



BEIWATCH

BEIMUN XXV

ISSUE 3

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CLOSING BEIMUN

By Casper Suen



Samuel Soh, Assistant President of Disarmament Commission

And with that, the twenty-fifth annual BEIMUN conference has come to a close. After three long days filled with impassioned debates, resolution drafting, and inspirational guest speakers, the conference was finally concluded in the same fashion in which it had begun: with the signature sound of the gavel striking the sound block.

As delegates began to leave the International School of Beijing in the fleet of buses that had borne them from their lodgings, the hallways grew quiet once again. Some had come from as far as the other end of the world, some from just across the street, but all for the common goal of pursuing cooperation and collective deliberation on the issues that plague the world and societies today. And this was surely achieved, as made evident when the chairs of each committee gave their closing remarks, highlighting the numerous resolutions passed and countless feats of oratory excellence in the fields of political and social discourse that had been demonstrated. Perhaps ironically, it was the delegates of the DPRK that were often mentioned and commended for their excellence during the conference in

closing remarks from the committee chairs. Such humorous details and anecdotes were a commonality between the chairs — it would seem that the conference was not lacking in its moments of levity.

For those delegates who are veterans of MUN, BEIMUN XXV was the culmination of years of practice and preparation, the product of loyal dedication and commitment. It has been a long journey for many, as exemplified in the words of Joshua Wood, the Assistant President of the Economic and Social Council: “When I first joined MUN in seventh grade, I had little in the way of public speaking. I was shy. I was quiet. I couldn’t debate for the life of me. I would never have imagined that, just five years later, I would be speaking in front of a crowd of five hundred. That’s what MUN has done for me, given me a worldview and the ability to articulate it.”

For many more, however, this conference marks the end of their high school MUN career. Among them are Secretary General Yoonho Cha, Deputy Secretary General Terry Zhao, and Deputy Secretary General Laurina Ye. In her address, Ye recounted the numerous lessons learned in her six-year career in

MUN, urging delegates to always keep in mind the repercussions of the unstoppable age of globalization and the consequences that their actions hold in a world that has never been more connected. This sentiment was echoed in Zhao’s statements, and that proper political discourse is required to maintain equilibrium in a world that has been becoming more polarized by the day. “Everyone has a voice that can be heard, that should be heard,” and that in an age where intolerance is becoming the norm, it is our obligation to let that voice be heard.



Ji Won Choi, Assistant President of ICJ

Ms. Rueth Explains Visit by Macedonian School

By Casper Suen

In 2016, Fiji was devastated by Cyclone Winston — the most intense tropical cyclone in the southern hemisphere ever recorded. The international community rallied to give support to Fiji in any way that they could, and for ISB MUN director Eileen Rueth, this included sponsoring a group of students from Fiji to fly to Beijing and attend the 24th annual BEIMUN conference. This year, Ms. J. Eileen Rueth was proud to sponsor six students and two directors from Macedonia, and BEIWATCH had the chance to speak with Ms. Rueth regarding what is sure to become a long-lasting BEIMUN tradition at the International School of Beijing.

BEIWATCH: Could you briefly describe what it is you're doing with the Macedonian school this year?

ER: We started an outreach program, where we try to bring in schools that don't necessarily have the (funds) to attend a conference like this, but are interested in pursuing their MUN passion and interested in gaining an experience.

BEIWATCH: So how exactly do you go about doing this?

ER: Because we're a very strong organization and we

end up raising money through our own ... through our own fees. So part of our fees go towards sponsoring a school. Last year we sponsored a school from Fiji, which had recently been torn up from a natural disaster. This year I chose Macedonia because they've been communicating with me for a couple of years. They were really interested in coming and very keen to get involved, but did not have the ability to travel here. So I decided to choose them, and they were excited to come.

BEIWATCH: How do you find these schools?

ER: I ask different MUN directors around the region if they know of people ... I do my own research, but I end up having to pick people that I know can get visas in China. So sometimes the rules change and are ... a little bit different. So I try to pick places that won't have any kind of visa issues. So that does limit my ability to pick schools. It's a very informal process — it's mostly word of mouth to find a school that really wants to get involved and offer them an opportunity.

BEIWATCH: How does the continuation of this program correspond with MUN's wider mission?

ER: The whole point of MUN is to interact with different cultures and to learn about different people and learn to compromise and to work together. And so, my idea for the program is to bring in people that our kids and our guests wouldn't normally get the chance to interact with. Fijians — they were new. Their kids learned from the experience, our kids learned from the experience. You know Macedonia, our kids don't have any connection to Macedonia, so it's a learning experience for both parties. Of course it's a chance to get more students to participate, but it's also an opportunity to learn from each other.



(Left to right) BEIMUN Director J. Eileen Rueth, BEIMUN Webmaster Harold Daw

COMMITTEE RECAPS

Environment 2

By William Chen

On Saturday Afternoon, the delegates of the Environment 2 committee (ENV2) gathered to discuss foreign aid strategies to ensure the protection of the environment during the development of less developed economies (LEDCs). Among the issues discussed, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) became a controversial topic and the main source for debate. Some delegates were extremely passionate about not using GMOs. Regarding numerous case studies, the use of GMOs was criticized for possible health risks that would prove detrimental to people living in LEDCs as well as many negative environmental risks. However, as many other delegates who supported the use of GMOs pointed out, many of these studies were outdated. The recurring point was that GMOs have become essential in providing crops with resistance to external factors and that they do not, in fact, pose any environmental or health risks. As the heated debate came to a close, it became obvious that those in support of the use of GMOs had won as there were only seven delegates who voted against the use of GMOs and upwards of twenty that voted for it.

Disarmament Commission

By Josh Zeng

BEIMUN XXV's Disarmament Commission debated on three pressing issues. Initially, the delegates focused on the procurement of ex-Soviet nuclear missiles. They agreed to develop security regulations about the safeguarding of atomic facilities through understanding the historical context and preparing their resolutions accordingly.

The delegates then challenged the decade-old problem of organized crimes in Latin and South America. By targeting the fundamental issue, they passed resolutions that combat drug trafficking, border protection, and eliminations of organized crime. Finally, the delegates negotiated a settlement of disputes for the conflict in Eastern Ukraine between Western nations and Russia. This year's Disarmament Commission had a successful debate with five resolutions passing.



Kevin Yao, the Judge of ICJ, questioning a witness

International Court of Justice

By Josh Zeng

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is distinct from other committees that delegates divide themselves into two teams of judges and advocates to debate for or against a particular topic: the use of aerial herbicides in the perspective of Ecuador and Columbia.

The judges of Columbia claimed for the positive use of aerial herbicides to combat the growing use of illicit drugs, as aerial herbicides prevent the growth of the drugs. However, the judges of Ecuador commented that the aerial herbicides might cause numerous health risks for the Ecuadorians, as the herbicides travel across the border.

The judges of Ecuador criticized that Columbia refused to disclose the ingredients in the herbicide, and the lack of information between nations became controversial. Glyphosate was the only compound in the herbicide confirmed by Columbian judges, that the debate continued to question the ethics and health risks posed by the use of the herbicide.

After a long debate, the advocates of Columbia, Emma Liu and Kelsy Fu, was blamed for breaching international law and sovereignty. Congratulations to the advocates of Ecuador, Flora Tian and Brian Han, for a successful debate.

General Assembly 1

By Lu'An Fortier Situ

In BEIMUN XXV, the General Assembly 1 (GA1) mainly focused on disarmament and international security. The delegates of the committee addressed questions on cybersecurity and cyberterrorism, tackled UN members adhering to the Geneva Conventions, examining the operation of private military corporations in the Middle East. All subjects are increasingly relevant in regards of current issues with cybersecurity, as well as the state of affairs in the Middle East with the usage of private armies.

General Assembly 2

By Lu'An Fortier Situ

On the second day of BEIMUN, the General Assembly 2 (GA2), focusing on economic and financial affairs, had a plethora of ideas presented. Brien Constantine, the delegate of Ethiopia, stated that building infrastructure would help LEDCs by making them stronger against repercussions. Seung Hye Jeon, the delegate of Lebanon, pointed out that if economic and educational opportunities were provided to women, human capital would grow, stimulating the economy of LEDCs. An amendment proposed by Clayton Kelly, the delegate of Laos, stated that humanitarian aid such as food, water, and healthcare should be supplied to LEDCs. Claiming that MEDCs should provide financial assistance to LEDCs and that they rely on each other in a give-and-take relationship, she further mentioned that this is not necessary to be implemented extensively

but must demonstrate that MEDCs concern about their relationships and the people of LEDCs. This amendment was passed with an overwhelming majority. Kevin Cao, the delegate Yemen, commented that this would reduce consequences of the business cycle, and Abdullah Hesham Ahmed, the delegate of Bolivia, emphasized the assistance for future debt.



(Left to right) Erin Schmitz, Delegate of Bangladesh, GA2; Constantine O'Brein, Delegate of Ethiopia, GA2

Human Rights Council 1

By Zhuan Ee Yau

On a tense Saturday afternoon, delegates representing nations from all over the world gathered assembled together to debate, discuss and hopefully resolve human rights abuse cases and issues facing our world today. In the age of globalization, there is a heightened severity of inequalities facing many people and countries today. IN BEIMUN XXV's Human Rights Council 1 debate, they attempted to draft resolutions regarding three main concerns that they were addressing: combating female genital mutilation in Southeast Asia, the question of migrant assimilation in MEDCs (More Economically Developed Countries), and protecting the rights of child soldiers in sub-Saharan Africa. One of the main matters discussed was the difficulties of migrant assimilation in MEDCs, which the delegates discussed that many of these MEDCs faced issues beyond security. Delegates in HRC1 faced clashing opinions and hit roadblocks on the committee's path towards reaching a resolution. Though they faced several troubles, responses and opinions conforming to the conference's main objective of justice and equity in the age of globalization enabled them to reach a consensus on four of the six resolutions passed.



(Left to right) Tanaya Wagh, Delegate of Libya, HRC1; Hillary Yip, Delegate of Brazil, HRC1



(Left to right) Azarya Hilgenfeldt, Delegate of Japan, HRC2; Liam Shi, Delegate of India, HRC2

Human Rights Council 2

By Zhuan Ee Yau

In the age of globalization, digital privacy is a major concern numerous countries face today. In BEIMUN XXV's Human Rights Council 2 debate, delegates voiced their opinions regarding the issue of cybersecurity, the impact of vocational training for migrants workers, and treatment by law enforcement in various countries. Delegates from a diverse group of nations debated extensively to reach a consensus on how to manage, or ideally, prevent the harm brought by cybersecurity.

The goal for HRC2 was to discuss and reach resolutions for the rights of ethnic minorities, the impact of treatment by law enforcement, as well as a resolution on personal privacy and migrant vocational training. However, the council faced some issues on the path towards reaching a resolution. Delegates from various countries had clashed opinions on measures to ensure the rights of migrants to vocational training, the question relating the rights personal privacy in the age of digitization, and the question of just treatment of ethnic minorities by law enforcement institutions and had a heated debate on the various issues being discussed. Though there were many conflicting opinions, Assistant President Kingston Yip of HRC2 stated confidently that the committee had passed four out of the six resolutions.

Environment Commission 1

By William Chen

As one of the main committees of United Nations, the Environment Committee one (ENV 1) promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development. BEIMUN

XXV's ENV 1 debated issues on displaced species, waste in outer space, and circus animals.

Louisa Lou, delegate of Pakistan, stated that the speed of urbanization, climate change, poaching, and habitat loss are the reasons for the eventual extinction of species. Her resolution urges NGOs to help raise awareness, along with requesting member states to adopt effective measures to prevent. Both delegates from Kazakhstan and France, Isabel He and Liam Green, successfully passed their resolution on combating the questions of waste management in outer space with the majority of votes. It encouraged more economically developed countries (MEDC) to provide financial aid, as well as advocating for interest and attention for the ongoing problem of space-waste. However, the resolution from the delegate of Bolivia, Samiha Hassan, to create coordinative effort among nations and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) to ensure the welfare of circus animals, was not passed.

Though delegates presented many contrasting opinions, Rachel Kim, Deputy Assistant President of ENV 1 proudly announced that the committee passed three out of six resolutions.



Michelle Ahn, Delegate of Italy, Security Council

Security Council

By Hyoree Kim

On day two of this year's BEIMUN conference, the delegates of the Security Council busily and actively discussed upon the question of South Ossetian independence to resolve the identity crisis of this land. In the process of delegates presenting their resolutions, the Secretariats barged into the room, reporting that Russian invaders had taken over the small mountain village of Kurvaleti. The delegates were instructed to construct a solution that would help the small village of Kurvaleti establish its independence. Immediately following this sudden announcement, the committee quickly shifted to discussing possible resolutions

for this problem. Many of the presented resolutions were passed, and the security council was able to conclude BEIMUN XXV with impressive reports.

The Secretariat

By Ellie Lee and Yoonho Cha

The Secretariat of BEIMUN XXV was composed of 4 hard-working executive officers: three Deputy Secretary Generals (DSG) led by one Secretary General (SG). The work of these individuals is quite different to that of other BEIMUN participants. While delegates in different committees were polishing their resolutions to tackle the world's most pressing issues, these four officers polished their shoes in preparation for walking over 12K steps in the search for lost items and were pressed against time to perform committee crises all the while escorting guest speakers.

According to the members of the Secretariat, the most panic-inducing moments were the drawn-out minutes before [redacted] arrival on campus. DSG Eden Liu was already preoccupied with Mr. Chris Buckley, the guest speaker for the HRC 2 and SPC delegates, and when DSG Terry Zhao greeted [redacted] at the main entrance of the campus, [redacted] kindly requested "a cappuccino with two cubes of brown sugar" to soothe his hoarse voice. To improvise a solution for [redacted] worsening throat condition, DSG Laurina Ye was frantically in search for microphones to use in the rooms for General Assembly 3 and Human Rights Council 1. Meanwhile, SG Yoonho Cha and the Head Administrative Officers Leo Cheng and Davy Zeng were ordering and picking up [redacted] morning coffee from a local coffee shop.

Despite the smiles and composure demonstrated by the executive officers on stage, behind their visages was the pressing sense of duty to coordinate a memorable 25th anniversary BEIMUN conference. Like all the delegates and student officers who grew and made unforgettable memories during the four days of the conference, the three senior executives acquired valuable life skills to use as they graduate from ISB and were proud to be able to conclude their MUN careers with such a prestigious and successful conference. As for DSG Eden Liu, who knows what adventure lies ahead for her final year of High School MUN?



(Left to right) Deputy Secretary General Eden Liu, Deputy Secretary General Terry Zhao, Secretary General Yoonho Cha, Deputy Secretary General Laurina Ye

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: *A True Gift*

By George Wu, Harry Xiao and Qiqi Zhou

In school, attention is rarely given to the staff, who contribute an immense amount of effort behind the scenes to ensure that our learning environment is not only enjoyable, but is also clean and safe. In the International School of Beijing, the staff team consists of security guards, bus monitors, janitors, and cafeteria workers, all of whom are Chinese. The security guards welcome students with a large smile when they trudge through the doors every morning and ensure students' safety throughout the year; janitors work hard to keep the school clean and classrooms functioning properly; cafeteria workers do their best to cook and feed students with diverse and nutritious food during lunch. We see these employees almost everyday, but have we done anything for them in return?

Students attending international schools are ever so fortunate to be able to learn English early in life; this is a privilege that most, if not all Chinese staff members at ISB did not grow up with. TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), one of ISB's newest service clubs, has been founded with the purpose of giving back to these staff members through teaching them English. In this club, students become the teachers, and the staff become the students during weekly student-led English lessons.

TESOL began in mid-2017 when Ms. Monique Cover, ISB high school English teacher, recruited a group of students to participate in a club designed to teach English to staff members at ISB. Upon creating the club, members dove straight into lesson planning and experimentation of teaching methods. TESOL had begun by teaching with flashcards and



card games in the high school cafeteria, but later on moved to ISB's Tarek Razik Futures Academy space in order to utilize the technology, various engaging activities, and social interaction in their lessons. Though it has only been roughly a year since the establishment of the club, it has already been successful in attracting a large number of participants. TESOL also continues to improve their teaching methods by reflecting upon feedback provided by not only the members of TESOL, but also participating students.

As of March 2018, TESOL's primary method of teaching is through two workbooks designed and assembled by the members. Over many months of planning and feedback from members and students, TESOL has created a phonics and a general vocabulary/conversational workbook in English. The phonics workbook was designed to ease students into reading English, allowing them to memorize words faster, and to spare them the frustration of being unable to pronounce words on a vocabulary list. The general workbook consists of various vocabulary lists and activities that students could use to review previous lessons or to study ahead.

In TESOL, students are divided into three groups depending on their level: beginner, intermediate, and advanced. This structure of skill level not only can help cater to each student's needs, but can also help the members teach more effectively. Members are also assigned to teach different groups based on their Chinese skill level.

TESOL has met several very unique students, one of which is Crystal (of Sodexo), a student of the advanced class. Crystal is a recent Chinese college graduate who came for help in preparing for the na-

tional Test for English Majors Level 8. In the process of helping her prepare, three members were selected to work together with the common goal of helping her pass. Each lesson with her was planned to focus on specific parts of the exam, and were also planned in consideration of her strengths and weaknesses. As TESOL was initially designed solely for beginners, this was surely a challenging and unexpected task. However, over the last three months, the members have worked hard to enhance Crystal's already-advanced skills and, in the process, learned new teaching techniques. TESOL wishes Crystal the best of luck on her exam.

TESOL not only provides benefits for the staff, but also for the members in the club; it gives the members and students an opportunity to practice their teaching, communication, and collaborative skills. In addition, those who have been a dedicated member of TESOL for one or two years are granted an opportunity for TESOL certification, which enables them to take their experiences from TESOL further by teaching English anywhere in the world. Most importantly, unique personal connections can be built between students and members. Over the past year, members of TESOL have noticed their students express gratitude in the most endearing ways: greeting them in the hallways with a smile, or even delivering them letters of appreciation written in English. As TESOL approaches the end of its first year, members are observing their students improve gradually through hard work and determination, which only motivates them to continue and improve as well.



HOROSCOPES

By Zhuan Ee Yau

Aquarius (January 20th - February 18th):



You are somewhat shy and quiet and you feel limited or constrained at times. However, you are eccentric and energetic. You are a deep thinker who loves helping others. You are able to avoid prejudice and therefore can easily solve problems. Your voice for possible solutions to solve world problems will be heard in this conference.

Gemini (May 21st - June 20th):



You have personal qualities of a gentle, affectionate and curious person. However, you are inhibited by weaknesses that include being nervous, inconsistent and indecisive, and therefore you will not have many chances to speak, hence your opinions may not be heard.

Libra (September 23rd - October 22nd):



Unlike Virgo, you are an idealist. You have amazing ideas for you resolutions that you are passionate about and have an awareness of their weaknesses. Your ideas become the hot topic of your debates and some people will confuse your enthusiasm for ignorance. Be sure to be prepared for heated debates and criticism from your peers if you want to succeed.

Pisces (February 19th - March 20th):



You are generous, compassionate and extremely caring. However, you are fearful, overly trusting and have a desire to escape reality. Because you are never judgmental and always forgiving, you may be considered a weak link during debates.

Cancer (June 21st - June 22nd):



You are extremely passionate about the theme of your MUN conference. You're dedicated to working on your resolution but your passion is sometimes confused with obsession. Be careful during your conference meetings to not be too stubborn when discussing your resolution. Accept the voices of other candidates and you will surely succeed.

Scorpio (October 23rd - November 21st):



You are extremely invested in your own resolution, even more so than the average delegate. You flourish in heated debates with other delegates and are not easily persuaded out of your view. As you merge resolutions, it will be essential for you to listen to others to improve upon your own ideas. Don't forget about the importance of cooperating with your fellow delegates if you want to succeed.

Aries (March 21st - April 19th):



As the first sign in the zodiac, you mark the beginning of something very energetic and turbulent. You are courageous, determined and confident, however you are accompanied by some negative traits including being impatient and moody. Because of your short temper, you may find it difficult to get your voice across to all the delegates in your committee.

Leo (July 23rd - August 22nd):



You are a leader in your conference and you want everyone to succeed. Your dedication and passion is infectious. You speak with confidence but be weary of overpowering the voices of other delegates who may not have the same level of confidence as you. Be sure to include everyone in your discussion and you will find success in your debates.

Sagittarius (November 22nd - December 21st):



You enjoyed writing your resolution, but after listening to others, you are nervous that your resolution isn't good enough. Instead you like to be the energy of the group, constantly motivating and making others laugh. However, you shouldn't discard your own ideas easily. You will succeed when you begin to feel comfortable to share and build upon your own ideas.

Taurus (April 20th - May 20th):



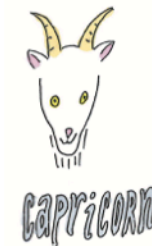
As a Taurus, you have the ability to view things from a grounded, practical and realistic perspective. Though you may be possessive, you have an uncanny ability to persuade others to vote for your resolution. These attributes will make you successful in this conference as where you will develop long lasting friendships.

Virgo (August 23rd - September 22nd):

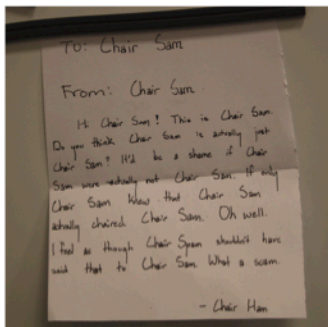


You are hesitant and quiet during debates. You like to weigh the pros and cons of each clause before settling with anything so it takes time for you to contribute to your debates. However, when you begin to feel comfortable you light up the room with intelligent points of evaluation that not many others consider. Stay confident in yourself and you will succeed.

Capricorn (December 22nd - January 19th):



You are extremely hardworking and dedicated so you may sometimes be reclusive. You want to keep everyone in the group organized and on task but your attitude may rub some other delegates the wrong way. Remember that you shouldn't put too much pressure on yourself during your debates. Everything is a group effort and after realizing that you are surrounded by like-minded individuals you will succeed.



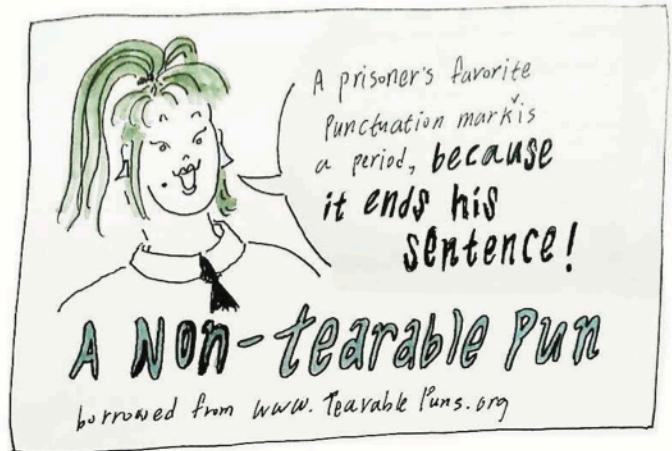
Cute Notes from BEIMUN XXV

"Were you arrested today? It must be illegal to look so beautiful!"

"I'm not a photographer, but I can picture us together"

"Is your name Google? Because you have everything I've been searching for"





Answers to Issue 2



Artworks by Hyo Jin Kim, Sharon Noh, Sonia Zhang and Heewon Lee

Layout by Jenny Cha

BEIWATCH PRESS TEAM

BEIWATCH is your one-stop shop for all things MUN! Here, a group of talented writers, photographers, artists, layout designers and editors work tirelessly to bring you the very best, up-to-date news about MUN conferences in Beijing.

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