



BEIWATCH

BEIMUN XXVIII

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CLOSING CEREMONY



By Ivy Yang

At the end of four eventful days, fostered with spirited and fruitful debates, speeches, and discussions, the annual BEIMUN conference has come to a close with one concluding online meeting. Reflecting upon the last four days, we thank all delegates and leaders for participating in the BEIMUN XXVIII conference.

Three days ago, delegates gathered in the online Microsoft Team's meeting room to start the BEIMUN XXVIII conference. Representing their own country in their committees, they voiced their opinions and worked on resolutions to address world's pressing and imperative issues. The closing ceremony proceeded on the same online Microsoft Team's meeting room. Only this time, hundreds of delegates come together to say "cheerio" and wrap up this rewarding and memorable experience. Across mountains and overseas, we connected with

others that were thousands of miles apart from us one last time.

In the closing ceremony, each president from the 12 committees acknowledged high-performing delegates and awarded an outstanding delegate with the honor of the "most diplomatic delegate". All delegates presented excellent, logical, and well-written arguments and kept a professional and collaborative attitude. Making the final speech of his MUN career, Brian Ham, president of the General Assembly 2nd committee, shared that "MUN, without doubt, is a team activity, do not be that delegate who always take cheap shots at resolutions for the sake of winning arguments, be the delegate who finds ways to build them up." To delegates that come to BEIMUN with compassion and wish to make changes to this world proactively, none of this can be achieved without a team. Impressively,

delegates' capability to collaborate and compromise during lobbying and debate has demonstrated significant growth, and as the leaders of tomorrow are maturing, the world's prosperous future is growing.

Sadly, for graduating students, BEIMUN XXVIII will be their last MUN conference. Nevertheless, given their brilliant performance in the conference, none should feel regretful that this marked the finale of their political pursuit in high school. Stepping into the unknown future, our seniors have nothing to fear, as the world is friendly to those who understands it well, and their hard work in MUN conferences has proven so. Congratulations to all delegates for debating upon a total of 59 resolutions across 36 topics in 12 committees this year. Thank you for your dedication. We hope to hear your voices again next year!

Security Council Crisis

By Dorothy Du

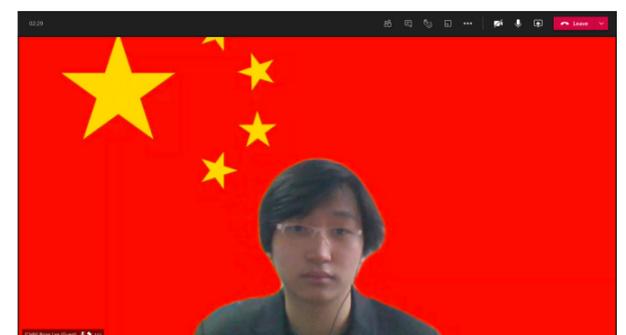
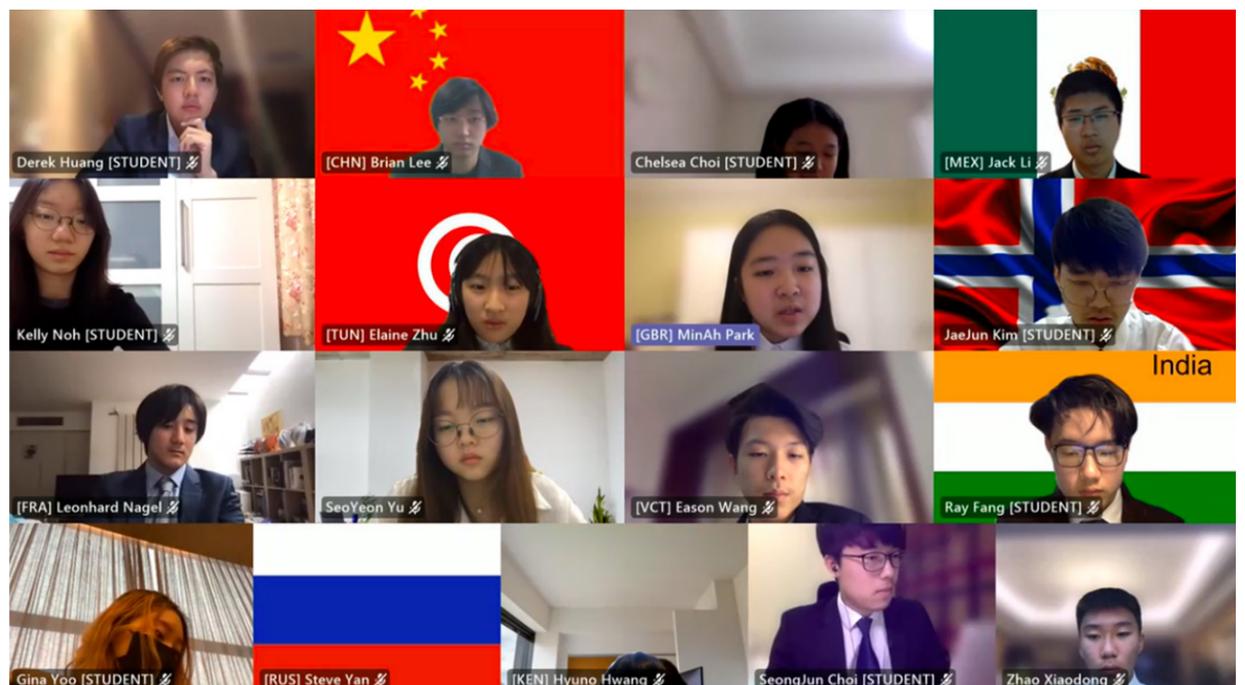
It was a relatively calm Saturday afternoon in the Security Council Commission. Delegates from all over the world were ready to debate on a resolution addressing the Nagorno-Karabakh situation, until the voice of the council president ignited the air sharply, announcing that a crisis had struck. Any drowsiness caused by the warm afternoon vanished with the words: “Attention delegates! The Hezbollah-affiliated forces have taken over the city of Herat, the third greatest city in Afghanistan and a crucial trading center in a strategic location. Additionally, The UN has also reported the assassination of the French Ambassador on his trip across Beirut.”

After a limited 20 minutes of lobbying, five resolutions were submitted—though due to time constraints only three were entertained. The representative of Hezbollah commenced the debate by stating that the world’s three greatest religions were “ruled by dirty infidels” in a manner that made “the entire politics of the region become corrupt.” His resolution included calls for immediate installation of Sharia law within Herat and for the People’s Republic of China to recognize Hezbollah as the legitimate government of the Herat governorate. The delegate of France quickly responded: “Does the representative of Hezbollah condone murder?” In which the representative of Hezbollah replied, “If murder is orchestrated and used to a higher purpose of liberating the citizens of oppressed countries who have been milked dry by imperialists, then it is justified.” In the end, after both sides intensely defended their positions, the proposed resolution did not pass.

The second resolution was submitted by France, which included “an immediate virtual conference” where measures would be made to discuss the safety of Afghanistan ambassadors and “negotiating with Hezbollah by presenting incentives to cease conflict.” The delegate of France also proposed that those complicit in the murder of a French ambassador would be persecuted on the international criminal court. France’s resolution successively passed with the additional amendment that any accused Hezbollah members would be properly represented by a lawyer.

The third resolution submitted by Mexico proposed that the UN Security Council, excluding China, should form a temporary alliance where available troops would be sent to Herat by air. The delegate of China immediately responded to this resolution: “Is the delegate of Mexico not aware that in an international organization such as the UN, cooperation is imperative in gaining the world’s global mindset?” Also further elaborating that “China, being one of the largest countries, would be able to effectively resolve this situation.” From there, many delegates fiercely defended China, resulting in the final vote to not pass this resolution.

The challenge of proposing immediate resolutions that would address an impending global conflict was met with the utmost professionalism and superb improvisation abilities. Being able to firsthand experience the volatility of our society, the delegates of BEIMUM’s Security Council have been equipped with the knowledge to take on a world rapidly advancing towards an uncertain future.



Wrapping Up BEIMUN's First Ever Online Conference



By Sophie Bai

Living during the Covid-19 pandemic, people are forced to stay at home to prevent themselves from getting infected, but also due to travel restrictions and government regulations. However, this has not stopped BEIMUN from hosting this year's 28th annual conference. The conference was held instead through Microsoft Teams. With this new method of conferencing, delegates discussed each committee's issues and resolutions in various channels on Teams. This new outlet of conducting a conference appeared to be fruitful, despite some glitches.

Although not being able to attend the conference physically, delegates were still able to interact with one and another in the midst of the pandemic. The online conference had many positives. When asked about what delegates like about BEIMUN online, Sally Kim, the delegate of India of WHA, stated that "we do not have to wake up early. Note-passing became a lot easier because the admins do not have to move around a lot." However, the idea of a paperless conference, a conference online, still had its hiccups: "some delegates had technical difficulties in opening resolutions. It was not easy for us to send and receive notes to each other without using the notepa-

per." Nevertheless, some of the challenges of the past years have been offset by BEIMUN online.

Challenges are unavoidable in any new situations such as this year's. A variety of delegates encountered minor technical issues during the conference. These minor issues need to be given more attention by the 'Helpdesk' channels. Additionally, Kim addressed that, "ISB's delegates were not able to change their 'name' to their delegation", so chairs were unable to recognize ISB's delegates, so we were not able to make a lot of speeches and POIs." She hopes this will not be the case during next year's BEIMUN.

When asked about what went well in BEIMUN XXVIII, Shawn Teh, the Secretary General denoted that "Delegates were very proactive and diplomatic all throughout the conference. We did not run into a situation where no one was willing to speak." From a new delegate's point of view, Martina Song, delegate of Estonia mentioned that "all [his] chairs were willing to tell me what to do when I have doubts. That's something I feel good about in BEIMUN."

BEIMUN XXVIII has witnessed another successful year, in person, or online. We hope that all delegates had a wonderful time. See you next year!



Martina Song, the delegate of Estonia.



Sally Kim, the delegate of India.

COVID-19: THE PLASTIC PANDEMIC

By Asher Sevy



Reducing plastic waste has been an important focus around the world for a long time. But as the long-lasting Covid-19 pandemic endures, the need for plastic increased significantly. The virus caused tons upon tons of plastic piling up from face masks, gloves, food containers, and more.

To many, it might not seem like much of a problem, as plastic can be recycled. However, a large amount of plastic actually cannot be recycled, leading to significantly higher levels of plastic waste worldwide.

Additionally, the world's petroleum demand

collapsed due to nationwide lockdowns, causing the oil prices to drop noticeably. The majority of manufactured plastic originates from fossil fuels, and therefore new plastic, or "virgin" material, can be as cheap as half the price of its recycled counterparts. Coupled with lower oil prices, the high need for single-use plastic items has caused more virgin material production in factories instead of utilizing recycled plastic, and the total amount of plastic waste on the Earth has skyrocketed. Already, in February of 2020, single-use face mask production in China alone has soared to 116 million per day, which is twelve times as much as normal.

In 2015, The United Nations (UN) set out seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for "achiev[ing] a better and more sustainable future for all." These goals cover a variety of global issues such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and, most relevant to this topic, responsible consumption and production. The UN challenged the world to strive to achieve them by 2050. Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic has set global efforts far behind and making it challenging to work towards these goals. In an attempt to combat this worsening issue, many countries around the world are planning to ban or restrict single-use plastic, but even this might not be enough to stop the plastic tsunami.

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VACCINE CORRUPTIONS

By Ivy Yang



Ever since discovering the new coronavirus, Covid-19, in Wuhan, China, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the outbreak as a pandemic in March 2020. Now, with 112,902,746 confirmed cases and 2,508,679 confirmed deaths caused by the infection of Covid-19, mortality rates continue to ascend at a rapid pace. With the urgent need for vaccines globally, numbers of vaccines have been produced at an astonishing speed, being approved in different parts of the

world. Now, newly developed Covid-19 vaccines serve as a beacon of light for numerous countries worldwide. Yet, with the development of vaccines, new problems begin to surface as vaccines are creating new opportunities for corruption, adding fuel to the fire of existing issues.

Ever since the vaccines entered the global market, distributions of Covid-19 vaccinations have been unequal and unfair, creating waves of complaints amongst average citizens, turning populaces against each other instead of the virus itself. In South America, it has been revealed that politicians have been abusing their powers to acquire vaccines for selfish gains. Robert Campos, the country's politicians' doctor, in Peru's capital Lima, commented: "They all knew that patients have been dying [...] yet they vaccinated all their little friends." Countries remain in public dismay as wealthy countries monopolized the vaccines. While health is at stake globally and vaccines remain scarce, well-connected line cutters' corruptive acts are alarming and undoubtedly enraging citizens.

Also in Peru, political turmoil arose from vac-

cine distribution is causing a disturbance to the imminent official vaccination campaign. More than 480 people, including several ministers and a formal president has been vaccinated before the campaign, taking advantage of their position to receive the Sinopharm vaccine early. This scandal has led to the resignations of the country's health and foreign affairs ministers, as chaos continues to arise in the country.

Furthermore, corruption risks are even higher as Covid-19 vaccines enter black markets, giving wealthy people a bigger chance to jump the line to attain the vaccines. With vaccines produced in large quantities, smuggling vaccines and insecure supply chains have made entering black markets even easier, contributed to the growing corruption in dispersal and administration of vaccines.

Luckily, the United Nations is working promptly for a Global Vaccination Plan regarding Covid-19 vaccines and assisting countries to receive vaccines to maintain international peace and prevent violence.

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Heroes Behind the Scenes: The Conference Room

By Sally Kim and Evelyn Chen



As the BEIMUN XXVIII, the first ever virtual conference, approaches its conclusion, a group of people gathering in the Beijing East hotel deserve to be brought before the curtain--the International School of Beijing's student leaders who organized and coordinated this memorable event. Despite constantly sitting in the shadows of the spotlight, the fire of their passion for BEIMUN fueled by the determination to organize an ever so unforgettable conference entitled them with halos that rivaled the brightness of that of protagonists.



On the centre of a U-shaped table in the conference room, there sits the Secretary General Shawn Teh, the person with the most responsibility— he is

charged with the duty to resolve technical, human resource, and procedural issues while oversee the proceedings of all 133 BEIMUN channels. Fortunately, this year's BEIMUN conference did not fail Teh's wholehearted dedication. He believes that "everything that I have witnessed far exceeded my expectations." Notably, the feat of inviting the keynote speaker Mr. Jaime FlorCruz is attributable to Teh's committed work with ISB's Alumni and Office of Advancement. Moreover, being a person well-informed with world news and has acute political vision, Teh coordinated with the Secretariat Team to select the debate topics that are reflective of the current events and introduced the World Health Assembly in response to the pandemic to deliberate public health policies.

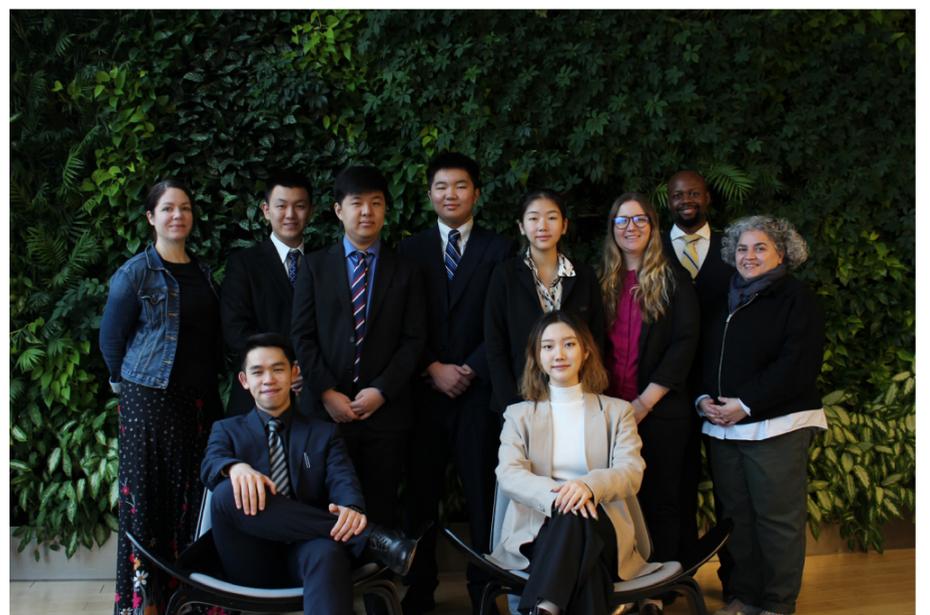


As reported by Emma Liu, a deputy secretary general, she is "pleased and somewhat proud that while many other MUN events were cancelled due to the travel limitation and other complications, BEIMUN is unimpeded by the occurrence of the pandemic." Something also worth mentioning, delegates may be familiar with deputy secretary generals' omnipresent face appearing in multiple committee channels, behind the scenes, they are the architects who constructed the framework of the

conference: the credit of the handbook that many delegates and chairs reached to whenever in confusion or doubts goes to the deputy generals.

Representing the Admins team, Leighton Duyang and Shane Lim are responsible for training and managing the admin staff, contacting the MUN One developers, and assisting the Secretariat prior to and monitoring the helpdesk to provide technical support during the conference. They closely cooperated with the development of the MUN One software, which was used for note passing, amendment submission, resolution sharing, and other functions that enable the conference with simulate an authentic in-person experience. Overall, the selfless, diligent Admins team who worked round-the-clock testing the software and making crucial modifications prior to the meeting is an indispensable jigsaw piece to the MUN team.

On the other side of the room, sits the *Beiwatch* executive team, all simultaneously on Teams to be in touch with the entire team. The editing team gathers earlier than the conference to ensure the best of each issue and members. Interacting with the BEIMUN team, each editor aims to finalize a perfect issue for hundreds of delegates to enjoy. As all the pieces come together like a puzzle, the room starts to bustle with heat and passion, which then is passed onto a freshly published issue.



6 SENIOR REMINISCENCES

Senior Reminiscences

By Emily Parker

“Our memories of yesterday will last a lifetime. We will take the best, forget the rest, and someday we will find these are the best of times.” - Dennis DeYoung. Sadly, once again, it has come to that time of year to say farewell to the esteemed graduating class of 2021, as their final BEIMUN conference has now come to an end. Here are a collection of quotes from some of our senior participants in this year’s BEIMUN conference who were asked to respond to the phrase: “My last BEIMUN is like…”



Suhan Yoon

International School of Beijing
Delegate of India

“My last BEIMUN was like a moment of nostalgia. I have started MUN in 6th grade and have participated in numerous conferences as a delegate, chair, and so on. Throughout the years, I had the opportunity to talk with those who were directly affected by the issues discussed in MUN such as refugees, a representative from UNHCR, or the head of the International Criminal Court. For my last conference, as a delegate, I was able to experience the joy and enthusiasm from talking with students around the world and reminisce about my first international conference. It was definitely an honor to finish my last MUN conference in high school with BEIMUN.”



Timothy Chau

International School of Beijing
Delegate of Germany

“My last BEIMUN, and my first, was like a storm that slowly but eventually began to settle. While I was initially baffled by what was happening, I am glad that I could make at least some sense of what was happening as the conference went on. I was shocked but pleased that my resolution was the only one that passed in General Assembly 1. This experience was definitely worthwhile, and I hope that my fellow delegates had a great time too!”

Congratulations to all participants for a very successful and ever so exciting virtually held twenty-eighth annual BEIMUN conference. *Beiwatch* wishes all seniors the best of luck in the future, and we look forward to seeing the rest of you next year!



Sally Kim

International School of Beijing
Chief Editor of *Beiwatch*

“Although being behind the scenes, I was able to sense all delegates’ passion and enthusiasm during debates. Being a small part of BEIMUN for the past three years, I am so thankful for being able to experience and write about this amazing conference. I hope you all enjoyed our paper. Remember to pick up a copy of *Beiwatch* in your next conference!”



Alex Kim

Seoul International School
Delegate of China

“My last BEIMUN was unlike any other. Doing what I have been doing for 3 years, virtually is a whole different experience, and I had to adapt to a new environment. The change in platform, however, did not change the house’s eager willingness to cooperate and participate in fabricating solutions to modern-day problems. As a senior, I was glad to see bright-minded delegates putting their heads together. MUN is the one activity that I will never forget throughout my years in the future. Many thanks to the secretariat team that put together my last conference. I appreciate each and every one of those who were involved in BEIMUN, and I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors in MUN.”

Most Diplomatic Delegate

By Asher Sevy



Following a collection of photos from throughout BEIMUN, provided by the Beiwatc Press Team and accompanied by the ISB Jazz Band's cover of "Angel Eyes," the presidents of each committee were called to provide a recap of the highlights of their

respective committees during the conference and present the winner of the Most Diplomatic Delegate Award. According to Eric Xie, Deputy Secretary General, the Most Diplomatic Delegate Award is awarded to delegates who "have demonstrated strong qualities of professionalism, adherence to country stance, leadership, and effective collaboration throughout the conference."

Young Soo Kim and Brian Ham, Presidents of the General Assembly Committees, announced the recipients of the Best Diplomatic Delegate Award, delegate of Bahrain, Heather Kwon and delegate of Colombia, Sean Kim, for their leadership, collaboration, and diplomacy skills despite of the technical difficulties of Microsoft Teams.

Environmental Committee Presidents Lauren Zhou and Vincent Tiu introduced the award winners of ENV 1 and 2: delegate of Japan, Andrew Li and delegate of Colombia, Jihye Heo. These two delegates excelled at voicing their opinions, constructing effective amendments, and providing new perspectives on their topics.

Ethan Zhou and Hoon Kim, Presidents of the Economic and Social Committees, were proud to present their winners, delegate of Saudi Arabia,

Alan Deutsch, and delegate of China, Michelle Bok, who displayed proficiency at constructing amendments and well-crafted speeches that "excelled our chairs' expectations," according to Kim.

Presidents Si In Park and Hugh Kang of the Human Rights Council presented Yeonjoon Kim, delegate of Norway, and Hedy Kwon, delegate of Italy, the high honor of the awards for their diplomacy, passion, and engagement.

President Chris Lim of the Disarmament Commission congratulated delegate of China, Sarang Ju as the DIS's winner of the Most Diplomatic Delegate Award for her leadership, devotion, and insight. Seoyeon Yu, President of the Security Council, awarded delegate of UK, MinAh Park as Most Diplomatic Delegate for her constant engagement.

Lastly, Daniel Kim and Fariyah Ahmed, Presidents of the World Health Assembly, congratulated Grace An, delegate of the Czech Republic, and Rania Ahmed, delegate of Lebanon, for their charismatic attitudes and excellent display of country stance.

BEIMUN and *Beiwatc* congratulates all delegates!

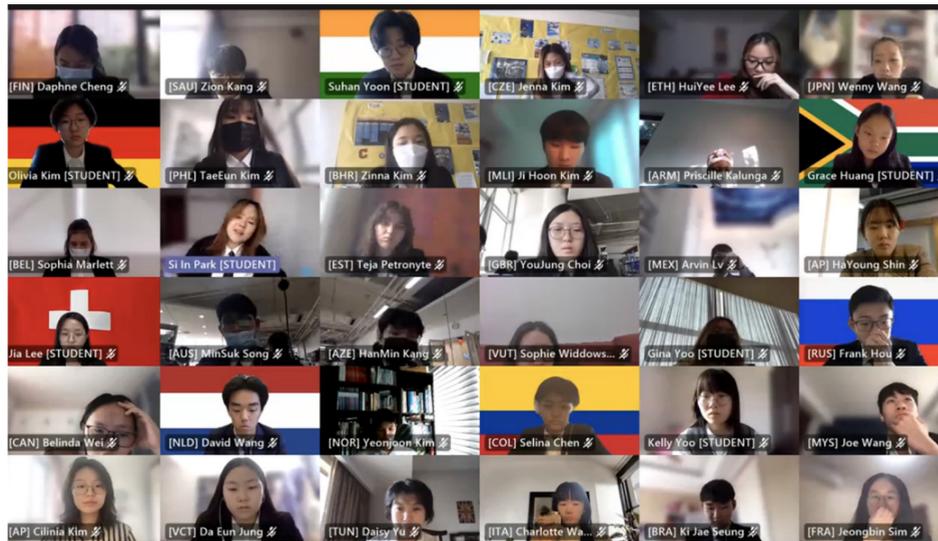
BEIWATCH EXECUTIVE TEAM AT WORK



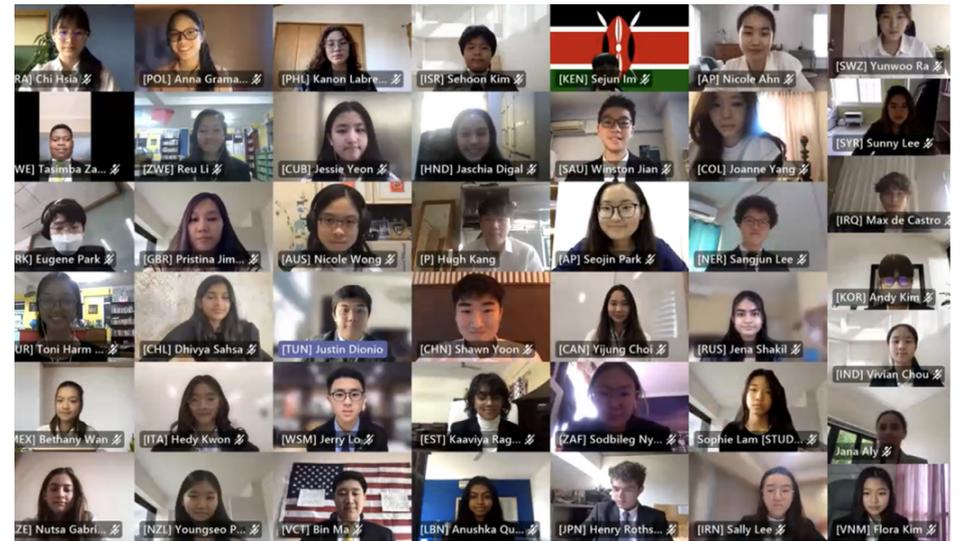
ARTWORKS BY MELISSA KIM AND GIGI SHUM

LAYOUT BY MELISSA KIM AND SALLY KIM

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL: SUB-COMMISSION ONE



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL: SUB-COMMISSION TWO



WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: SUB-COMMISSION ONE



WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: SUB-COMMISSION TWO



DISARMAMENT:



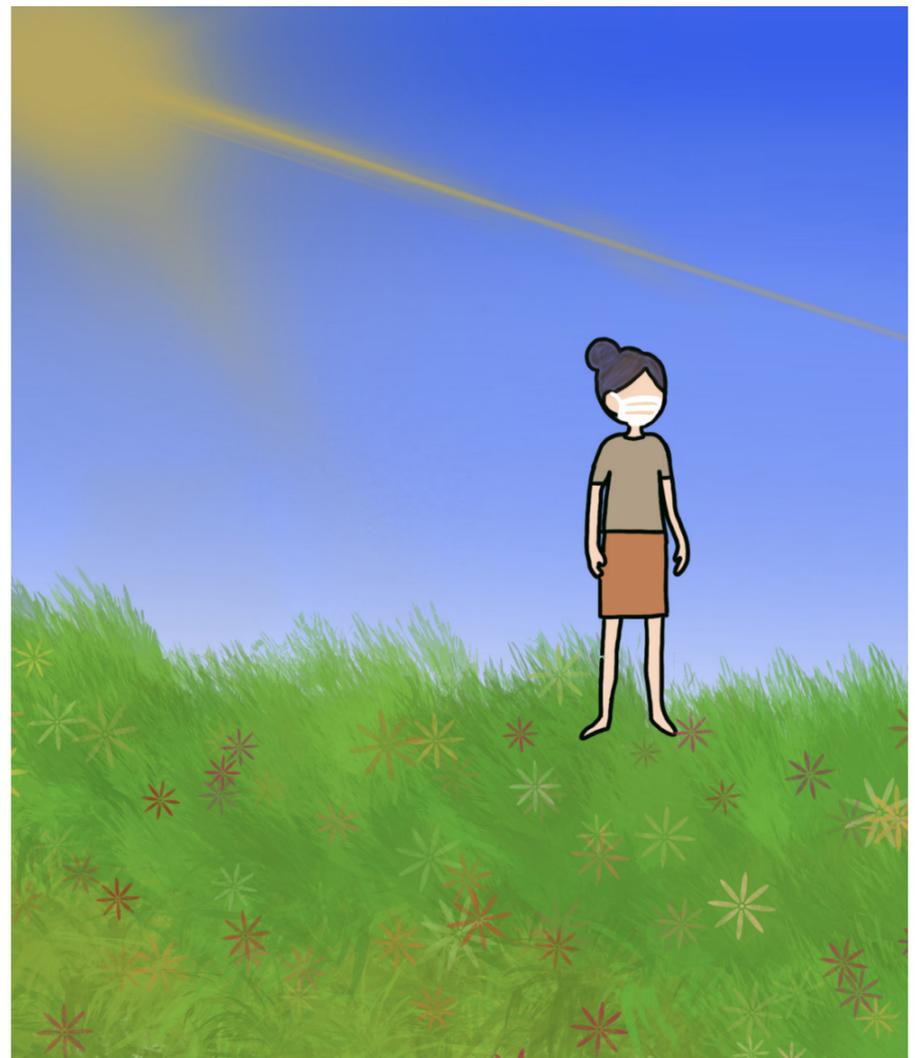
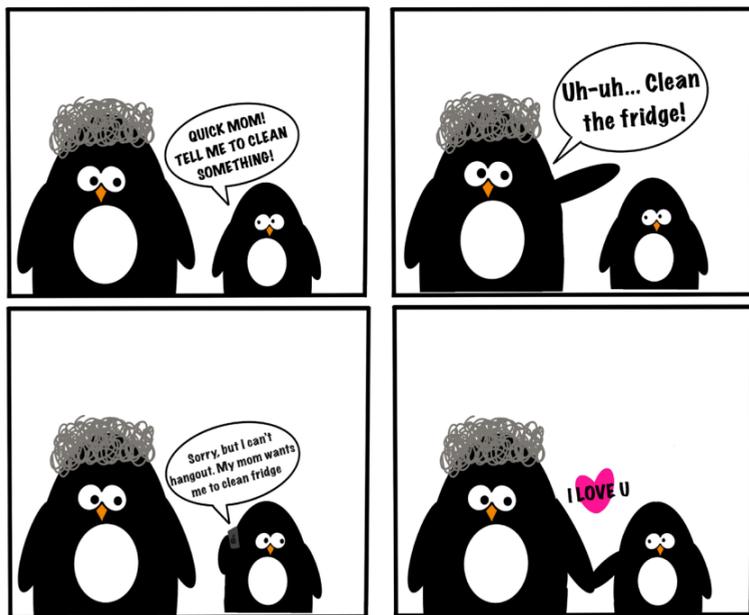
SECURITY COUNCIL:



Amateur MUN-er



Pro MUN-er



ARTWORKS BY GIGI SHUM, TRACY HO AND BERNICE CHAN

LAYOUT BY MAXINE LIM

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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