data is an idealistic approach, as state agencies such as CIA and NSA does have certain immunities and diplomatic safeguards”, the delegate said. The delegate further stressed on the difficulties of consensus regarding a universal definition of terrorism, and to resolve the ambiguity of cyber terrorism. There is also a need

for electronic visas and radio frequency identifications by weapons manufacturers. Such visas are also possible for disputed boundaries through established consensus between various border security forces.

On the notions of information safeguards, there have been several conventions. It is noted, for example, that the German intelligence agency Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND) and USA’s National Security Agency (NSA) have had very detailed intelligence sharing pacts. They were also operating on a common computer program XKeyScore (XKS), which analyzes and decrypts data based on various word recurring mechanisms. This very program was used by multiple nations as a monitoring mechanism and nations shared intelligence based on a pact. However,

the equations changed when an ex-NSA contractor Edward Snowden revealed that German leaders were under the ambit of US surveillance through phone taps.

There are also needs of stringent humanitarian efforts. The CTITF office and High Commission on Human Rights have constantly focused on rehabilitation and frameworks to ensure protection of human rights in conflict areas. Though the framework to safeguard International Humanitarian Law has not yet been discussed. The proceedings of debate in the complementing paradigms of humanitarian and effective border management will be an interesting development.



PHOTO: TUSHAR GUPTA

To Extract Further, or Not; That is the Question!

PHOTO: YATHARTH BUDDHIRAJA



OPEC, the delegate of Ireland cheekily remarked “OPEC needs the golden eggs at a rate that may kill the goose which lays them”. The OPEC bashing bandwagon was soon joined by the delegate of Netherland who hailed the OPEC’s cartel as the hegemony of ‘the 12 big bad players,’ who wanted to keep all the fruits for themselves.

States of America found itself at the uncomfortable receiving end of flak for ‘coercive’ humanitarian intervention. The delegate of USA justified the country’s apparent ‘humanitarian intervention’ by reasoning that when the Middle-Eastern countries aren’t suitably equipped to deal with their own people, resulting in turmoil in the region, then how can the onus of managing a commodity like oil be given to them?

The session of the Economic and Social Council on 15th March 2014 sought to establish the reasons for the increasing oil prices. The heavyweights blamed it on hoarding, speculation and ineptness of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). As the floor was ablaze with criticism of

The committee discussions and deliberations finally caught momentum when the countries mutually agreed to offset personal interests and think in line with the larger welfare of the global community.

As the unrelated issues of terrorism cropped up, the United

The committee then traversed back to the core issue of depleting oil reserves, with a group of countries rallying for consideration of alternative energy sources, hailing it as the world’s best bet right now. As proposals poured in from Canada and Ireland to contemplate cross-licensing of hydraulic fracturing and wind energy, other countries cautiously weighed their options.

Geetika Ahuja

Winter is Coming?

Navnika

The Economic and Social Council vehemently debated the significance and repercussions of continuing with the US dollar as the petrocurrency as well as suitable alternatives for it. As the debated heated up, discussing the different reasons for oil shocks and oil price rises, fingers were pointed at the US dollar for being one of the major reasons of the volatile price fluctuations.

The house stood divided as nations came up with different strategies for addressing the issue. The delegate of Ireland proposed the introduction of a ‘basket of currencies’ that would consist of the Dollar, the

Pound, the Yen, the Franc and the Euro that would act as a suitable though not necessarily watertight alternative. On the hand, delegates of the Russian Federation and Mexico rooted for an independent, new currency instead of taking any known currency as the starting point for the a new petrocurrency. They argued that the notion of a basket was tedious, confusing and would lead to significant issues with currency exchange.

Conclusively, most nations seemed to support the notion of an independent, universal and easily exchangeable currency. However, the fate of the US dollar as the

petrocurrency remains uncertain. Post the US credit downgrade and in the aftermath of the fairly loose fiscal movement of the country, the future of the US Dollar stands on shaky ground. The Middle East nations were seen collectively rooting for a changed currency. Supported strongly by the smaller economies in the council, they argued that it is difficult for them to keep up with the sharply fluctuating prices and the dollar value.

It remains to be seen if the members will aim for shift, bearing in mind how the immediate effects could be drastic. Only time will tell.

HCR: High China Against Refugees

Astha Thapar

With guns out, and swords brandished boldly, the delegates of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees were all set to battle it out. The conference began with a slow pace where delegates were quarreling amongst themselves to definitively establish whether refugees are good or bad. It's like creating a coin with just one face.

While the Chinese delegation firmly advocated the disadvantages of hosting refugees, the delegates from Hungary and Algeria fixated their speeches on, often ill-validated, flattery of refugees and asylum seekers. It was raining numbers as bewildering statistics were being thrown around, rather lavishly.



PHOTO: PRAKHAR RISHI

Amidst this tempest, a racquet-ball game ensued between the delegate of China and others, with accusations of “incorrect figures”. To which a harassed looking Executive Board intervened, emphasizing on the importance (or the lack of it, thereof) of such trivial intricacies.

And finally, all roads seemed to be leading to Chinese delegation - how to put on trial the refugees in our country? Their question reeked of an unapologetic resentment towards refugees.”We are burdened with illegal immigrants and criminals from N Korea and Viet Nam, that are competing closely with our own labor population and jeopardizing our social security,”

as stated by the delegate of China.

The council however seemed unperturbed by these tad-too-audacious remarks and, quite shockingly, maintained decorum. But then the delegate from Pakistan, rather starkly remarked, “Instead of putting them on trial, we should focus on how to help these refugees.” That’s heartening, especially coming from a country that itself is troubled by Afghan immigrants bombing and executing its civilians and terrorizing regions near its porous borders.

At the end of the day, it was a slow flow of debate and the next session awaits with the hope of a more constructive debate.

China and the Wrath of the Refugees

The committee kicked off with a brief introduction to the delegates about the formal procedure for the debate. The floor was open, and the placards were raised. The debate commenced with the delegate of Hungary raising the motion to discuss economic aspects of the agenda, only to be condemned by the Chinese delegation of having a government that is obsolete and utopian in nature. The delegate mentioned how there is only ‘sadness and hopelessness’ for the resident population of the host countries since there arises severe competition for the conventional residents when it comes to the employment generated by the government, no matter how meagre the job is. A major chunk of

the host countries are, in fact, developing countries which demand their respective governments to generate adequate employment for their own people.

China threw light on the issue of high inflation that the country has to deal with, due to the flooding in of the North Korean refugees via the sea passage. The delegate also mentioned how this problem paves the way for money laundering and human trafficking and pin-pointed the ‘naivety’ of the respective national platforms to think of refugee hosting as “beneficial when the countries want to tend to just their people first.”

The Algerian delegation suggested that trading opportunities be encouraged between the refugees and the host countries since it helps to reduce the food prices, commodities and it also stimulates the market economy for certain goods.

The delegates put their best foot forward; the last session of the day ended a little inconsequentially, though. The delegates touched upon the surface issues. The debate could have been a bit more penetrating. The committee proceedings could have been more conducive and a more conclusive approach is hoped for.

Dhwani Mohan

Refugee Hosting: The Death of Development?

Dhwani Mohan opines on the issue of refugee hosting and contemplates the practical problems that arise for the host countries.

An unrest that began on March 15, 2011 in the region of Syria, with popular protests, grew nationwide by April 2011, giving rise to the eruption of the much-talked-about Syrian Civil War. Also known as the Syrian Uprising or the Syrian Crisis, it is an ongoing armed conflict in Syria between forces loyal to the Ba'ath government and those seeking to oust it. People were killed, women were raped and innocent children were slaughtered. Two million Syrian refugees fled the country to the neighbouring regions of Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Iraqi Kurdistan, while thousands more ended up in the distant countries of the Caucasus, the Persian Gulf and North Africa.

According to the UNHCR registration numbers, more than 570,000 Syrians are currently refugees in Jordan. In 2011, they came streaming and then flooding into Zaatari (refugee camp set up by Jordan), which hosts more than 101,000 refugees - making it the fourth-largest city in Jordan. Meanwhile, more than 80 percent of Syrian refugees live outside the camps, spilling into Jordanian cities that they once considered temporary shelters but now reluctantly call home. The United Nations has estimated the cost of hosting more than 500,000 Syrian refugees in Jordan for this year and 2014 at \$5.3 billion (3.9 billion euros).

The cost of accommodating hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees in Jordan is hampering the economy's ability to grow substantially beyond a 3 to 3.5 percent IMF annual growth target for the next two years. The drain on the country's meagre economic resources and higher state expenditure resulting from the presence of over 600,000 refugees fleeing violence to Jordan, has already put brakes on this debt burdened economy facing severe fiscal strains. The refugees flooding in have had a severe impact on the foreign direct investment; not to forget how acutely this has affected the human development index of the country. Hosting refugees on humanitarian grounds is the argument that always gets highlighted in international colloquiums. However, this traditional dichotomy is a misleading one which fails to give adequate recognition to the financial and other costs incurred by countries falling into the host category.

Firstly, states that host refugees incur substantial financial costs amounting not only to the salaries paid, but also meeting the other expenses of officials and members of the security services who are responsible for refugee-related tasks, and who are therefore unable to attend to other pressing national or local issues. Secondly,

refugee situations impose a wide range of economic, environmental and infrastructural costs on the countries where they are to be found. However, the most important cost incurred by the host country continues to remain in terms of the political process and their foreign policies.

The refugee statistics compiled by UNHCR tell a very clear story: those states that have a relatively low Gross Domestic Product per capita (GDP) accommodate a large and disproportionate number of the world's refugees. At the beginning of 2010, for example, developing countries hosted some 8.3 million refugees, equivalent to 80 per cent of the global refugee population. Just under a quarter of this number were found in the 50 least developed states. This disproportion between the population and the resources to sustain that population leads to a major problem, becoming magnified with its direct effect on the development indices of the host country. Conclusively, the refugee hosting crisis leads to turmoil in the economy of the host country, forcing it to not only incur expenditure that brings its economy to a standstill, but also alters its social welfare distribution process.



Of Between Borders and Hopes

Pallav Kumar Singh opines on the humanitarian aspects crippled by counter-terrorism strategies. There exist people living amidst hopes and realities, hoping that they would coincide someday.

The obscenity with which the United States of America applauded its own actions on providing humanitarian aids in its 'war against terror' were frivolous, vulgar and to a major extent disgusting. The classic anti-murder talking point peddled by prophets and other long-haired purists has been that murder is wrong. Or, put another way: Murder is wrong but if enough people die, a killer can often end up being labelled a statesman (or a peace prize winner in this case). This is the dark magic of democracy. The tragic version of democracy that is experienced first-hand by more than a billion every day.

The subject of such a graphic narrative lies in the brutal fatalism of counter-terrorism strategies and border management. The inspiration lies in the mosaic of crushed hopes and dreams of citizens living between the borders-nationless and without access to basic amenities. The laughter lies in the 'resolve' to provide them with basic human rights. Sadly, these are times where democracy and humanity are nothing more than feeble constructs of a dilapidated intellect.

The traditional legal framework for humanitarian action in conflict

is international humanitarian law – which balances the principle of military necessity with that of humanity and places limits on waging of war. International humanitarian law obliges parties to a conflict, to permit both the provision of assistance to victims of war and humanitarians' engagement with armed actors in order to do so. Counter-terrorism laws challenge these principles by distinguishing between 'good' and 'bad' victims of war, suggesting that helping victims caught up in areas controlled by a designated group is a criminal act if deemed to benefit the enemy. This redefines how humanitarian organizations can lawfully conduct their work since they operate in conflict areas where it has long been recognized that negotiating with all actors in a conflict – whether considered terrorist or not – is necessary to gain access to civilians affected by war – yet this can now be criminalized.

The aforementioned legal dilemma speaks of a transparent and idealistic global framework. A frame work which strengthens our faith in liberty and freedom and provides coherence to what we can now call is distorted concepts of democracy. My limited understanding of political ideologies

refrain me from commenting on the vision, however the one thing that I can comment on is the lack of an enabling structure. We live in an era of fractured governments and crushed hopes where the actions to throw food packets from mid air and providing empty assurances of education and health are awarded.

The Human Rights Watch report of 2009 highlights the plight of such citizens and the inhuman conditions that they spend their majority of lives in. Though it has focused on the Israel- Palestine conflict, I am sure these hollow lives are the reflections of global counter-terrorism strategies.

The half widows of Kashmir, Gaza's blind children, Guinea's misplaced tribes, Sudanese child soldiers and a million others are not just, but they are also failures. Massive failures which have mocked the world order and are scenarios of worldwide democratic shortcomings. They scream of needs for stringent human rights initiatives, they scream of horrors which they witness every day, they scream of dialogues and deliberations and they scream loudly to raise their voice. Are we listening?

Features

A Flaming Contradiction

As Zenith Model United Nations convenes with a 'mighty flame' as its guiding light, Arushi Walecha explores the relevance of fire as an extravagantly diverse symbol.

Fire - it burns, it purifies, it destroys, it creates. It is a bundle of contradiction. In its all encompassing nature, fire aptly describes the essence of a Model United Nations Conference.

Whether as a slow flame in the case of Amar Jawan Jyoti, licking at thy wounds, keeping a memory alive, or as an inferno like the flame that burns the effigies of Ravana every Dussehra, destroying everything in its wake, 'purifying' our souls of all things 'evil' - fire has predominated our minds since the ancient times. It's a personification of the passion that drives us forward, that encourages us to gather

every other weekend to discuss the problems in the global scenario. It is a symbol of creation, enthusing us to construct solutions and herald in a better world.

Being the only element created by man, fire inspires us to take a step forward and be the propagators of change. To step into the arena, and grab the issue by its lapels – kindle the flame of progress.

There is a raging flame within us all. You just need to identify the spark, and let your light shine.



International Press @IPftw

Tweeting live from the committee, yo! Managed to break past Miranda's wifi restrictions. #YOLO

Myanmar @youcancallusBurma

Why are we discussing ethics? We've done far worse already LOL. #AungSanSuuKyi #Shhh

Uganda @TheCountryWhichHasKony

Uh...guys, reproductive cloning is bad because... *coughs* it might result in enlargement of organs. [in reply]

International Press @IPftw WHY is this a problem delegate,@TheCountryWhichHasKony? #IfYou-KnowWhatWeMean

Iran @AhmadinejadDoesNOToperateThis

Reproductive cloning IS A DISEASE! Take all the camels and flee the country! Leave the women behind!

USA @WeDaBoss

We're warning countries not to pursue their human cloning program. In fact, last week, we warned countries that if they didn't stop their programs we would, you know, warn them again.

Finland @FinsOfASHARK

Everything "can" be done, alright? Murder, cloning Hitler, all is possible. All that's stopping is your so-called opinion. Don't impose your opinion on us alright?

[in reply]

Finland @FinsOfASHARK Plus don't you totally want matrix to come to life?

[in reply]

Finland @FinsOfASHARK And and and we can clone the President of USA! Have a new Barack Obama! What say @WeDaBoss?

[in reply]

Finland @FinsOfASHARK y'all just need to grow up.

Iraq @ICame_ISaw_IRAN

If I clone my wife, would she be my wife or my daughter? #Bigamy #loophole #woohoo

Executive Board @WeGetPaidYo

We're making the delegates trip over themselves only for your amusement, International Press!@IPftw

AtMUNsphere Forecast

"Did you register yet?"

You can hear the whispers and the loud guffaws. You can sense those shifty eyes following you. Is he/she checking me out, or are we in the same council? You can see the elite professionals chatting heartily with the OC and EB (They're all chuddy buddies you see), much to the chagrin of every awkward first timer. It's registration time, and it's the silence before the storm!

"Everyone, please proceed for the Opening Ceremony"

The OC is busy tending to teachers, the EB is still busy catching up with fellow EB members, and the rest of them all are busy on their phones or in random chit-chat. They're all eagerly waiting for the breakfast, and finally after the ceremonial gavel thump, the declaration is done. Let the battle begin!

The Session (before lunch)

After much delays, and a rather long "brief wrap of ROP" the debate formally begins. But before you know it, its lunch time, and some or the other random delegate almost always raises a motion for suspension right at the time, on the dot. Good, someone else is starving too!

The Lunch

This is the time when bestest of friends from different councils gossip around, and council-enemies cozy up over dal makhni and hot chapatis. Wars are forgotten, and peace gets a backseat. It's all about stuffing up with gulab jamuns and ice cream.

The Session (After Lunch)

The IP members are no longer chatting away and getting pictures clicked. The deadline is near and the editor is breathing down their neck. And shockingly, the council strength is reduced to half and an annoyed EB takes the roll call again to establish a new quorum. It's like the lunch ate the people instead of the other way round! Everyone is sleepy, and everyone is dragging. The zeal is lost and the zest is drowsy. Everyone is longing to slip out of the formals and take a nap.

The next day brings the same story finally leading up to the Closing Ceremony

The best delegate/journalist is...

Nervous energy is palpable, as everyone faces the pangs of anxiety. Who's going to win? And finally, the names are announced and it comes as no shock. You can hear them discuss "I knew it was going to be him/her", "He/she raised some great points" etcetera etcetera. Once in a blue MUN: The Committee is going really low. The debate is really too surfaced. They should have gone deeper. They need to mature at this point.

-Chairperson, UNHCR