

27TH JANUARY 2016

# MSMUN

INVENTIO:  
THE UNION  
OF  
KNOWLEDGE  
AND  
IMAGINATION



SAHLE-WORK ZEWDE

## **FEMALE EMPOWERMENT**

BY JAINI SHAH AND RAUL JOHNSON

A woman with power, integrity and yet humility, she has taken the world by storm with her work as the Director General of the United Nations Office of Nairobi. She has grown into her position and assumed it with ease. She symbolizes a woman of faith, belief and strength. On the 27th of January 2016, the delegates of the MSMUN 2016 had the honour to witness Mrs. Sahle-Work Zewde's very inspiring and moving speech. We must express our gratitude for the fact that she took time out of her busy schedule to talk to us. The UNON Director General gave us an insight to the functions and the works of the UN. This was the highlight of the Opening Ceremony as she engaged us with an account of its operation.

There was a warm welcome, approved by the Director General as she said "I feel like I am as important as the Pope because the only time the room with this full was for him".

She even went to the extent of expressing her thoughts and feelings on the year 2015 as a whole for the UN. She was exuberant and excited about the fact that the UN celebrated its 70th Anniversary last year. She said, "the world needs the UN the most now and I have the delight to let you know that we have celebrated 70

years of hard work and perseverance and that we are still going strong."

As she left she gave some words of advice that were to inspire those who still believe in their dreams. She said "anything is possible with the belief and perseverance."

This speech was also accompanied by some remarkable comments by the Co-Chair of the First General Assembly, Radhika Bhullar. It's always great to hear someone's journey to success, so she had all the delegates' attention.

Radhika believes that taking opportunities is a risk worth taking as you can either succeed or learn from your failure. Overconfidence kills hard work and we must be humble with our abilities and remember that you will always have competition.

She also shared a few lessons with us. To listen. Listening is the key to success. She voiced that you are who you are with. Make a mature decision to have friends who allow you to grow, encourage and uplift you, rather than friends who put you down. She also urged us to be diligent and put 100% of your effort into all activities that you participate in.

As Radhika concluded, "we are swimming in an endless sea of opportunities - grab it while you can."

# 2016

2016 presents an unprecedented opportunity to bring the countries and citizens of the world together to embark on a new path to improve the lives of people everywhere.

Countries have adopted a new sustainable development agenda and global agreement on climate change. Keep on the lookout for easy ways to implement these goals in your daily routine!

# The Heated Health Committee Debate

By: Hannah Bitebekezi and Audrey Achia

The delegates of South Sudan presented their resolution on the spread of malaria in the area. Although it was not passed or rejected, it was put on hold. Clearly the most active debate, we saw it being supported by many and held lots of speakers, even being accidentally supported by the African Union. However, there were some countries that were against the resolution, such as the delegates from Guinea and New Zealand

who pointed out some flaws like the fact "that the resolution did not mention where the money is coming from or the supervisors." The delegate from Guinea also asked, "What will happen if this resolution fails?" South Sudan was also questioned about the period of time being too long -enough time for millions of people to die. Most of these questions were left unanswered as the time of the resolution was complete; we are

## Crisis in Security Council

Delegates were all fiercely involved in the crisis: the question of South Sudan merging with other countries. Delegates were all assigned to a continent: Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe. They were fully involved in debating the various resolutions. In the end, Africa proved to be the most outstanding resolution with a Europe in a close second.

Africa requested South Sudan to merge with Kenya as, "South Sudan is better off with Kenya due to its financial status. It has a much more developed economy and infrastructure than Sudan. Kenya is rich in vegetation and resources, which will further help South Sudan. Kenya is diverse in religion and tradition."

They then requested for the donation of 185 million USD for

- Preserving Kenya's natural vegetation, which would create jobs in the agricultural sector.

- Building learning centers and teaching facilities to improve the education sector.
- The improvement of the country's health.
- The watchdog used in this resolution was the EU (European Union).

This resolution was considered as the most outstanding resolution in the Security Council committee as it requested an adequate amount of money, which was allocated as required in each sector. In addition, it had a standard watchdog, which ensured that project will fully carried out. The resolution also included a reasonable time frame, and Africa mentioned convincing reasons for the resolution in order for it to pass.

Following the reasons above, this resolution was the most prominent resolution in the committee, which stated its problems and solutions clearly and provided worthy solutions.

Written by: Sophia and Sree



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## DEFORESTATION IN THE WEST AFRICA

### Benin - Ecology resolution

This resolution tackles a world-wide issue that is very commonly addressed but very little is done about it. Benin has one of the highest deforestation rates in the world - between 1990 and 2010 Benin lost an average of one million two hundred thousand hectares of its forest cover.

Deforestation in Benin and the world is a great problem that should be solved within a short span of time. It is the cause of many environmental problems such as soil erosion, flooding and eventually Global Warming.

The majority of the ecology committee failed this resolution because the amount of money that was stated (11 million USD) was not enough to protect the forest. Also, if the resolution was passed the lack of wood and timber -which is a source of income for Beninese people - would be a detriment to the survival of Benin because the materials used for the building of houses would not be provided.

Isabel Fabel AND Fatema Bhaijee



## INTERVIEW WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL - MRS. SAHLE- WORK ZEWDE

**Do you think that within the next 500 years we as the human race can ensure that all people have their human rights respected (especially women as you mentioned in your speech)?**

I think the time frame will have to be shorter because there is greater awareness of women's rights and it is a hot topic in the UN. Action is being taken all around the world. I think from now on progress can only speed up not slow down so I think that this will happen within a shorter time frame. I can't honestly give a time frame in which this will be achieved however, I hope to see this achieved within my lifetime.

**How do you think where you grew up influenced your career?**

I grew up in a family of 4 girls and in a family where girls were considered equal to boys and anything that a man can do, a woman can do. My father always said you need to fight for it and you need to prove that you can do that job. Someone once told me 'Always sleep with one eye open' and I think that is something that has impacted me in my work.

**What virtue do you most admire in people?**

Humility. Be humble and honest and always have integrity. Stick to the principles, you won't always win, but you should always stick to the principles.

**Which committee is the most important and why?**

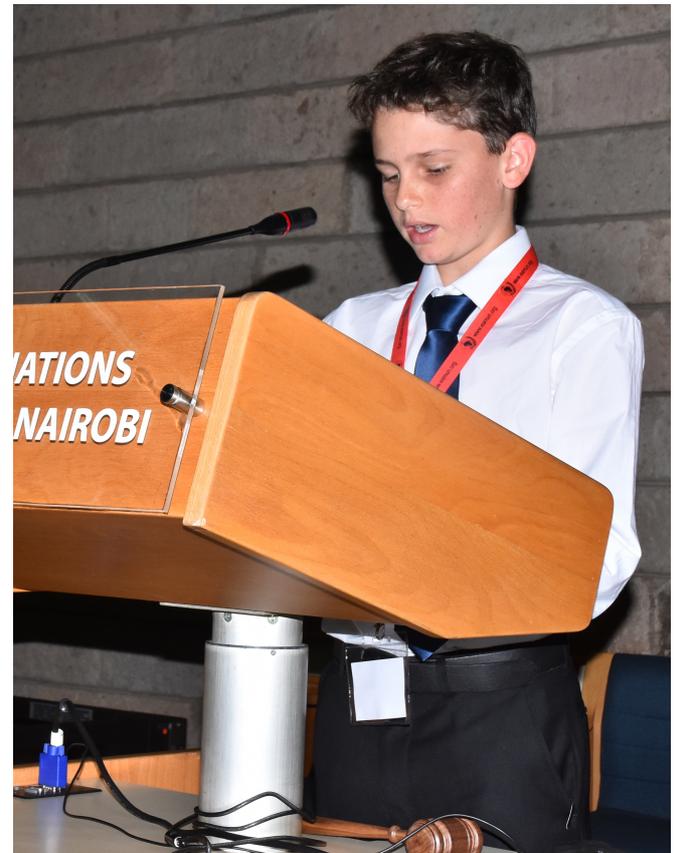
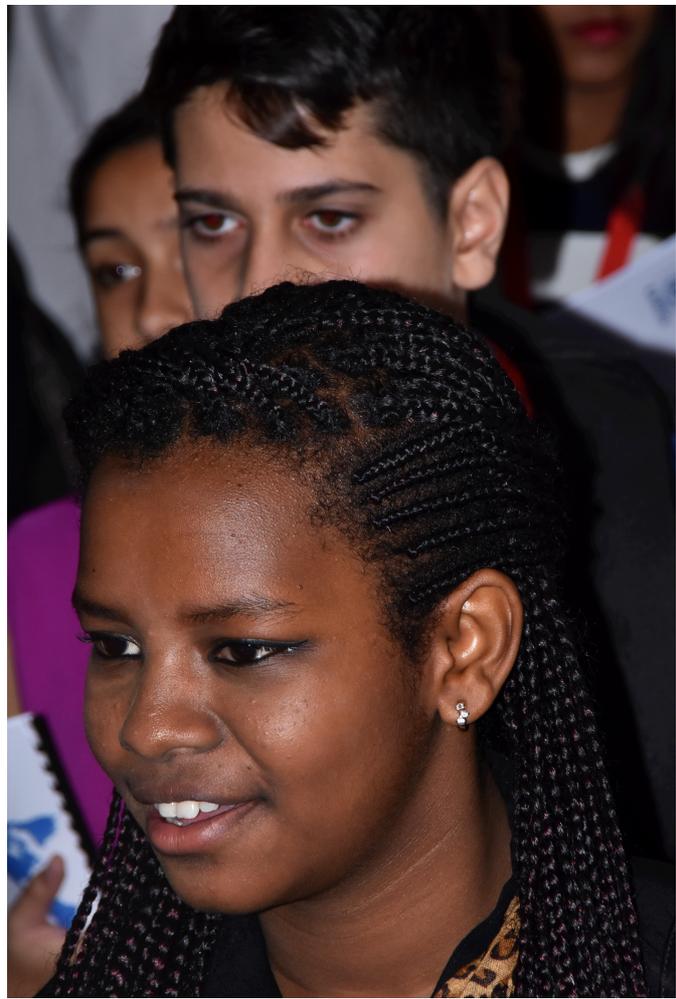
All have merits. Concentrate on all because they have to work hand in hand. I can't honestly say one is more important than the other because they have to work together to ensure a better world.

**What subjects helped you to do the job you do today?**

What I studied had nothing to do with what I do now. I wanted to be a diplomat but my father disagreed because he knew that it would be involved with politics and he didn't want me to go in politics so I studied science. But don't do what I did. Study the subject that will help you do what you want to do in life.

Interview By: Essey Molla (13)





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