



UN-FORUM

National Model United Nations 2008

*Report of the Participation of Freie Universität Berlin,
representing Japan,
13 – 22 March 2008, New York City*

Freie Universität  Berlin

“I will write peace on your wings and you will fly all over the world.”

Sadako Sasaki (1943-1955)

Victim of the Hiroshima bombing

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published by
Ferry Bühring,
Philipp Jornitz
and
Peggy Wittke

on behalf of the Berlin-Brandenburg Chapter of the
German United Nations Association

National Model United Nations 2008

The Delegation of Japan



back row (from left to right):

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Jonathan Ries, Ada Jonusyte, Doreen Meier, Philipp Jornitz, Natascha Braumann, Matthias Sinnacher*

middle row (from left to right):

*Carina Siegmund, Peggy Wittke, Laura André, Lina Claudi, Wiebke Wodni,
Despoina Glarou, Tse-yu Su, Helge Schröder, Florian Heydrich*

front row (from left to right):

Hikmat Maleh, Paula Podehl, Uwe Porwollik, Ruth Halle, Florencia Ricci

absent:

Martin Ebeling

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Foreword

For the thirteenth time, it was possible for the *Freie Universität Berlin* to send a group of students to attend the *National Model United Nations Conference* in New York. Our former Delegations had represented countries from Asia, Europe, South America and Africa. This year's focus turned to South-East Asia, as the students represented Japan.

They explored one of the most important players on the world's stage. Indeed, many a comparison between Japan and Germany comes to mind. Both countries were considered enemy states at the *San Francisco Conference* in 1945. Both countries have joined the *United Nations* significantly after its inception, Japan in 1956 and Germany in 1973. Both countries have since evolved into very active players within the fora of the Organization. They are currently some of the main proponents of a reform of the *Security Council*, both aspiring to a permanent seat at the Council table.

This year's Delegation set its focus in line with the goals that Japan endeavors to achieve in the context of the *United Nations*. One overarching concept in this respect is Human Security. This central aspect of Japan's foreign policy shifts the view of international law away from the state to the human being. It aims at protecting the individual in an international context and, at the same time, empowers it to achieve this security. With this fundamental concept in mind, the students developed their positions in the different fora, in which Japan was represented. The conference's topics were ranging from economic development to problems in the face of a changing climate, the latter subject being one of the most intensely debated on the international level in 2007, especially after the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* presented its *Fourth Assessment Report* in November.

As in the previous years, the Delegation was composed of students from various departments and universities. Most importantly, the students could not only bring in their diverse educational backgrounds, but also their different nationalities. Next to German students, the Delegation also comprised students from Argentina, Belgium, Greece, Lithuania, Switzerland and Taiwan. With this variety of backgrounds, a very fruitful preparation could develop. Indeed, the intense preparation in class that is complemented by a now regular Study Tour at the *Federal Foreign Office* and at the *United Nations Headquarters*, as well as visits to the Delegation of the European Commission and the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, rounding up and enhancing the knowledge acquired in class, led to the Delegation receiving the 'Outstanding Position Paper' Award.

An important factor of the preparation process is always the direct contact to the Embassy in Berlin. This year, I am very grateful that Mr. Ryo Nakamura of the Japanese Embassy gave us the opportunity of having first-hand information on the Japanese foreign policy in the *United Nations* context. This view was complemented by a brilliant briefing by Ambassador Takahiro Shinyo at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the *United Nations*, and I warmly thank him. Also, I owe gratitude to the *Federal Foreign Office* for the support and help in the preparation process. In this regard, I am appreciative to Dr. Peer Gebauer and Mr. Holger Mahnicke for their fascinating talks on

Japan and Negotiations at the *United Nations*, as well as Mr. Achim Gaier, who made the Delegation's visit to the *Foreign Office* possible. Furthermore, for the first time, it was possible for our Delegation to visit the Embassy of the United States and enhance its knowledge on the U.S. foreign policy and especially on the topic of climate change. I warmly thank Mr. Stanley Otto and Mr. Robert Pollard for giving us these intriguing insights. I also thank Mr. Emanuele Giaufret, who enlightened the Delegation on the work of the European Commission's Delegation to the *United Nations*.

I am grateful to the persons who took up the challenge of conducting the preparation process of the so far largest Delegation of the *Freie Universität Berlin* and took care of the numerous organizational issues: Ms. Peggy Wittke, Mr. Ferry Bühring and Mr. Philipp Joritz. Moreover, I wish to thank Ms. Swati Dave at the *United Nations Department of Public Information* for her constant commitment to organizing the *United Nations Study Tour*.

I owe gratitude to Ambassador Dr. Wilfried Bolewski, who has recently, as a Professor of International Law and Diplomacy, joined the Faculty of Law of the *Freie Universität*, for his deep insights into diplomacy. The Delegation also had the opportunity to listen to a very interesting briefing by Mr. Semjon Schimanke, who works at the chair of Prof. Dr. Ulrich Cubasch, a lead author of the *IPCC Fourth Assessment Report*.

As always, our participation at the *National Model United Nations* would not have been possible without the immense financial support by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Robert-Bosch-Stiftung. I am very grateful to them.

Prof. Dr. Philip Kunig

Sponsors of the Berlin Delegation at National Model United Nations 2008

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1. The National Model United Nations Conference

The *National Model United Nations* (NMUN) was founded in 1946 as a successor to the *Model League of Nations* which originated in 1923. These programs are directed at students to offer thorough and detailed information on the United Nations system and the work and function of International Organizations by means of an authentic simulation. The popularity of the *Model United Nations* program has risen constantly over the years. Meanwhile, these programs are also being offered at high schools - in the United States more than 200.000 high school and college students take part in the simulations annually. The great acceptance of *Model United Nations* is not limited to the United States: today *Model United Nations* take place in more than 25 countries throughout the world including Germany. *Freie Universität Berlin* organizes, together with different cooperation partners like the *Federal Foreign Office* and UNA-Germany, various Model United Nations conferences throughout the year in Berlin.

The *National Model United Nations* today is the largest simulation of the United Nations in the world. Each year more than 4.000 students from North America, Canada, Asia and Europe take part in the conference, which is held for five days at the Marriott Marquis Hotel or the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, New York, and the *United Nations Headquarters*. The *National Model United Nations* is sponsored by the *National Collegiate Conference Association*, a non-profit organization which works closely with the United Nations and was granted the status of a *Non-Governmental Organization* in 1995. The Board of Directors coordinates and supervises the simulation. The conference is administered by a 55-member Secretariat which is composed of graduate and undergraduate students who are elected annually. Head of the Secretariat is the *Secretary-General*, supported by a *Director-General* and a *Chief of Staff*.

Each participating university represents a *United Nations Member State* or *Non-Governmental Organization* at the conference. According to reality, these Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations are represented in different committees and International Organizations. It is the task of the Delegations to make themselves acquainted with the history and policy of their country or Non-Governmental Organization in order to act as realistic as possible at the conference. In addition, it is necessary to lay down the position concerning the different topics that will be negotiated during the sessions. The visit at the Permanent Mission to the United Nations offers the valuable opportunity to gather first-hand background information by consulting high-ranking diplomats.

During the five days of the conference the Delegates of the various committees strive to work out proposals and draft resolutions. At that point it becomes clear that the knowledge, which has to be obtained, cannot be limited to the country or Non-Governmental Organization represented, but has to include information on "friends and foes" as well, in order to get into contact with the proper partners during negotiations. The participating students are expected to behave as active diplomats, who have to formulate their positions and try to enforce them, but at the same time have to be open-minded towards compromises, always taking into consideration the special interests of the represented nation or Non-Governmental Organization. This marks one of the major attractions of the *National Model United Nations* conference: each Delegate has to

participate in the negotiations by ensuring that his nation's / Non-Governmental Organization's interests are taken into account. By the reaction of the other Delegates he immediately realizes his failures and, most important, his success.

At the end of the conference the voting procedures take place at the *United Nations Headquarters*. Selected resolutions are on the floor of the *General Assembly Plenary* and the *Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)*. The passing resolutions are forwarded to the *Secretary-General of the United Nations*, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, as the official result of the *National Model United Nations*.

Peggy Wittke



Ferry Bühring



Peggy Wittke



Philipp Jornitz

Faculty Advisors of the NMUN 2008 Delegation

2. The Berlin NMUN 2008 Delegation

Twenty-four students from different backgrounds, nationalities (Belgium, Taiwan, Greece, Argentina, Lithuania, and Germany), fields of study (Law, Economics, Political Science, Philosophy, History, French, International Relations) and universities (*Humboldt Universität Berlin*, *Freie Universität Berlin*, *Universität Potsdam*) spent four months of intensive preparation to be ready to represent Japan at this year's National *Model United Nations* in New York. This group of strangers became friends and a strong team due to an enormous motivation coming from each of the team members.

Not only have we learned about the organization of the *United Nations*, the political and diplomatic culture of Japan and negotiation methods and techniques, but also about working together and building up a team spirit. The path turned out to be just as important as the goal. On our path we stopped by in Frankfurt, London, Berlin and the goal was New York, where we arrived as one Delegation.

The experience of NMUN does not only matter because of the great opportunities to visit the UN Headquarters, participate at the UN Study Tour, the NMUN Conference and spend an exciting time in New York but also because of the great people we met. It is an academic experience but just as much a personal one.

With this documentation of our time together during the preparation time and the conference itself we would like to share some of it and inspire others to support and participate in this project in the future.

Paula Podehl





Laura André was born on 17 December 1986 in Liege (Belgium). She studied Law at the *Université de Liège* where she passed her Bachelor of Law. During her last two years in Liege, she also took part in a European law exchange program at the *Maastricht Universiteit* (Netherlands). She has been staying a year at the *Freie Universität Berlin* within the framework of the Erasmus Program. She applied to NMUN 2008 to experience the real diplomatic process and deepen her knowledge about the *United Nations*.

At NMUN 2008, she represented Japan in the *General Assembly Third Committee* together with Uwe Porwollik.

Natascha Braumann, born on 28 May 1985, studies for a MA in International Relations at the *Freie Universität Berlin*, the *Humboldt Universität Berlin* and the *Universität Potsdam*. From 2003 to 2006, she studied History and Politics at the *University of Oxford*. In 2002 and 2003, she participated in *The Hague International Model United Nations* (THIMUN); in 2004, she participated in the *Harvard WorldMUN*. One year later, she was the Secretary-General of the *Oxford International Model United Nations* (OxIMUN). In 2006, she was an intern at the Delegation of the European Commission in Damascus, Syria.

At NMUN 2008, she represented Japan in the *International Atomic Energy Agency* together with Hikmat Maleh.



Lina Claudi was born on 4 October 1983 and studies Political Science and International Relations at the *Freie Universität Berlin*.

She appealed to the NMUN particularly because of the practical and communicative character, and the specific experience in an international diplomatic conference with 2,400 other students from all over the world. At NMUN 2008, Lina Claudi represented Japan in the UN Populations Fund together with Wiebke Wodni.

Martin Ebeling, born on 4 June 1982, studies Political Science and Philosophy at the *Universität Potsdam* and at the *Freie Universität Berlin*. From 1999-2000, he made a High School year in Iowa City with the American Field Service. In 2002-2003, he spent a year in Guatemala organizing and participating in projects in indigenous communities. In 2006-2007, he studied Philosophy at the *New York University*. He applied to NMUN 2008 in order to improve his understanding of the complex workings of international organizations.

At NMUN 2008, he represented Japan in the *General Assembly First Committee* together with Ruth Halle.



Despoina Glarou was born 1984 in Greece. She has recently completed her Law degree at the *Aristotle University in Thessaloniki* and is now pursuing a Master of Laws program at the *Freie Universität Berlin* as well as a Master of Business Administration at the *University of Liverpool*. During her legal clerkship in Greece she focused on immigration and asylum issues.

At NMUN 2008 she represented Japan in the *Commission on the Status of Women* together with Carina Siegmund.

Malte Gregorzewski was born on 27 February 1983. After his Civil Service he started studying Economics in Hamburg. In 2005, he moved to Berlin for his main study period in Economics and Political Science at the *Freie Universität*. He completed an internship at the Federal Ministry of Finance of Germany in 2007 after his return from Antwerp, where he studied International Economics for one semester. He focuses on finance, welfare policy and international relations. In order to acquire a deeper and more practical knowledge in these fields and the *United Nations* system, to develop a deeper understanding of other cultures, and to work with students from around the world, he decided to take part in the NMUN 2008 program.

At NMUN 2008, Malte Gregorzewski represented Japan in the *Economic and Social Council* together with Thomas Heinrich.





Ruth Halle was born on 27 January 1984 in Hamburg. She studies Political Science at the *Freie Universität Berlin*, before she came to Berlin, she did her undergraduate studies at the *University of Augsburg* and spent a semester at the *American University of Beirut*. Besides her studies she works for the Liaison Office of the German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Berlin.

At NMUN 2008 she represented Japan in the *General Assembly First Committee* together with Martin Ebeling.

Thomas Heinrich was born on 27 October 1982. After finishing high school in Berlin he studied French in Montpellier and Spanish in Salamanca before he started his studies of Business Administration and Economics in Marburg. He then decided to move back to Berlin for his specialization in Management. Alongside his studies he completed internships in Montevideo, Asunción and Zurich. He is currently writing his master's thesis on strategic alliances. In order to broaden his horizons, explore his particular interest in international relations, and discuss current political and economic issues with students from diverse academic backgrounds he decided to participate in the NMUN 2008 program.

At NMUN 2008, Thomas Heinrich represented Japan in the *Economic and Social Council* along with Malte Gregorzewski.



Florian Heydrich was born in December 1983 in Berlin, Germany. Before he started to study Economics at the *Freie Universität Berlin* he went to the Bloomsburg High School in Pennsylvania (U.S.A) within an exchange program. He will complete his studies in 2009/2010 with the Master of Economics.

Being economically and politically interested he applied for NMUN 2008 to get further insights of the UN system as well as the rhetoric and negotiation technique used in formal debates as he would like to operate in the fields of international politics after he has finished studying.

At NMUN, he represented Japan in the *General Assembly Second Committee* together with Florencia Ricci.

Ada Jonusyte was born on 8 June 1987 in Vilnius (Lithuania) and studied Political Science at the *Freie Universität Berlin* since 2006, where she made her Bachelor's degree in 2008. After her participation in NMUN she completed an internship at the Foreign Ministry of Lithuania and supervised the election as an independent elections observer in Georgia. She is particularly interested in the UN from an analytically academic perspective in the context of her studies. At NMUN 2008, Ada Jonusyte represented Japan in the *UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East*.



Hikmat Maleh was born on 6 June 1987 and lives, by and large, in his hometown Geneva. He is currently studying Law in his 3rd year at *Humboldt Universität Berlin*. Throughout the last years, he has been Delegate and General Assembly Chairman of the *Swiss Students' United Nations* (SUN). In 2004, he attended the Seminar on the *UN Commission on Human Rights*, organized by the *World Federation of United Nations Association* (WFUNA). His recent work includes serving as Assistant Director for the *Security Council* at *Harvard WorldMUN*.

At NMUN 2008, he represented Japan at the *International Atomic Energy Agency* together with Natascha Braumann. In addition, Hikmat assisted Paula Podehl in her work as

Head Delegate.

Doreen Meier was born on 26 March 1978 in Berlin. She is currently working on her final thesis in North American Studies at the John F. Kennedy Institute at the *Freie Universität Berlin*. After a vocational training and working on the job, she took up North American Studies and Business Studies in Berlin. In 2004/2005 she spent an academic year at the *University of Calgary*, Canada, studying Political Science and Economics. This experience sparked her interest in international politics. Being fascinated with international relations and being curious about the inner workings of international organizations as well as the possibility of actually experiencing diplomacy and meeting other dedicated students, she decided to take up the challenge of participating in NMUN 2008.

At NMUN 2008, Doreen represented Japan in the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* together with Jonathan Ries.





Paula Podehl was born on 24 November 1980 in Braunschweig. From 1997 to 1999, she lived in Hong Kong. After having studied Dance and Drama one year in Bedford, UK, she returned back to Germany to conclude these studies and start studying Philosophy and American Studies in Braunschweig. In May 2001, Paula went to live and study in Paris for three and a half years and finished with a Licence in Administration Economique et Sociale. Since April 2006, she studies Political Science at the *Freie Universität Berlin*. Currently, Paula is an intern at the WFP Liaison Office in Berlin.

At NMUN 2008, Paula represented Japan at the *General Assembly Plenary* together with Helge Schröder. She was Head Delegate of the FU Delegation.

Uwe Porwollik was born on 27 January 1981 in Berlin. He studies French Philology, Sociology and International Law at *Freie Universität Berlin*. After having spent a year in France at the *Chemin Neuf Abbaye d'Hautecombe*, he completed an internship in Italy. Due to his study, interests in languages and culture, he passed a year in La Réunion as an assistant for the *Pedagogic Exchange Service* in 2005/06. His interest in diplomacy, diplomatic relations, international understanding and the UN itself led him to the NMUN 2008 program. Currently, he is working on his final thesis, for that reason he will be spending several times in France during the next months.

During NMUN 2008, Uwe Porwollik represented Japan at the *General Assembly Third Committee* together with Laura André.



Semjon Rens was born on 29 July 1985 in Hamburg and studies Political and Administrative Science and Public Law since 2006 at the *Universität Potsdam*. In the winter semester 2008/09 he is studying at the *University of Barcelona* and plans to spend, after completing his Bachelor's degree, a Master program on "International Relations" in the United States or Spain.

At NMUN he was particularly excited by the opportunity to feel international diplomacy and to be a part of it. At NMUN 2008, Semjon Rens represented Japan in the *UN Human Settlements Programme* together with André Richter.

Florencia Ricci, born on 22 October 1984, studies Economics at *Freie Universität Berlin*. Prior to her studies in Berlin, she spent 5 months as exchange student in Heidelberg, and got her German high school diploma at the *Goethe Schule*, Buenos Aires. She is particularly interested in development economics and decided to apply for NMUN 2008 in order to learn more about the UN and international relations, something not so often confronted in her studies. At NMUN 2008, Florencia Ricci represented Japan in the *General Assembly, Second Committee* together with Florian Heydrich



André Richter was born on 21 January 1987 in Leipzig. After more than a decade in Southern Germany, he decided to study Economics with a special focus on economic policy at the *Freie Universität Berlin*. His interest in politics, world affairs, art and rhetoric led him to the NMUN program, through which he gained access to one of the most important organizations of our time. He will be spending the next term in Paris, at the *Université Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne*, after which he will start working on his final thesis. At NMUN 2008, André Richter represented Japan at the *Human Settlements Programme* together with Semjon Rens.



Jonathan Ries was born on 10 July 1987. After his graduation from high school in 2006, he started studying Business in Berlin. Right from the beginning of his study he tried to look also into areas besides Business. He has always been interested in politics, especially international affairs. In order to learn more about the practical work in these fields, he decided to take part in the NMUN 2008 program. His high school year in the U.S. in 2003 gave him already the chance to learn more about other cultures, but NMUN has an even wider range in mutual understanding and also forces the students to improve their rhetorical and negotiation skills. At NMUN 2008, Jonathan Ries represented Japan in the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* together with Doreen Meier.





Helge Schröder, born on 26 July 1984 in Berlin, studies History and Political Science at *Freie Universität Berlin*. During the two semesters he spent in Paris, he developed a great interest for both European integration and international relations. He therefore took part in summer schools in Cambridge and Lund, Sweden, and is going to do a double-degree master program in European Studies after obtaining his Bachelor this summer.

At NMUN 2008, Helge represented Japan together with Paula Podehl in the *General Assembly Plenary*.

Carina Siegmund was born on 6 March 1984 in Berlin. She graduated from the *University of Reading*, UK, with a BA in Italian and International Relations in July 2007, having studied in Padua, Italy, in 2005/2006. She is currently studying for an MA in International Relations at *Universität Potsdam*, *Freie Universität Berlin* and *Humboldt Universität Berlin*. In her studies she is particularly interested in development assistance, public diplomacy and crisis management. In 2002 Carina took part in the *Trent International Model United Nations Experience* in Peterborough, Canada. This year she participated in the London International Model United Nations.



At NMUN 2008 Carina Siegmund represented Japan in the *Commission on the Status of Women* together with Despoina Glarou.



Matthias A. Simmacher was born on 20 February 1983. After his apprenticeship in the aviation field, he now studies Politics and lives in Berlin. Before his academic studies in the U.S. and Germany, he worked for a variety of governmental and non-governmental agencies throughout the U.S. and the Middle East. While living in the area of conflict in Israel and Palestine, he played part in writing the book "The History of the Israeli and Palestinian People" (published in German: *Die Geschichte der Israelis und Palästinenser*, Hanser Verlag, Munich). With this experience he contributes to NMUN 2008:

At the NMUN 2008, he represented Japan together with Ada Jonusyte at the *UN Relief and Works Agency for*

Palestine Refugees in the Near East.



Kai Striebinger, born on 19 July 1986, studies Political Science at the *Freie Universität Berlin*. He takes part in the German-French study program, a with the *Institut des Etudes Politiques*, Paris. In 2005, he participated in an exchange program with La Réunion, in 2006, he worked in Niger. He was an intern at the *Joint Representation of Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg to the European Union* in Brussels. During his experiences abroad and his studies in France, he discovered the importance of international cooperation. From NMUN 2008, he expected to learn more about the inner workings of the *United Nations*.

At NMUN 2008, he represented Japan at the *United Nations Environment Programme* together with Tse-yu Su.

Tse-yu Su was born on 28 August 1985 in Taiwan. She studies Law at *National Taiwan University*. In the year 2007/2008 she started her studies at *Freie Universität Berlin* as an exchange student. She joined the NMUN 2008 in order to understand international relations in full depth. At NMUN 2008, Tse-yu Su represented Japan together with Kai Striebinger in the *United Nations Environment Programme*.



Wiebke Wodni was born on 30 January 1988 in Potsdam. She studies North American Studies and Political Science at the *Freie Universität Berlin* and was in her first semester when she took part in NMUN 2008. During high school, she spent one year in Kentucky and participated in HELIMUN, her first experience with international debates when she represented Syria in the *Third Committee* in Helsinki. But she wanted to take the role play further to a more professional level. She expected to learn more about diplomacy, the history of the current conflicts in the world, and about a country's foreign policy that differs from the German perspective.

Her special interest lies in the advancement of women as well as the protection of children. Therefore, she represented Japan at NMUN 2008 in the *United Nations Population Fund* together with Lina Claudi.

3. The Preparation Process in Berlin

The way from the first day when we all entered the classroom not knowing each other until the closing ceremony at the *United Nations Headquarters* in New York involved a lot of time, hard work, and nerves. But in the end it was all worth it: this was also an exciting time, a once in a lifetime experience we do not want to miss and where we all made new friends.

This is how our project *National Model United Nations 2008* began:

We met twice a week – Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 pm. Apart from these regular appointments a lot of additional appointments were to come filling our schedules. During the first few meetings we talked about the UN Charter, the UN system, peace and security, and disarmament in general since we did not know from the start which country we would represent in New York. Also a lot of organizational things had to be dealt with. To be able to cope with the workload, taskforces were established and everyone had to sign up for at least one. We could choose between the Documentation TF, the Conference Preparation TF, the Fundraising TF, and Website TF.

Once we learned that we would represent Japan at NMUN 2008 in New York, our goal was to learn as much as possible about Japan, to understand and feel like a Japanese diplomat. Therefore the first few sessions were devoted to getting to know Japan better, especially the political system, economy, history, culture, and foreign policy. All this represented rather a warm-up to the things that were still to come. A couple weeks into the semester, our faculty advisors assigned us with our committees during NMUN. There were always two people per committee. This also meant that the first deadlines were set with regards to committee overviews that we should write so that everyone knew approximately what everyone else in their committees was doing and what these other committees were about. This also served the purpose of preparing for the position papers we had to produce and to hand in before the conference.

Later on, we could use all this work to formulate our strategy for the conference and not feeling completely overwhelmed.

Apart from all this reading and writing for our committees, additional work always seemed to find its way to us. Some of us already had some MUN experience, but most of us did not. So we seized every opportunity to gain some or more experience with the rules of procedure, negotiating process, writing resolutions etc. Therefore, we took part in various MUN simulations, such as: a Special Session of the *Security Council* on Terrorism, a *Security Council* Session on the Situation in Kosovo, *London International MUN* (LIMUN), and the *MainMUN* in Frankfurt.



Additionally, we had the chance to visit the *U.S. Embassy* and the *German Foreign Office* to enjoy presentations and their insights on Japanese foreign policy issues or other relevant topics of our various committees as well as on the negotiation style at the UN.

Moreover, we were briefed on Japan's role within the *United Nations* by Mr. Ryo Nakamura, who works at the *Japanese Embassy* in Berlin. He covered a large variety of areas from the historical foundations of Japanese foreign policy and the war-renouncing Constitution after the Second World War to the contributions Japan makes to the *United Nations*, especially concerning peacekeeping operations. He also focused on the reform of the *United Nations* and emphasized the Japanese view concerning the reform of the *Security Council*.

Another important aspect in our preparation for the conference was the familiarization with and training of speaking and negotiating skills. Therefore we participated in several training sessions under the guidance of Dr. Francine Jobatey throughout the semester.

All this work was challenging but also involved fun aspects. Our preparation and involvement was not always limited to the classroom. To get in the mood of "being" a Japanese representative we also enjoyed several sushi dinners, karaoke events and organized fundraising parties. These and other activities outside the classroom helped us to grow together as a group, to get to know your partner's negotiating style in the respective committees and finally to arrive in New York feeling as one – the Japanese Delegation, committed to represent Japan at the *United Nations* as best as possible.

Doreen Meier

3.1. Our Work in the Task Forces

An interesting part of NMUN is that students do not only study the specifics of their respective countries, but also put a great deal of effort in the organization. For this purpose and early in our preparation, we established different taskforces. Each taskforce had a different role to fulfill under the supervision of a Faculty Advisor.

The *Fundraising Taskforce* successfully contacted many enterprises and foundations, asking for their support. It then put together a fundraising party in a hip Berlin club. This provided a good opportunity to strengthen the ties between delegates, while raising money in a fun way. The work of this taskforce was however not limited to the time before the conference: after returning from New York, we shared a sushi reception in the FU Club House with the NMUN alumni and our faculty staff and guest speakers. Ada's dedication then helped make our souvenir auction a great success.

The *Conference Management Taskforce* was in charge of the preparation for the study tour and the simulation, which was done in close collaboration with the Fundraising Taskforce. The Taskforce also took care of all the small and larger tasks that made our program run as smoothly as possible. Among other things, the Taskforce was responsible for designing a logo for our Delegation. We chose to represent the Japanese morning sun rising behind the Berlin Television Tower, the whole embraced by the laurels of the *United Nations*. This logo was placed on the team outfits and the small presents for our

guest speakers. The original idea of bringing German wine to our guest speakers was complicated by the lengthy transport and the restrictive controls at the UN; the Delegation house wine was therefore kept for the guests in Berlin, while those in New York enjoyed a small piece of the Berlin Wall.

The *Homepage Taskforce* reported about our activities and experiences, in order to give students and sponsors a sense of our work. A short profile presentation of each delegate was also put online, as well as a forum to allow easier communication among delegates.

The last Taskforce was in charge of documentation. It took pictures of the most important events, attributed report topics to everyone and kindly pointed to the deadlines for turning them in. The main work of this Taskforce however occurred after the conference with the edition of this NMUN report, to which all participants contributed with their own reports. The annual report, in the form of a small book, is to be distributed to participants, guest speakers and sponsors, and made available to the FU, future students and potential sponsors.

The Taskforces usually met before or after the seminar. Meetings were called once a week or depending on the work to be done. A lot could also be achieved through email or the online platform. Each Taskforce also benefited from the presence and advice of a Faculty Advisor. We therefore warmly thank Peggy, Ferry and Philipp for their help and constructive comments.

Hikmat Maleh and Helge Schröder

3.2. Special Session of the Security Council on Terrorism, 27 November 2007

3.2.1. Preparing for the Special Session of the Security Council on Terrorism

Meetings at the *Foreign Office* always are worth the way. Seeing these impressive elevators with their gentle circulation, one must face that a movement inside the house probably will lead to an important action outside.

To get well-prepared for the special session of the *Security Council* at the *Freie Universität Berlin*, we met once in October and November, to get familiar with the Rules of Procedure of this important organ.

During the first meeting in October everyone was excited about the distribution of the five permanent- and ten non permanent countries that form up the *Security Council*. Beside this, Peggy Witke gave all participants a short introduction about the frightening history of terrorism and the countless attempts to avoid it. These lessons made the need for a common definition of terrorism evident. With us stayed our partners, the Iraqi diplomats, with whom we shared to represent a country. Our partners participated in a training course for foreign diplomats at the *Foreign Office*. So one represented country consisted of two thinking heads, and during the first attempt one had to unify its own position with the one of the partner and of course with regard to the interest of the represented country.

To remove from formal language, the cooperation with the diplomats from Iraq was a pleasure and honor at the same time. Of course, contrary positions had to be bridged and there were different assumptions in how to express a view. But the basic affair was the art of diplomacy. And could there be a better example, than getting two different cultures together? Although the Iraqi way of negotiation is more reserved, that is not less successful. This was also visible throughout the preparation. The Iraqi diplomats were thousands of kilometers away from their hometown, confronted with a different way of living – and speaking. The more should their work in the teams be honored.

First of all, a position paper of the represented country had to be prepared. The Iraqis of course also had some other very important meetings throughout the whole country; therefore it was sometimes hard to find time for this work. The topic, the Definition and Root Causes of Terrorism in general again took a lot of time. The little time was faced by a good atmosphere and the highest level of productivity. Because, during the second meeting, the emergency session happened.

As soon as the *Security Council* came into work, the Republic of Lagerfeld brought in a draft resolution, to improve all fashion affairs at the *United Nations*, including encouraging all Member States to have their diplomats wear suits or costumes in the colors of their country's flag. Deeply concerned by this important issue, the work on it began at once, exhausting all possibilities to amend the proposal by the honorable Delegation of the well-known Republic of Lagerfeld. Some amendments were considered as friendly, a lot of them were not. So the crucial phase of voting began. Finally, although there had been a lot of coalitions and agreements on significant points, no consensus was reached due to the veto of a permanent Member State. But all in all everyone enjoyed this preparing session because of its realistic background on the way over negotiations and compromises to a consensus.

André Richter

3.2.2. In Session

For several years the international community has been trying to agree on a universally accepted definition for „terrorism“. So far no substantial progress has been made. On the agenda were the discussion about a definition for terrorism, its root causes and possible measures to fight it. A full schedule for all delegates, especially since it was the first touch with the rules of procedure, as they are applied in the *United Nations*, for several of them.

One thing that turned out very quickly during the simulation was that actually most things take a lot longer than one expected them to. Even the discussion about the agenda setting lasted for about an hour, in which the delegates discussed whether to first discuss the definition or if the measures to fight terrorism are not the more pressing topic, or if maybe one should combine this topic with the one about root causes in one point of the agenda. After all the delegates decided to set the definition first, the root causes second and the measures to combat terrorism as third.

Also during the formal debate about the definition substantial progress was usually made once the debate was suspended. Even though questions about the speeches made during formal session were allowed, this part of the discussion could only be used to present the position of one's own country, but hardly to achieve any sort of compromise with the others. This was mostly achieved during informal consultations, e.g. in the regional groups or also during lunch break.



is mentioned.

One of the questions discussed among the states was the request by the Republic of Congo that the armed fight for the peoples' right to self-determination should somehow be excluded from the definition of terrorism, when all peaceful means have been exhausted and if so how and who should determine this. Other countries such as Qatar wanted to ensure that the fact that there is a possibility of exploiting the fight against terrorism for national interests

All in all the simulation was a rewarding experience, and besides the things one learned about terrorism, it allowed the participants to try out many things which would be of use for the following simulations, such as writing position papers, acting within the framework of the rules of procedure and most certainly we learned to appreciate the long preparation period we have for New York, which really allows us to work ourselves deep into „our“ country and to grow together as one team.

In the end the delegates in the simulation achieved something the real life diplomats have failed in so far. They passed a resolution, which was introduced by Italy, containing a universal definition of terrorism in line with a resolution passed by the *Security Council* in 2004.

Ruth Halle

3.3. Emergency Special Session of the Security Council on the Situation in Kosovo, 15 December 2007

On Saturday the 15 December 2007 the future Delegation of the *Freie Universität Berlin*, which will represent Japan next year in New York, met in Dahlem for its first official simulation of the *Security Council*. The session was organized by the fictive President of the *Security Council* who in reaction to a fictitious letter from the Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon considered recent developments in Kosovo to be a threat to international peace and security.

Two fictitious letters were the central issue during the session and in turn of the letter from Ban Ki-moon. The first, from the President of the Kosovo, Fatmir Sejdiu

announced that he would declare unilaterally the independence of the Kosovo on the 17 December 2007, and the second provided by the Serbian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vuk Jeremic, who complained that the case of an unilateral declared independence would violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia. Furthermore, he stated that he would take all necessary measures to prevent the venture of the President of Kosovo.

Both letters were of such importance, that it was imperative to convene an emergency *Security Council* session.

All 15 delegations of the nations currently represented in the *Security Council*, including the P5's, met punctually at 10 h a.m. in the plenary hall of the FU.

The principle issue of the provisional agenda, "The situation in the Kosovo" was accepted unanimously and was given priority for the subsequent session. Resolute negotiations followed.

There were fundamental differences on the estimation of the situation in the region of Serbia. In general the western countries were of the opinion that the independence of the Kosovo should be welcomed and supported, but Italy remained more pragmatic, stating that the independence should be accepted implicitly and added that the question of troop reinforcement should be of higher importance. The African countries, in particular



Qatar, resolutely demanded that a transition be monitored by the western nations. And last but not least Russia, China and Panama refused independence categorically and any possible transition to that effect.

The aim of the session was to find a consensus based on such a heterogenic starting point. All the delegates of the *Security Council* agreed on one point: that the situation required a resolution as to how to proceed in order to support the people of the region, distressed by instability and for the protection of all minorities in Kosovo.

During the whole day, the delegates discussed, debated, confederated and attempted to find compromise. They submitted draft resolutions to the chair and made amendments, then, they changed formulations and whole paragraphs, and sometimes withdrew the whole draft. Each delegation tried to achieve the maximum, while accepting only few compromises. The chair was inundated with paper but lost at no time the overview or the control.

The voting procedure with respect to three possible draft resolutions finally started at about 5 p.m. The highest expectations lay in the draft from the delegates of Slovakia, the UK, Ghana, the Republic of Congo, Qatar, France and Italy. The delegates worked hard for this draft and it received the largest consent, and not least because a whole paragraph was divided out. Thirteen delegations voted for the draft resolution, China abstained from voting and Russia vetoed it. It is not hard to understand that the frustration was so overwhelming, that the chair needed to call to order twice.

In this atmosphere there was no question that the other two draft resolutions were doomed to failure.

Nevertheless, every delegate admitted that the result, albeit disappointing, reflected reality. But this was not the only lesson the delegates learned on this day, everybody trained their negotiation skills, the rules of procedure and got a tiny foretaste of what is waiting for us in New York.

In this respect the session can be considered, even without a result, as a complete success.

Uwe Porwollik

3.4. “Rethinking International Law – from a Japanese Perspective”, Prof. Dr. Philip Kunig, 31 January 2008

Law is changing – as do the societies that make it. This basic acknowledgment by Professor Dr. Kunig determined his lecture in front of our Delegation that gave us an insight into the fundamental principles of international law. The German term “Völkerrecht” (“peoples’ law”) is in itself ambiguous, as the people do not play a decisive role in it, except the right to self-determination. International law is therefore a complicated matter. In that sense, international law does not concern European law, which is an atypical law that does not belong to international law but has its basis on international treaties, or private international law, which would be a contract between two private parties from different states.

International law is the only law that comes into existence by the consensus of all involved parties. It is made by States and should be respected by them. Creator and object of international law are identical. This could be viewed as fundamental shortcoming of international law.

It would however be unfair to speak of a “lawless law of nations” (Edmunds), since all States – realistically speaking – have an interest in respecting the law. It can only work, if all parties accept it. Otherwise international anarchy would follow. In the case when a country does not follow international law, there are, however, mechanisms to ensure that this country is “sanctioned”. As there is no compulsory international jurisdiction, states may consent to be subject to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, but they are not obliged to. Countries can, e.g., decide to cancel diplomatic consultations or relations. Military action is, from an international law perspective, not an option. Only the right to self-defense and the UN *Security Council* can allow the use of force. Despite

usual cases of non-respect of international law, it has about the same quota of “offences” as in criminal law, e.g..

The sources of international law are diverse. They are mentioned in the Statute of the International Court of Justice and are mainly three: treaties, customary law and general principles.

Until the Meiji-Restoration, international law did not play an important role for Japan. After the Second World War however, Japan, as a newly created parliamentary monarchy, had to position itself to the existing international law. As many other newly founded countries, Japan just followed the norms.

The state, as defined by the originally Chinese and not German theory of three elements (territory, population, government) is the main actor of international law. All states are treated as sovereign and equal.

International organizations can influence international law, but are only functional subjects of international law. In addition, the individual person does not have an own legal position. Its rights are directly connected to the state. Only in the case of the *European Council* with the *Human Rights Convention* and the *European Court of Human Rights* does the citizen have a legal recourse system that he can use.

This impersonal character of international law makes some think that it is necessary to amend it with the individual rights of each citizen. In this sense, some countries promote the idea of “Human Security” which inscribes the individual at the core of each action. Human Security is about its empowerment and protection. This securitization of policies becomes a guiding principle of Japanese foreign policy, and, in theory, questions the state’s sovereignty.

However, even Japan has not always promoted independent, international courts as cornerstones of their constitutional state. Many Japanese see e.g. the Tokyo Trials, which are similar to the Nuremberg Trials in Germany, rather as an insult to the international principle of non-retroactivity of the law, because they feel that the composition of the Court is unfair. However, Japan decided to join the International Criminal Court on 17 July 2007.

In the end is the hope, that we humans change international law that it enables all people to live in dignity.

Kai Striebinger

3.5. MainMUN, 24 - 27 January 2008

A small group of delegates from the FU Delegation went to participate in the MainMUN 2008 at the end of January. The MainMUN is the main MUN in Germany and located in the city at the Main, Frankfurt. We represented Burkina Faso and Croatia in the *Security Council*. Topics on the Agenda were children in armed conflicts and the link between diamonds and conflicts. The conference this year focused on Africa and so called African problems.

During opening ceremony African ambassadors told us about the necessity of love in order to fight today's problems since we are all brothers and sisters and gave us an introduction to Africa.

After the beginning of the conference and once seated and stated present at the *Security Council* we engaged in a rather long discussion on how to set the agenda. We then finally decided to first talk about the children in armed conflicts and secondly about the link between diamonds and armed conflicts. And that was already the end of the first day of the conference.

The next morning breaking news were waiting for us, the Muslim brotherhood had taken over the government in Egypt after having killed the President Mubarak (of course all fiction). And we had to deal with this crisis as fast as possible. But rather soon it became clear that we would not be able to reach an agreement, since there were two parties, France and Russia, who would not settle and agree with each other even on a change of the agenda in order to discuss the crisis in Egypt, which took more and more drastic features. We, as two non permanent members, felt helpless and started asking ourselves why we were there, since they were blocking each and every vote and we therefore spent one day going back and forth between changing the agenda and not changing the agenda. The only thing we could try was to mediate between the two parties over lunch in order to become active, which we did, before being declared incompetent by others and ourselves. By the end of the day we had managed to reset the agenda and have the crisis in Egypt on first place.

During the third and final day of the MainMUN experience we worked very hard on writing and agreeing upon a resolution addressing the situation, which was escalating in Egypt and which was spilling over to Ethiopia. In order to get more information representatives from each government were invited to speak in front of the Council.

And with all this input we then finally voted in the last minutes of MainMUN 2008 upon our resolution, which sought to send peacekeeping troupes to Egypt in order to help to stabilize the situation and also to send an Envoy to help and mediate between the parties of conflict.

During closing ceremony we participated with a speech, which summarized the last three days and gave a short account of what had been happening in the *Security Council*.

We had learned a lot about rules of procedure and even if we did not have the chance to discuss the link between diamonds and armed conflicts, as it has been our prior motivation to participate, it was a very good preparation for New York and other MUNs to come.

Paula Podehl and Helge Schröder

3.6. “Conference Diplomacy: Symbolism, Rituals, Language and Strategy”, Visit by Ambassador Dr. Wilfried Bolewski, 7 February 2008

The golden rules of diplomacy? As a former diplomat, Dr. Bolewski, who has now joined the Faculty of Law as Professor for International Law and Diplomacy, knows them all. Due to his work at the *Foreign Office*, his briefing mediated us theory and practice on how to act as a representative of a state.

In early February, a lot of preparation has been done and the NMUN-Delegation was on their way becoming “Junior-diplomats”. However, until then there was hardly any chance to speak face to face to a real diplomat, to a person who would share its knowledge and personal experience with pleasure. And so did Dr. Bolewski.

Starting his presentation, Dr. Bolewski underlined the importance to separate personal feelings and intentions from the notion of the state, one is representing. Although a diplomat is a citizen, he should not behave as such. As long as he acts on behalf of the state he is a representative, whose personal opinions have to take a backseat to the interest of the state. A diplomat acts as a lawyer, whose client is the state. It is his task, to achieve the best outcome in every situation.



The strategy is very important. According to Dr. Bolewski, a diplomat must always act in a respectful, sober and unemotional manner. His counterpart is not to be personally attacked or destroyed, but convinced by arguments. Credibility is an important attribute for diplomats, as well as the ability to integrate. No one is to be offended at any time, there is no such thing like a break for diplomats. That is why diplomats

always have to be best prepared. It is not only the knowledge of cultural background, social and economic issues of the country your counterpart acts for, but also the appreciation for the other diplomats and the country they are representing. As we were chosen to be Japan, it is of utmost importance to always be well-prepared, stay sober and intermediary. The Japanese diplomats, Dr. Bolewski told us from private experience, are at any time highly productive and professional without losing their ability to compromise and sense to appreciate their counterparts. Instead of using our elbows, he suggested us to use our voice and arguments to convince others.

An important step toward the assertion of our states interests is to set its requests on top of agenda. If this is not possible, one should find common threats, interests or goods. According to Dr. Bolewski, common values or backgrounds are helpful to bypass “cultural gaps”. Dr. Bolewski gave us an introduction on how the origin of a diplomat has an effect on the way he behaves. As an example he introduced the European, North-American and Latin-American “art of diplomacy”. The European diplomacy is mainly

shaped by French, German and British influence, and European diplomats mostly stick to the formal rules and agenda. In contrast, a Latin-American diplomat might skip between fully different topics and be a bit more emotional, while North-American diplomats are a bit rawer. As we are acting for Japan, the rules of procedure are of great importance. In a more general way, the purpose affects the words to choose, that is why an elaborate expression reflects the seriousness of an issue: Language serves as a tool of power.

Apart from these formal abilities, Dr. Bolewski also let us know the importance of coffee shop diplomacy. Although a diplomat should always act in a highly professional manner, this idea of professionalism can change while using a short time-out to convince others in a more personal way at the coffee shop. During the discussion after his briefing, Dr. Bolewski answered questions from the Delegation. They were mainly about Japanese diplomacy and diplomacy in general. Due to his wealth of experience, Dr. Bolewski could answer them all, and helped us on our way becoming Junior-diplomats.

André Richter

3.7. London International Model United Nations, 8 - 10 February 2008

Before the New York challenge, members of the *Freie Universität Berlin* (FU) Delegation decided to exercise their negotiation and rhetorical skills in London (United Kingdom). *London International Model United Nations* (LIMUN) was a very good opportunity to get into the Model United Nations (MUN) mood. It is the largest annual university-level MUN conference in Europe, hosted by King's College London. This year LIMUN has gathered 690 students with more than 85 universities from 22 countries.

In this conference the FU was represented by 11 students, covering Japan's and Tanzania's diplomatic corps. Our students participated in 7 out of 12 existing committees. The range of the themes we found in all of them was very wide, reflecting today's important international developments in many UN fields of interests: It went from the implementation of the "Responsibility to protect" to discrimination and intolerance against new religious movements and religious minorities. The committee dealing with the last issue, the *General Assembly Special Session on the Elimination of all Forms of Religious Intolerance and Discrimination*, was a complete new LIMUN innovation introduced 2008 together with the *UN Global Compact* or crisis committee which all gives students new ways to get to know UN system from the inside.

The conference started on 8 February 2008 with a speech of Dr. David Nabarro, Senior UN System Coordinator for Avian & Human Influenza. In his presentation Mr. Nabarro underlined new challenges for the UN mentioned climate change as one of the most important of them. His speech was followed by greetings from LIMUN Secretary-General Jasper Pandza and therewith LIMUN 2008 was officially opened. On the very first evening delegates already met in their committees and set the agenda for the following two days of hard debates and discussions.

The first day was still not over and all junior diplomats were invited to a social event in order to better get to know each other and to experience the thrilling and unique nightlife of London. Location for this event was The Yacht Club on Temple Pier with a wonderful

view over the River Thames at night. Although the party ended late in the night, all the delegates appeared on time at 9.00 am in the conference venue on the next day and discussions were started at the point they were finished on Friday. The long Saturday has brought a lot of new developments and progress in all the committees. We all were also visited by professional guest speakers who work on the problems debated in different committees and the delegates had an extraordinary opportunity to ask questions. Afterwards the Delegations dealt with writing resolutions or trying to implement political line of the country they represent.

After the sessions the whole FU Delegation met on the Tower Bridge to have dinner together, to exchange our experience in the conference and to share our concerns and achievements. We were all very pleased with the exceptional level of debate and new things we learned about the positions of different countries by working together with students from all of Europe. Also the experience of dealing with English native speakers was very valuable as a perfect preparation for the *National Model United Nations* (NMUN) in New York City.

The last day of conference was very fertile as all the committees came up with substantial results and adapted numerous successful resolutions. In the closing ceremony it was announced that Natascha Braumann from the FU Berlin representing Tanzania in the *First Committee of the General Assembly – Disarmament & International Security* – has received an Outstanding Delegate Award. This was great news for all of us.

On Sunday afternoon it was a time for our Delegation to leave and go back to Berlin. We were sitting in a bus carrying us to an airport and enjoying the last sunny moments of a glorious day. Everyone was tired, but happy after such an exhausting and at the same time interesting and impressive weekend.

Ada Jonusyte and Semjon Rens

3.8. Briefings at the U.S. Embassy by Messrs. Stanley Otto and Robert Pollard, 13 February 2008

On 14 February 2008 the Delegation of Japan had the honor to visit the U.S. Embassy and to meet two diplomats of high rank: Mr. Stanley Otto worked twelve years in Japan and is therefore an expert on issues dealing with the Japanese position not only in foreign affairs. After his apprenticeship he was based in Nigeria. He worked in over ten countries, e.g. in France for the OECD. Mr. Robert Pollard joined us in the second half of our meeting to inform the Japanese Delegation about the position of the U.S. concerning climate change. Both offered to answer any questions at the end of their speeches.

The first topic was the UN-Reform. Mr. Otto pointed out the huge amount of money which the U.S. transfer every year to the UN-Budget and its subsidiary bodies, which is 3 billion US\$ totally. One delegate argued that in the past the U.S. never paid the whole amount of money which they should pay. Mr. Otto answered that he sees the necessity of a key date regulation for the payment rates of all Member States and stated, that the U.S. would be favorably disposed towards such an initiative. Furthermore, Mr. Otto informed the Delegation about the trend of the payment rates of his country in relation to its

economic power at two dates: In 1945 exactly 25% of the whole UN-Budget came from the U.S. At the same time the contribution of the U.S.-economy to the world-economy was approximately 33%. In 2007 the U.S.-economy has a smaller share of the world economy, because of countries like China and India, whose economies ran very well in the last decades. Nevertheless the payment of the U.S. is still 22% of the whole UN-Budget. The U.S. would definitely support an initiative which pools the financial burden equally between the Member States. In the context of a UN-Reform Mr. Otto joked with a whimsical smile on his face about the “golden rule” to the Delegation: “The people who have the gold, rule.”

The U.S. wants to handle a reform of the *Security Council* (SC) carefully because of following two reasons: First, the bigger the SC will be, the danger of an inefficient working ambience within the SC will increase. Second, it is impossible to think about sharing the veto-right of the P5 with other states. A problem for the U.S. would be, e.g., a radical Muslim country having a veto in the SC.

In this context the continuing irritation with Iran and its attempt to enrich uranium was discussed. Here Mr. Otto pointed to the resolutions 1696, 1737, 1747, and 1803 and underlined the readiness of the United States to discourage Iran from its plans of enrichment, e.g. by appropriate financial sanctions. If this is not enough, the U.S. would have other measures at its disposal. Answering a delegate, he added the first thing would be stricter sanctions of a non-military nature if the resolutions were not followed. Finally, diplomacy in relation to military operations is economically advantageous, noted Mr. Otto smiling. However, it would be a critical point if Iran would withdraw its support for the *Non-Proliferation Treaty* (NPT). Iran also knows this and therefore this scenario is very unlikely.



About the need for the existence of the *United Nations*, Mr. Otto spoke out positively and said that the United States consider many UN bodies as important, explicitly UNICEF, the Human Rights Committee and the Agencies in Vienna. However, some parts of the *United Nations* due to corruption and other problems are not effective enough. Mr. Otto presented democracy as the best social order and spoke about the importance of democracy and human rights as an essential contribution to the equality of all people. To create a democratic system in states it is absolutely necessary at first to provide a basic order in public life. Without this basic order, e.g. a functioning legal system or a security system, an implementation process to strengthen the establishment of democracy would be quite difficult.

Now the Delegation of Japan followed an interesting lecture on climate change and its importance for the United States. Mr. Pollard said that his country expend about 37

billion US\$ for the fight against climate change and thus spent more than any other state since 2001. Specifically he cited the Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel, as a person who was able by her positive example and policies to encourage a convergence between the U.S. and Germany in their views on climate change. The President of the United States of America, George W. Bush, recognized that human behavior was at least partially responsible for climate change, and that something needs to be done about it. The fact that the U.S. does not ratify the *Kyoto Protocol* is due to the fact that other large, major-emitting countries have not done so as well; he specifically mentioned China, India and Brazil. On the other hand, the U.S. would rather agree on short and medium-term initiatives that contain more concrete practices than focus on vague pledges regarding long-term emission reduction targets.

Mr. Pollard identified and described four areas in which the United States were engaged on a national and international level through the buzzwords *Partnership* (e.g. "Smartway Transportation Partnership"), *Technology* (such as "Zero Energy Home Research" and "Fuel Cell"), *Incentives* (such as "Clean Coal Investment Tax Credits") and *Mandates* (such as "Renewable standards News"). The general maxim for the United States is to rely on the market economy as much as possible: The market can help decide which mechanisms are most useful for the protection of the climate. Following up it is important to get the private sector on board. The price of goods should reflect the real costs of certain actions or policies, including the impact on climate change. The state could and should, however, pioneer policy in certain cases, Mr. Pollard stated, for instance through the "Energy Independence and Security Act 2007," and through the approximately \$2 billion that the U.S. proposes to provide for the "New International Clean Energy Fund". As an important conference for the world climate the Bali conference was explicitly mentioned. The speakers classified the process of climate change in the field of Public-Goods issue: They mentioned the free-rider problem, which is well-known among economists and indicated as a possible solution a customized tax policy.

Towards the end of the presentation the diplomats spoke about their experiences with diplomats from Japan: They are honest and polite at the same time, would not always take the lead in negotiations and were always excellently prepared. Japanese diplomats usually are conscientious about consulting their partners before the actual conference. Japan, the two U.S. diplomats both agreed, is not least because of its high economic importance for the United States a key partner and a very good friend.

The Delegation of the *Freie Universität Berlin* thanked Mr. Otto and Mr. Pollard for their interesting presentations. The diplomats wished the Delegation every success and an unforgettable time at the conference and in New York.

Malte Gregorzewski

3.9. „Climate Change“, Visit by Mr. Semjon Schimanke, 21 February 2008

On 21 February 2008, the Japanese NMUN Delegation of the *Freie Universität Berlin* had the opportunity to be briefed about the current status of climate change research.

Dipl.-Met. Semjon Schimanke of the Institute of Meteorology at FU Berlin gave an informative introduction to the topic reflecting the work of the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC). Due to the fact that climate change is one of the top priority topics of Japanese and international politics these days, the Delegation was especially glad to have this opportunity to deepen its knowledge in this field.

Established by the *World Meteorological Organization* (WMO) and the *United Nations Environment programme* (UNEP) the IPCC publishes regular reports on the status of the scientific research on climate change. The Fourth Assessment Report of 2007 includes all relevant research results on climate change.

To begin Mr. Schimanke explained clearly and comprehensibly the basics necessary to understand a complex phenomenon such as climate change. Essentially, he elaborated that human beings are responsible for the increased greenhouse gas emissions concentrated in the atmosphere. Differently formulated, it is mankind which causes an imbalance in the natural radiation balance of the ecological system Earth. According to the IPCC's Fourth Report, these changes are recognizable in a range of observations: the average temperature, which is never completely constant, has risen during the investigation period of 1850 till 2005 about 0.074 degrees per decade. This corresponds to a rise by 0.7 degrees in 100 years. Furthermore, the observed increase of the sea level of approx. 20 cm results from changes caused by humans. Interestingly, one can not observe – differently than often published – an increased appearance of tornados or a disappearance of the Antarctic Ice Coverage.

Regarding the development of the CO₂ concentrations in the atmosphere from 1970 to 2005, the report indicates a clear increase on the northern hemisphere as well as on the southern hemisphere. Indeed, based on the reconstruction of the greenhouse gas emissions during the last 400,000 years, it displays a pattern of natural variability of greenhouse gas emissions. But moreover, it appears that we have experienced a dramatic increase during the last 100 years, which unambiguously is not part of a natural pattern.

The IPCC predictions with regard to temperature, precipitation and areas covered with ice show no positive developments. Brought on a short formula – less cold weather (cold years) and more warm weather. Above all, the number of the extremely hot years will increase. This will have drastic consequences e.g. for a region like Europe: regional contrasts are set to increase further, the risk of floods in coastal regions as well as of rivers will occur more frequently. Less snow and the decline of the glaciers will have negative consequences on the tourism industry. Hotter and drier summers particularly in southern Europe have likewise negative effects on tourism and also on the agrarian sector. Heat waves will occur more often and will lead to water shortages and significant health risks, above all for older and ill people.

The question is what the individual person and politics can do to contain these developments, which are not completely reversible any more, and to adapt effectively to the changes. In view of the fact that the measured emissions in 2005 and 2006 show worse values than the IPCC had forecast in the most pessimistic scenarios, it is obvious that climate change calls for a fast and effective implementation of proper counter-

measures. In the following discussion it became clear that this requires a *political* decision-making process.

Lina Claudi

3.10. Briefings at the Federal Foreign Office, 27 February 2008

Our visit to the Foreign Ministry on 27 February 2008, which was also the end of our official preparation in Berlin, offered once again a chance to direct our questions to people with more experience, either in Japan or in international negotiations.

The first speaker of the morning was Dr. Peer Gebauer, who is currently working for the Human Resources section of the ministry, but who used to work for the German Embassy in Tokyo until the summer 2007, and was therefore the perfect person to ask all remaining unanswered questions about Japan, Japanese policies and the Japanese society.

Dr. Gebauer started his presentation with a short introduction into the Japanese political system and the different parties. One special aspect about the parties is, that compared to German ones, the different groups and wings inside the party are far more institutionalized and this differentiation between the different wings also plays a key role for the appointment of the different offices. For international observers, the Japanese political system is sometimes hard to grasp, partly because there is a great fluctuation in high-ranking positions. But also because of the consensus-oriented system, little of the discussion that takes place inside the parties gets out to the media.

Following this, he gave an overview over the Japanese foreign policy. He specified the relations between Japan and Germany, but also with other important partners of Japan, such as the U.S. who is the main economic and political partner, but also regional neighbors, such as the Republic of Korea and also the more difficult relationship with China. Other regional partners such as the ASEAN Members and also India and Australia, as big neighboring democracies, gain more and more importance.

Japan is highly involved in the UN and particularly in the management of international conflict and crises, e.g. the country is one of the largest donor states for the Afghanistan mission, participates in a mission in the Indian Ocean to support the international fight against terrorism. It also had some Self-Defense Forces in Iraq.

This was also one of the topics during the discussion following the presentation. The current pacifistic constitution makes a Japanese involvement in peace-missions rather difficult. And while this is internationally accepted, a change of the constitution to make a deployment of Japanese Self-Defense-Forces for UN-Missions possible, would most certainly be of international relevance, especially considering the Japanese request for more international responsibility, e.g. by giving it a permanent seat in the *Security Council*. Other topics, which came up during the discussion were the conflict with Iran, the relationship with the U.S. and Japans policy regarding climate change, which is currently a much discussed topic, since Japan is holding the presidency of the G8 and as such will be hosting the next G8-summit, during which it will try to mediate between the European position and the one of the U.S..

The second speaker was Holger Mahnicke, who works at the UN Department. And while he does not have personal ties with Japan, he is very familiar with the work of and in the *United Nations* as well as with the international negotiation processes.

In his presentation Mr. Mahnicke especially pointed out the importance of the different regional and interest groups inside the UN. In this regard the EU most certainly represents the most organized and coordinated group, which consults intensely on all matters and always tries to vote as one single block. During formal debate, the EU is mostly represented by the country which is currently holding the presidency. For voting procedures the support of the *European Union* can therefore be a big step for securing the necessary majorities. Even if the other groups, such as the G77, the OIC (*Organization of Islamic Countries*) or the GRULAC (*Group of Latin American and Caribbean states*) are not as organized as the EU, they are still important players in the international sphere. Of special importance for Japan are the G8 and J.U.S.CANZ (Japan, U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand). All official coordination meetings are published in the daily journal, while the leading states invite the others for the informal meetings. Nevertheless these informal meeting outside the formal debate are the ones in which substantial progress is made. While the coordination of the different groups may be good for the final voting and lobbying, it also needs a very long time, which can, especially in processes with a very limited timeframe, be a huge problem.

Mr. Mahnicke also pointed out some of the other problems, which may occur in international negotiations. Some issues can seem to be of minor importance, but they can play an important role in the negotiation process, e.g. the time difference between the place where the negotiations take place and the home governments, make communication more difficult and can therefore lead to delays. Furthermore, many speeches and documents have to be translated, which also causes delays and may also cause misunderstandings.

The main topic in the discussion following Mr. Mahnicke's presentation was the reform of the *Security Council*. Some questions also referred to tactics, which has to be adopted during the negotiation process, such as whether it is more useful to include difficult partners early or rather gather more support in order to have a better argument for convincing them.

All in all, the preparatory session in the *Foreign Office* was a good mixture of information about Japan, the UN and international negotiations and a great forum to get an answer to remaining open questions.

Ruth Halle

3.11. Model United Nations Conference with the Universities of Lüneburg and Erlangen-Nürnberg, 29 February – 2 March 2008

Almost two weeks before our departure to New York we had the last chance to participate in a Model UN in Berlin, which was organized by the Haus Rissen Hamburg, an International Institute for Politics and Economics. The Model UN took place from 29 February until 3 March, on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The simulated Committee was the *General Assembly First Committee* (Disarmament and International Security) and each of us represented one country, including, of course Japan. Two other universities also participated and traveled all the way to Berlin: the *University of Erlangen-Nürnberg* which represented Morocco at NMUN and the *University of Lüneburg*, which represented Algeria. Both delegations also took part at the National Model UN in New York. Therefore, it was a great opportunity to meet them and work together with them.

The aim was to practice the Rules of Procedure and work on our negotiation techniques, which was fundamental for all of us with little MUN experience. Therefore, we had points of information to the chair, and they were kind and patient enough to explain all the rules and answer all of our questions. It is of course not the same to see the rules of procedure on a piece of paper and to have to implement them, when so many questions arise. Therefore it was an opportunity to prepare ourselves for New York.

The topics of the agenda were presented in this order:

1. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons
2. Preventing a cross-border escalation of the situation in Chad: measures concerning governance and insurgents
3. Counteracting poverty and environmental degradation as causes for conflict.

It all started quite fast on Friday. Some of us were probably expecting heated discussions and debates about the order of the topics. But, in the first three hours we had available for the agenda setting on Friday, the *General Assembly First Committee* was able to conclude with its agenda setting. While some countries like the U.S. and some African States were hoping to see topic 2 as the first one on the agenda, most Developing countries were in favor of topic three as the first one. A motion from the delegate from Saint Kitts and Nevis to shorten the 3rd topic and change it to “Environmental Degradation as a cause for conflict”, which would have made it less broad, did not pass. And after (a pretty confusing) vote for all possible combinations (3rd as 1st, 2nd as 3rd and 1st as 3rd, and so on), the GA 1st decided to address topic number 3 first, the 2nd second and the 3rd as the last one. In the end, we only had time to discuss topic number 3. It was very helpful that the session was interrupted after the agenda setting until the next day, so that way we could sleep on it and research the relevant government sources to figure out in more detail what the official position of the country we were representing was.

On Saturday, we spent a lot of time on informal caucusing and writing resolutions. We all had time to find our informal group for caucusing. The group of Latin American countries worked together on a working paper, the EU, the G77 and a very mixed group including Brazil, China, the U.S., Russia, India and many African countries as well. After we lost some time while trying to vote on how to set the speaker's time, the Delegations tried to combine their working papers to gain support from as many countries as possible. Most of us realized that the content was often the same, it was only the way we said it that differed. On the second day, we worked mostly on our draft resolutions. While some

G77 members did not support the collaboration with the *European Union*, the majority of the G77 countries disliked the idea of voting on two very similar resolutions and decided to make some suggestions to the *European Union*'s resolution and supported that resolution too. To what extent some African countries' position on strengthening alternative resources was "in character" is a different question...Nevertheless, the G77 still persisted on presenting its draft resolution.

Most resolutions recognized the link between environmental degradation and conflict as well as poverty and conflict. However, most of them concentrated on environmental degradation, since it is not such a broad topic and very up-to-date. They all agreed that efforts towards taking care of the environment have to be continued, especially for Developed Countries. The Developing Countries, which will be the ones who suffer the most from climate change, will need more help from Developed Countries in order to be able to implement clean technologies and deal with environmental refugees. In addition to that, some resolutions proposed to create a *Green Reaction Group* (GRG), which would become a department of the *United Nations Environmental Organization* (UNEO), in charge of helping regions where peace is threatened by conflict caused by environmental degradation.

On Sunday, we entered voting procedure and voted on three different draft resolutions: the one by the G77, the one by the *European Union* and the one by a very mixed group including the U.S. and Russia. A very funny moment was when an amendment was presented which read: "And let the sun shine in our hearts". Incredibly, the GA 1st voted in favor of this amendment to the G77 resolution.

In the end, it was only the resolution of the *European Union*, with the support of many other countries, which obtained the simple majority and was passed. A very successful day for all delegations who participated!

Despite the sometimes incomplete preparation of some delegations and technical difficulties, the MUN was an important opportunity to further prepare ourselves and a chance to practice the rules of procedure before leaving out to New York, and of course also to meet the two delegations from other two German Universities.

Kai Striebing and Florencia Ricci

4. The Study Tour at the UN Headquarters, 13-19 March 2007

The first days of our trip to New York were dedicated to our UN Study Tour. The Study Tour consisted of a series of briefings on topics covering the whole range of the tasks the *United Nations* fulfills, from nuclear disarmament to migration and from the work of UNEP to the Darfur conflict. As in the past, the Study Tour was organized in cooperation with the *United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI)*.

The briefings gave us the opportunity to catch up on the latest information concerning our committee topics and deepen our knowledge acquired in Berlin during the preparation. The UN officials also gave us many valuable insights into the work of the UN Secretariat and diplomacy in a multilateral context.

In addition to these insights, we had the chance of meeting three other delegations: the delegation of the *University of Würzburg*, the *University of Erlangen-Nürnberg*, the *University of Lüneburg* and the *University of San Francisco de Quito*, respectively Switzerland, Morocco, Algeria and Germany.

After the briefings at the *United Nations*, we had the opportunity to be enlightened on the work of the Delegation of the European Commission to the *United Nations*. We learned that the Commission is somewhat more than just an Observer, it helps coordinate the Member States of the *European Union*, so that usually the EU can speak with one voice.

Our last briefing consisted in a round-up of Japan's policy in the *United Nations*. The Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan took his time to show us the way his country works at this international organization and reminded us of the top national priorities, we should put forward in the upcoming conference.

The Study Tour was definitely a highlight of our stay in New York. We are grateful to Swati Dave, who works at the UNDP, and Peggy Wittke, our Faculty Advisor, for giving us the opportunity to immerse ourselves into the world of the *United Nations*.

Philipp Jornitz



United Nations Study Tour Program

<i>13 March 2007</i> 10.00 – 11.00 h 11.30 – 12.30 h 12.30 – 14.30 h 14.45 – 15.45 h 16.00 – 17.00 h	Guided Tour Management Reform – <i>Mr. Peter Smith</i> Lunch Break IAEA – <i>Ms. Tracy C. Brown</i> UNICEF – <i>Ms. Shayma Daneshjo</i>
<i>14 March 2007</i> 10.00 - 11.00 h 11.15 - 12.15 h 12.15 - 14.15 h 14.30 - 15.30 h 15.45 - 16.45 h	Peace and Security – <i>Dr. Axel Wennmann</i> Economic Development – <i>Ms. Marva Corley</i> Lunch Break Peacekeeping – <i>Ms. Eva Barloese</i> Migration – <i>Ms. Anke Strauss</i>
<i>17 March 2007</i> 09.30 - 10.30 h 10.30 - 11.30 h 11.45 - 12.45 h 12.45 - 14.30 h 14.45 - 15.45 h 16.00 - 17.00 h	Darfur – <i>Mr. Peter Jackson</i> Terrorism – <i>Mr. Mitchell Hsieh</i> UNEP – <i>Mr. James Sniffen</i> Lunch Break UNRWA – <i>Mr. Saahir Lone</i> Security Council – <i>Mr. Aleksander Micic</i>
<i>18 March 2007</i> 10.00 – 11.30 h	Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nations – <i>Mr. Emanuele Giaufret</i>
<i>19 March 2007</i> 11.00 – 12.30 h	Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations – <i>Ambassador Dr. Takahiro Shinyo</i>



4.1. Briefing on Management Reform, Mr. Peter Smith

Our speaker, Mr. Peter Smith, is the Special Assistant of the Assistant Secretary-General who is Executive Director of the Capital Master Plan Project.

In recent years, calls for a fundamental reform of the UN have become increasingly louder. However, there is not yet a consensus on the extent and implementation of the reform projects. While some states would like the *United Nations* to play a bigger role in international affairs, others would like to see the powers of the UN reduced to humanitarian work. An initial reform program was introduced by Kofi Annan



shortly after the beginning of his first term as Secretary-General on 1 January 1997. On 21 March 2005, Annan presented a further, more comprehensive report on UN reform, entitled *In Larger Freedom*.

One of the main concerns of reformers refers to an administrative reform of the UN. The goal is, to design the Secretariat and other institutions and processes in a more transparent and more efficient way.

Compared to the reform of the *Security Council*, the UN Secretariat and management reform gets relatively little attention in the media, but is regarded as substantially within the organization.

Particular attention is paid to the renovation of the UN Headquarters. John D. Rockefeller II. donated the area on the eastern shore of Manhattan in New York to the UN and, on 24 October 1949, the construction of the UN Headquarters began. While on U.S. soil, the region has the status of an international territory. The low building of the *General Assembly* represents the legislature, the tall building, the seat of the Secretariat, the executive branch. Since the complex has not yet been modernized it does no longer fulfill modern security requirements. There are no smoke detectors, sprinklers or emergency lightings. In addition, during the construction large amounts of asbestos were used. Consequently, in 1998 the so-called “Capital Master Plan” was introduced. The plan’s purpose is to manage the historic renovation of the UN Headquarters. The Capital Master Plan has to assure that neither the time frame, nor the tightly calculated budget is exceeded. Furthermore, the renovation process has to be conducted in a safe and transparent way from the beginning to the end of the project and it has to be in accordance with the principles of “ecological construction”. According to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon the Headquarters shall be globally recognized as an “example of efficient use of energy and resources”. In the next years the buildings will be stripped down to their foundation walls and before they will be completely reconstructed.

It took 10 years until the implementation of the estimated 2 billion US\$ project finally started. On 6 May 2008, the construction of a temporary building on the grounds of the UN east of First Avenue was started. In this building a part of the UN employees will have their office until the planned ending of the renovation process in 2013 and also the conference rooms, including the *General Assembly*, will temporarily move into it. According to Peter Smith the temporary building much resembles a warehouse. The other employees will have their offices in rented buildings nearby.

Thomas Heinrich

4.2. Briefing on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Ms. Tracy C. Brown



On our first day at the *United Nations* (UN) we received a briefing on the work of the *International Atomic Energy Agency* (IAEA), an organization that plays a vital role in contributing to international peace and security. The briefing was delivered by Ms. Tracy C. Brown, Public Information Officer in the IAEA New York Office who described the work of

her office and then gave an overview of the organization and its role in the international community, including its activities in specific States. She prefaced her discussion noting that the preservation of nuclear expertise and policies concerning its applications are a priority for the *Agency* and its Member States as fewer young people pursue nuclear science and related careers. At the end of her presentation, she opened the floor to questions from the audience.

Ms. Brown noted that her office interacts with New York-based officials from the *United Nations Secretariat*, other international organizations, and permanent missions. Staff respond to public inquiries and report to IAEA headquarters on all matters concerning the work of the *Agency*. Topics addressed range from nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation to nuclear energy and sustainable development to the *United Nations* common system of shared practices concerning administrative and financial issues.

After the horrific events of World War II, various proposals were initiated to thwart the spread of nuclear weapons technology by promoting the peaceful uses of the atom. One such policy was unveiled before the international community in 1953 by United States President Eisenhower, in his “*Atoms for Peace*” speech before the eighth session of the

General Assembly. Therein he proposed the creation of an international authority to control and develop the use of atomic energy.

With the support of other States, the IAEA became a reality in 1957 as an autonomous intergovernmental, science and technology based organization in the *United Nations* family that serves as the global focal point for nuclear cooperation. Its statutory mandate is to promote the peaceful application of atomic energy for the benefit of humanity, while simultaneously guarding against the spread of its use for military purposes. Over time, this mandate has evolved into three major activities or “pillars” as they are known in the *Agency*: nuclear technology, nuclear safety and security, and nuclear verification.

Per its founding document, its Statute, and per formal agreement with the *United Nations*, the IAEA reports annually to the *General Assembly*. It also reports to the *Security Council* on an ad hoc basis in instances where international peace and security are threatened.

Ms. Brown reminded the group that the *Agency*, as a multilateral institution, is composed of several different sovereign Member States, each with its own views on what is in its Government’s best interest and that of the *Agency*. Decisions are made usually by consensus, to a lesser extent by voting.

All 144 Member States meet once a year in September in Vienna in a forum called the *General Conference* to approve the program and budget and to decide on other matters brought before it by the *Board of Governors*, the Director General, or Member States.

Major policy decisions are made by a *Board of Governors* which meets five times a year and consists of 35 Member States. It makes recommendations to the *General Conference* on the accounts, program and budget, and considers applications for membership. It also approves safeguards agreements and the publication of safety standards and has the responsibility for appointing the Director General with the approval of the *General Conference*.

The Director General, currently Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, oversees the day-to-day activities of the secretariat composed of over 2,200 professional and support staff from more than 90 countries and headquartered in Vienna, Austria. In addition to New York, the *Agency* has a liaison office Geneva, two regional offices in Tokyo, Japan and Toronto, Canada, and two international laboratories and research centers in Monaco and Seibersdorf, Austria.

Via its technical cooperation program, the IAEA ensures the benefits of peaceful nuclear technology are shared by all. It involves the provision of technical assistance and the exchange of information on the application of peaceful nuclear technologies conveyed in the form of in-country technical projects and the provision of experts and training to over 80 primarily developing Member States. It focuses on those projects that aim toward the achievement of sustainable national development priorities by assisting Member States in achieving self-reliance in numerous fields where nuclear techniques offer advantages over others, or where nuclear techniques can usefully supplement conventional means. A good example of the former is in the use of radiation for plant breeding, which has produced a long chain of success stories: wheat varieties bred to thrive in dry climates;

cocoa trees resistant to local viruses; barley that can flourish at high altitudes; or various fruits and vegetables bred for higher nutritional yield. In addition to improving food, agricultural and animal productivity, nuclear techniques are used in evaluating and solving human health and environmental problems, and in improving electricity production, among other uses.

As regards the second pillar, Ms. Brown noted that the international community considers nuclear safety and security to be national responsibilities. The IAEA is at the center of international efforts to promote safe and secure practices in those areas. It does so by promoting binding international conventions and internationally accepted safety standards. The ultimate aim is to protect people and the environment from harmful exposure to radiation.

In the security area, the focus is on helping States prevent, detect, and respond to terrorist or other malicious acts involving nuclear material or facilities. The *Agency* provides nuclear safety and security assessment, advisory and evaluation services. Examples include the cooperation and support agreements between the *Agency* and Brazil and the *Agency* and China in helping them to address nuclear security concerns in preparations for the 2007 Pan American Games and the 2008 Summer Olympic Games. Assistance ranged from supplying radiation detection equipment to conducting training programs on nuclear security awareness for security officers.

The third pillar of the IAEA is its safeguard system, also referred to as its inspection and verification system, which consists of legal and technical measures whose ultimate objective is to verify that individual States are in compliance with their promise to maintain exclusively peaceful nuclear programs and to provide an early-warning if they are not. Although not perfect, Ms. Brown said that nuclear verification attempts to provide a measure of assurance and to build confidence among the international community about the status of a particular State's nuclear program. She noted that the IAEA does not have powers to impose its inspections on any State and that the *Security Council* is the sole international body with enforcement powers under Chapter VII of the *United Nations Charter*.

Thus, a precondition for the implementation of safeguards is the conclusion of a formal, legally binding agreement by the State with the IAEA. In signing a safeguards agreement, a State is issuing an invitation to inspection. Most, but not all safeguards agreements in force today, she said, derive mainly from the *Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty* (NPT), another vital tool of the nonproliferation regime.

In broad terms, she explained, the NPT is an agreement by non-nuclear weapon States to forego nuclear weapons, to put their peaceful nuclear facilities under the international safeguards of the IAEA, and to acknowledge those States' rights to technical cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In addition, for nuclear weapons States, the NPT is an undertaking to pursue nuclear disarmament. The treaty is based on three key activities – nuclear nonproliferation, peaceful nuclear cooperation, and nuclear disarmament.

Under comprehensive safeguards agreements, States have an obligation to declare to the IAEA, all their nuclear material and facilities and to establish and maintain a system to

account for them. For its part, the IAEA conducts on-site inspections and other measures aimed at verifying the correctness and completeness of the declarations made by States about their nuclear programs. The IAEA analyses all relevant information obtained through its verification work and from other sources to ensure consistency with State declarations, and then draws a conclusion based on its findings.

For comprehensive safeguards agreements, the IAEA's safeguards system endeavors to detect and deter the diversion of a significant quantity of nuclear material from peaceful nuclear activities to the manufacture of a nuclear weapon.

Since their inception, safeguards have continually evolved, taking into account changes in technology and the political climate. The discovery of the clandestine nuclear programs of Iraq and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the 1990s demonstrated the limitations of traditional safeguards which until then had focused on the detection of the diversion of declared nuclear material. These examples were fundamental to efforts to improve the safeguards system to strengthen its ability to provide further assurance against the diversion and detection of undeclared nuclear material and activities. These examples led to the development of the *Additional Protocol* (AP), a supplemental model agreement which broadened the Agency's existing inspection authority under comprehensive safeguards and called for more transparency. The additional protocol combined with a comprehensive safeguards agreement have become the new standard of international nuclear verification that is only effective when both agreements have entered into force and are being implemented.

Ms. Brown noted that Iran's right to acquire peaceful nuclear technology is unquestioned, but not unconditional. Despite Iran's promise under the NPT and its IAEA safeguards agreement to maintain an exclusively peaceful nuclear program, Iran's failure to disclose information about its nuclear program to the IAEA have resulted in a breach of trust and loss of confidence about the program's exclusively peaceful nature. An example of a breach of trust is Iran's own admission that it had embarked on an extensive nuclear enrichment program without declaring it to the IAEA as required under its NPT and safeguards obligations. For its part, the Agency, under its mandate and pursuant to its safeguards agreement with Iran, has attempted to verify declarations made by Iran in order to provide some assurance about the absence of undeclared nuclear material and activities, but is still not yet in a position to draw definitive conclusions.

To date, the *Security Council* has adopted three resolutions calling on Iran to suspend proliferation sensitive nuclear activities and imposing sanctions (voluntarily imposed country by country travel and economic restrictions on certain Iranian nationals and businesses). The resolutions request the Agency, among other things, to verify the demanded suspension and report back to the Council, which it did in February and May 2007 and is expected to do again in May 2008. Although it is not clear how the matter will ultimately be resolved, she said it is the position of the Agency that a peaceful resolution be reached.

When asked about the U.S./India nuclear cooperation agreement, Ms. Brown explained its basis and the major criticism to it. She noted that the agreement, which was concluded in 2006 and requires the approvals of both Governments' legislatures, would end a U.S.

moratorium on sales of nuclear fuel and equipment to India, part of a series of restrictions imposed by the U.S. after India first exploded a nuclear device in 1974. In exchange, India would agree to separate its nuclear program into separate military and civilian components and to subject the latter to IAEA inspection for the first time. India would also agree to abide by international nonproliferation agreements, such as those of the 45-nation *Nuclear Suppliers Group* (NSG).

Critics charge that the exemption of "military" reactors from international inspection would undermine the nonproliferation regime leading States like Pakistan and Israel, who like India are outside the NPT regime, to insist on a similar deal, or might even cause other nations, within the NPT, to withdraw from the *Treaty*. They further argue that the agreement would essentially signal to States - that acquiring nuclear weapons could be a stepping stone to recognition as a major global player without any sanctions. Despite this criticism, the IAEA Director General welcomed the agreement characterizing it as "out of the box thinking."

On the question of the DPRK, Ms. Brown said that although not a party to the Six-Party Talks, the IAEA has consistently expressed its readiness to work with all concerned towards a peaceful comprehensive solution that weighs the balance between the security needs of the DPRK and the need of the international community to gain assurance, ideally through international verification, that all nuclear activities in the DPRK are exclusively for peaceful purposes. The *Agency* supports the goal of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and normalization of the DPRK's relationship with the *Agency*.

On the question of dual use, Ms. Brown said that uranium enrichment in and of itself is not contrary to international law; however, because of its dual-use nature it is considered a sensitive technology to be monitored in non-nuclear weapon States. It can be used to achieve both peaceful and military objectives, namely to make fuel for use in a nuclear power plant reactor and to make a bomb.

On the question of double standards, Ms. Brown said that tension in the nonproliferation regime is inherent between non-nuclear weapons States and nuclear-weapons States, and even between States party to and States outside of the NPT. This tension plays itself out when trying to reach consensus at international meetings, particularly the meetings of the *NPT Review Conference* and its *Preparatory Committee*, among others, where there has been an impasse for some time. Non-nuclear weapons States insist that they have continually made sacrifices toward the global good, while the nuclear weapons States have yet to move substantively towards nuclear disarmament. One State insists it will never be Party to the NPT because of its inherent inequity. Still others speculate that as long as there are "haves" and "have nots," there will always be those who want "to have," and are willing to take action on that desire most often as a deterrent.

In conclusion, Ms. Brown said that despite all the problems with the nonproliferation regime, the IAEA continues to play a key role in ensuring that the benefits of nuclear technology are shared globally, that peaceful nuclear activities are conducted safely, and that the international community is provided with a credible framework for curbing nuclear weapons proliferation and moving towards nuclear disarmament. She said the

Agency's ability to continue to carry out these functions effectively depends on the political commitment and financial support of its Member States.

Tracy C. Brown

4.3. Briefing on the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Ms. Shayma Daneshjo



What is the link between the world-famous Berliner Philharmoniker, the soccer idol David Beckham, and the action hero Jackie Chan? They are all Goodwill Ambassadors of the *United Nations Children's Fund*, or in short: UNICEF. This, our speaker, Ms. Shayma Daneshjo, a UNICEF Staff of Afghan origin, told at the beginning of her briefing. The second question: So what does

the I and the E stand for? For an answer we have to go back to the founding days of the Fund in 1946: UNICEF is the successor organization of the *UN Relief and Rehabilitation Administration* (UNRRA), which delivered relief services to refugees of World War II (WWII) throughout Europe and Asia from November 1943 on. UNRRA was initiated by the so-called wartime *United Nations*, the formalized alliance of the World War II Allies. After the war and the official establishment of the UN in 1945, UNRRA's tasks were distributed to several new UN organizations: the *International Refugee Organization*, the *World Health Organization*, and the *United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund* (UNICEF).

UNICEF was thought to be a temporary agency in order to take care of the many children being separated from their families or orphaned during World War II. Today UNICEF still operates in 158 countries and territories with 7'000 staff, serving the special needs of children through delivery of health, educational, and emergency supplies as well as advocating children's rights.

The I&E question can partially be answered, but: What happened to the words "International" and "Emergency" in the course of time? On the basis of well-functioning UNICEF missions in the aftermath of WWII, the UN *General Assembly* decided in 1953 to put the Children's Fund on a permanent mission, re-naming it to the *United Nations Children's Fund* – the today's official name. But since the new UNCF was not as pronounceable as UNICEF, the old abbreviation was kept. Today, UNICEF is still supplying materials – but only on an emergency basis. Long-term sustainable development goals became the organization's top priority. UNICEF supports governments on a policy level to set up special programs for children. In order to receive

UNICEF grants for those programs, the receiving governments have to carry out the programs on a permanent basis.

Ms. Daneshjo briefed the NMUN 2008 Delegation of Japan during its study tour at the UN Headquarters. She demonstrated the full variety of today's UNICEF topics worldwide regarding Child Protection, a UN terminology being used to describe the response and protection of children to exploitation, violence, and abuse. This includes rather controversial topics: the protection of children during armed conflict, children associated with armed groups, child labor, child marriage, commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, and female genital mutilation. A small selection of UNICEF's operations was outlined by Ms. Daneshjo in the following.

Child protection during armed conflict: 1,270 people daily die an excessive death in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Children are disproportionately affected by those preventable deaths, half of them being caused by malnutrition and infectious diseases. 35 percent of fighting troops of the ongoing armed conflict are embodied by children. Worldwide, about 250,000 boys and girls are serving as child soldiers. Under the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict* (adopted in 2000) the minimum age for direct participation in hostilities was raised from 15 to 18 years. Thanks to UNICEF's Project to Assist Children about 1.6 million children in Congo were protected from recruitment. Another 5,400 child soldiers were reintegrated into their communities.

Child Labor: 218 million children worldwide are engaged in child labor. 126 million of them are between 5 and 17 years old and engaged in hazardous work. 5.7 million of them are trapped in forced labor. In comparison: in Japan live about 47 million children under the age of 15. UNICEF's action to reduce child labor rates can be exemplified by looking at India. Through the establishment of self-help groups, the debt burden of families could be reduced while school enrolment increased. Former child laborers received life-skills education. By demonstrating the effectiveness of those UNICEF programs, the Indian government allocated special funds for further plans to reduce the rate of child labor.

Child Marriage: 60 million women globally – of those today age between 20 and 24 years old – were married before reaching the age of 18. 150,000 pregnant teenagers die annually. Teenagers experience a five times higher chance of medical complications during pregnancy due to a lack of both medical treatment and sexual education. The most recent UNICEF Picture of the Year 2007 shows an Afghan couple: the groom, Mohammed, 40 years and his bride, Ghulam, 11 years: a child. The parents of Ghulam sold their daughter to Mohammed since they did not have enough money to offer their child a desirable future. Child marriage is often caused by extreme poverty. About half of the Afghan women under 18 are being married. Only 5 percent of Afghan women can read. 1'500'000 (or 50 %) of the girls are withheld from primary education. UNICEF conducted a research and could show that girls with a higher level of education are less likely to be married underage. In Afghanistan the legal wedding age is 16. UNICEF as the lead agency of the UN Girl's Education Initiative (UNGEI) establishes schools for girls in Afghanistan and provides it with basic educational equipment. The Fund also trains women to become teachers in local schools and therefore supports women empowerment. UNICEF also helps to establish community committees which bring

together parents, teachers and religious leaders in order to ensure support for the girls' primary education within the civil society.

UNICEF originally was founded to administer the residual funds of UNRRA and to take care of the many children abandoned during World War II. Today the Fund faces worldwide challenges and actively advocates children's rights: ranging from education to the prevention of female genital mutilation. The world's children are the world's future – hopefully a better one.

Matthias A. Simnacher

4.4. Briefing on Peace and Security, Dr. Axel Wennmann

Dr. Axel Wennmann is currently working in the *Department of Political Affairs* of the *United Nations*. He divided the speech into three parts: Firstly, he talked about the UN-Charter; secondly, he analyzed the role of the *Security Council* (SC) and the Secretary-General (SG). Finally, he spent some time on possible developments in the future within the system of the UN.



In 1945, the UN Charter was considered revolutionary: It constituted a turning point from the deep-seated principle of threats of violence against other states to a general prohibition of the use of force. The intention was, and still is, to prevent unilateral actions. This is the basis of a system called “collective security”, which was implemented through the *United Nations* after experiences with the League of Nations.

Furthermore, the UN-Charter respects the sovereignty of all Member States. Beyond this concept lies the idea of non-interference of the UN into national issues: “Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the *United Nations* to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the present Charter [...]” (Art. 2 (7) UN-Charter).

Only the UN, Dr. Wennmann explained, is predestinated to solve conflicts, because only the UN has the whole “toolbox”: The Secretary-General has the political authority, the SC is the body that brings the most important states together; its resolutions are an important instrument to set the framework for concrete actions in specific conflicts. The *World Food Programme* (WFP) or UNICEF, for instance, are adequate bodies to help

victims properly. Furthermore, only the UN is qualified to launch Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs). These PKOs exist in about 20 countries at the moment and are much more efficient than single-handed military actions by Member States, because very often the situation gets worse when countries act independently. Last but not least, development assistance is another important instrument: Through specific and selective encouragement of, e.g., a dialogue between rival groups, the UN can help to solve conflicts.

Dr. Wennmann believes that the UN is neutral. To guarantee this, and of course the independence of the personnel, the staff of the UN acts only under the mandate of the UN-Charter and not as citizens of their respective countries.

The *Department of Political Affairs* tries to prevent conflicts. Dr. Wennmann pointed out, that his department's budget for two years is about 64 million US\$. The cumulated costs of all PKOs are round about 7 billion US\$ per year. He argues that it would be more efficient to extend the budgets of those bodies, which are working to prevent conflicts. This would lower the total cost of solving conflicts. E.g., Kofi Annan's mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo during the turmoil after the elections in February 2008 cost in total 200.000 US\$. The economic disprofits were added up to approximately 31 million US\$. This shows the need for the UN in the world. In this framework, Dr. Wennmann underlined the SC's importance and the five states holding the power of veto (so called P5) to block decisions of this body. Moreover, a general reform of the SC is necessary: the SC must reflect the changes of the political situation in the world, especially concerning its membership. This would give the Council's decision more legitimacy. On the other hand, the SC should not have too many Member States, because it needs to react fast and efficiently in some situations in order to preserve its credibility in the public. Dr. Wennmann emphasized the fact that only Member States are in charge of reforming the SC, and not the UN itself.

Finally, Dr. Wennmann spoke in favor of a general improvement and professionalization of the UN in fields like mediation, training of its staff for conflict prevention and the promotion of good governance worldwide. It has been proven empirically that this would cost less than to wait for a conflict to break out. In his opinion, PKOs are very efficient to solve problems. In his last remark, it was very important for Dr. Wennmann to stress that basic rules of the UN-System, such as respect for the sovereignty of each country, the prohibition of intervention in internal affairs and the maxim of "help for self-help", should be upheld. With this statement he ended a very interesting presentation concerning the UN's "Peace and Security".

Malte Gregorzewski

4.5. Briefing on Economic Development, Ms. Marva Corley

The speaker Ms. Marva Corley gave us an interesting briefing before the lunch break, to which all delegations listened attentively. Ms. Corley focused her briefing mainly on the role of the UN in economic development, and a small part about her work.

She is an Economic Affairs Officer in the *Development Policy and Analysis Division* at the *United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs*. The *Division* is composed of three units: 1. The Development Strategy and Policy Analysis Unit (DSP); This unit creates studies and makes reports to the *Economic and Social Council*. 2. The Committee for Development Policy (CDP); Acting as the secretariat, the committee deals with cross-sectoral issues. It is most known by the public for the reason that it determines the list of Least Developed Countries. 3. The Global Economic Monitoring Unit (GEM); The unit monitors and analyzes economic trends throughout the world. One of the most important analyses is commodities analysis. Recently, “the prices of basic staples are at records high.” Ms. Corley read out from the handout she gave us. Food Riots have erupted and hunger has its new face. More and more people worldwide are falling below the poverty line. This food crisis tolled the alarming bell. *World Bank* has now estimated that, 33 countries are under the threat of political and social turmoil due to the food crisis in this century. The link between economic development and security has its bloody and vivid examples.

When asked what aspects of *United Nations'* (UN) mandate comprise the biggest share of its resources management, the answer might to some be quite surprising. If the answer you have in mind is “peace and security”, you're not alone. However, this is the wrong notion.

The speaker, Ms. Corley, laughed while telling us that she did not know it herself before working inside the UN. In fact, the majority of the UN's resources are devoted to economic and social development, a mandate that is clearly indicated in the Charter. E.g., we could see it from its Preamble: “to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom” or Article 1 (3): “To achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character...”

But then, we asked, in the first place, why does the UN want to get involved in economic and social development and make it the actual part of its mandate? To answer this question, Ms. Corley pointed out that we should see it from a collective point of view: Development is a pillar or a fundamental precondition to peace and security. Because economic development has its spill-over effects, there are issues so pressing and global, that what happens in one country influences the rest of the world -- refugees, HIV, and organized crime are just some examples of issues that can not be solved from a single local perspective. Furthermore, when we look deep into the root causes of many conflicts, they are often found in terms of disparity- disparity in income, in access to services and so on. Therefore, there should be a collective approach to it. Hence, Article



1 (4) writes out that the UN is “to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends.”

Some characteristics of the UN that allow it to become the biggest social and economic development agency are 1. The UN as a global organization has a wide network in terms of agencies and Member States. 2. The notion of impartiality of the UN. It has a commitment to all people in the world, different from most of agencies that have their own interest to guard. The commitment comes from all countries, and takes everyone’s voice into consideration.

Coming to the practical side, how is the economic and social developmental work of the UN carried out? First it starts out quite generally with the *General Assembly* in September, where states raise particular issues of concern. Certain issues are passed on to its Second Committee, also known as The Economic and Financial Committee and the *Third Committee*, the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee. Some regional issues would be passed on to regional commissions, based at the ECOSOC. These issues are then debated by the ECOSOC who will deliberate which issues should be highlighted.

The priority issues nowadays are the Millennium Development Goals. Recently, the soaring food price has become a great challenge to the goal “to reduce the proportion of hunger by half by 2015”. It is currently the leading issue.

Tse-yu Su

4.6. Briefing on Peacekeeping, Ms. Eva Barloese

Right after Lunch we had our third briefing for that day which was about Peacekeeping. For one hour our Delegation, along with the delegations of the *University of Würzburg* and the *University of San Francisco de Quito*, had the chance to listen to Eva Marie Frida Barloese, Operations Officer with the Research and Liaison Unit (RLU) at the Situation Centre of the *Department of Peacekeeping Operations* (DPKO), and learn about her field of work. The well-prepared briefing, imbedded in a slide show, was definitely an enrichment to all of us.

Starting with an overview, we gathered much interesting information about the current status of the DPKO. Ever since 1948 there have been 63 peacekeeping operations, with 20 current operations splitting up into 17 peacekeeping operations and 3 DPKO-led political missions. The total deployment in January 2008 accounted for 104,152 personnel of whom 83,927 are uniformed and 20,226 are civilian workers. Peacekeeping is of utmost importance to support the main goal of the *United Nations*, namely to provide peace and security throughout the whole globe, and peacekeeping itself is a challenging and hard job. Since the first peacekeeping operation in 1948 the total number of fatalities accounted for 2,420. Further to the challenge of keeping the number of fatalities as small as possible, the actual annual field expenditures are comparatively small with only roughly about 6.8 billion US\$. These expenditures are outnumbered by a factor of 167 by the global annual military spending. Another interesting fact is that for 100,000 people in the field, there are only 836 staff members at Headquarters. The

military troops are contributed mostly by Asia and Africa and only a minor part is sent by Europe and the Americas. This leads to the conclusion, that Least Developed Countries as well as Developing Countries are more likely involved in the contribution of troops, while the Developed Countries focus on monetary contributions as well as on submitting machinery and other equipment.

After having this first insight of the organization we went to the mandates of DPKO. These cover a wide field and vary from ceasefire monitoring, political transitions and governance to humanitarian assistance, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), security sector reform, support of elections and human rights monitoring - among many others. Supervision is considered as the backbone of peacekeeping and to be most efficient in the different missions, ranging from river and border controls to election monitoring and other integrated (multidimensional) missions, the DPKO works in cooperation with other actors, such as the IMF and *World Bank*.



We were also briefed about the main challenges that the DPKO is facing today. Ranked as the number one problem there is the rapid deployment of troops and civil personnel, followed by others concerning the fields of command and control, interoperability, logistics, security and spoilers. In order to be successful in the field of peacekeeping and being able to cope with the abovementioned challenges, it is inevitable to have the full commitment of all the parties to the peace process. In addition, strong political will by the international community is essential for the success of the mission as well as the supply of the necessary troops and equipment. Especially in Darfur, the lack of funding, troops and political will is an obstacle to an efficient implementation of peacekeeping. Other barriers can be that no troops are allowed to enter a country unless without its consent and that it can sometimes take up a lot of time until an agreement or possible solution can be found.

The second part of the briefing was about the Situation Centre. The Situation Centre plays a very important role in peacekeeping operations as it supports the DPKO in the decision-making process. Thus, information that comes in, is first evaluated, then assessed and transmitted to the decision-makers. To do so, the Situation Centre has an operation room that does the monitoring, working for 24/7, so it can respond to any emergency. Situational awareness, crisis response, point of contact, information evaluation, assessment and dissemination, and security monitoring all belong to the main functions of the Situation Centre. Just as the DPKO itself, the Situation Centre also has various partners to work with, such as NATO SITCEN, EU Joint SITCEN and the UNICEF Operation Centre to name just three of them. In order to work at any given time and under any circumstance, the office of the Situation Centre has emergency equipment ready to establish its office elsewhere in case of a threat to the UN. All of the

abovementioned together with what we have learned during the briefing underlines quite impressively how important the work of the DPKO and the Situation Centre really is.

The briefing ended way too early for us since we all would have loved to hear some more about that matter, but in return for that there was some time left for questions. There were questions about “how a crisis is identified and what the definition of a crisis is”, “if, when and how to react to a crisis”, “what to do if the country refuses to let troops enter the country”, “whether it is possible to cope with the rapid deployment by having both programs become a part of the UN” and “how to coordinate joint missions”. Each and every of these questions were answered by Ms. Barloese and made the already vital presentation of peacekeeping even more lively and left us not only with a wide understanding of peacekeeping but also with great impressions that we will certainly keep in mind for a very long time.

Florian Heydrich

4.7. Briefing on Migration, Ms. Anke Strauss

The briefing on migration and human trafficking was done by Anke Strauss, who is Liaison Officer at the *International Organization for Migration*. During a one-hour speech she gave us detailed information about the problem of trafficking in persons, its definition and problems which arise when this international criminal industry grows as it has been doing throughout the past years.

The international legal framework of human trafficking is based upon the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*, which was adopted in 2000, and two Protocols thereto: the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children*, and the *Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air* (called the Palermo Protocols).



According to the *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children*, the definition of trafficking is: “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs”.

The trafficking in persons and illegal migration are some of the fastest growing criminal industries worldwide. The profit for the one who gets someone in a country is high. Important is that not only women but also men and children are concerned and that the transportation of persons is not always for sexual exploitation.

Why is it still happening? The reasons go from poverty, unemployment, lack of opportunities, lack of family planning to forced labor and sexual exploitation to humanitarian crises and natural disasters.

Anke Strauss gave us examples and figures, which demonstrate the importance of organizations such as the IOM and joint initiatives as the UN GIFT (Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking). E.g. each year 127,000 children are being trafficked from Haiti.

The work of IOM is divided into three areas: prevention, protection and prosecution.

Prevention: In the area of prevention, it is important to inform people in the countries of origin and to raise awareness. This can be done through e.g. information campaigns, movies, etc. - part of the prevention work is data collection and research.

Protection: Often physical protection of the victims is necessary, medical support, social and legal aid for those who have escaped, (some of whom have entered legally but stayed longer). For this purpose, there are hotlines in place. It is important to inform them about their rights, to get in contact with the country of origin, and to help them to resettle or return to their country of origin, which is not always possible.

Prosecution: Here the capacity building of law enforcement officials, border guards and policemen are important, as well as the improvement of technologies. In terms of legislation, the prosecution depends on national law and the ratification of certain protocols.

Illegal migration has increasingly been a problem since the 1990s after the fall of the Iron Curtain but has already been a problem in the 19th century.

After the presentation we had the possibility to ask questions:

Which national law is going to be applied when more countries are involved?

What are the sources of information? Is there a big problem with corruption?

What happens when people with information don't speak up?

In reducing the problem of illegal migration, it is important to work together, also when it is happening in different places and therefore more than two countries are involved.

Joint effort to provide information and the collaboration with Interpol and the national police is essential. Corruption does exist and it makes the process more difficult to get to sources of information. But deportation is more a danger when the victims don't speak. However, a lot of them won't speak up because they want to "turn the page" and start a new life.

What are reasons of reservation for a country not to sign or ratify international conventions?

Are there links between human trafficking and the dealing with drug and arms and organs?

What is the effect on children?

Often it is thought, that the process of ratification is a slow one, but it can be a fast process. Reasons for not ratifying a convention or a protocol are often a lack of political will or national law. Links to other illegal businesses exist but not necessarily.

Children are largely affected by human trafficking, but again not only for sexual exploitation but also more and more for forced labor.

Paula Podehl

4.8. Briefing on Darfur, Mr. Peter Jackson

Part of the extraordinarily informative UN Study Tour, which our Delegation was lucky to have the opportunity to attend, was a briefing on the situation in Darfur. The briefing was delivered with much passion by Mr. Peter Jackson, Chief Editor of the UN Yearbook, who managed to remain the focus of our attention throughout the session.

This was only partly due to his energetic mode of presentation, however. The timeliness of the topic of his talk certainly also had its share in exciting our interest and, talking to a representative of the *United Nations*, we had a unique chance to get our information directly from those most acquainted with the situation as it is dealt within the international community.



During the briefing, we learned about the complexities underlying the crisis in Darfur which are often neglected in media reports calling for quick and decisive action. Among those complexities are the spill-over effects of the conflict which destabilize not only Sudan but the region as a whole with Chad being drawn into the conflict. Furthermore, one cannot talk about resolving the conflict without also addressing the root causes of the crisis, among which the scarcity of resources, foremost among them water, ranks high. This problem abundant in the region is caused by a history of ecological degradation which led to a fierce competition over access to already strained resources. Furthermore the destabilizing effects of the conflict are feared to contribute to tensions in other parts of Sudan, particularly in South Sudan

where the North-South peace agreement only recently ended one of the longest and bloodiest conflicts in Africa.

This intricacy of the conflict in Darfur is a challenge even to an experienced organization in the field of conflict resolution, such as the *United Nations*. After massive efforts to create the political will necessary for a peaceful settlement of the conflict, the *Security Council*, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the *United Nations*, adopted its resolution 1769 of 31 July 2007 which includes a mandate for the *United Nations* and African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) with the protection of civilians at its core. The deployment of UNAMID is a new development in the history of UN peacekeeping efforts as it is the first hybrid mission to be endowed with a peacekeeping mandate. At full deployment, the mission will become one of the largest missions in UN peacekeeping history. It will then be composed of almost 20,000 troops, more than 6,000 police and a large civilian component. Thus far, however, there is still a significant lack of political will in Member States to provide the UN with troops to fulfill its mandate.

The activities of the UN are not constrained to peacekeeping efforts, however. The effort of UN humanitarian agencies is currently the largest relief effort in the world. The aim is to assist the approximately 4.2 million conflict-affected people in the Darfur crisis.

These vast effects of the crisis are what called worldwide attention to what is happening in Darfur. In addition an estimated 2.45 million are internally displaced, and the flow of refugees into neighboring Chad brought an additional 238,000 Sudanese refugees in the eastern regions of that country. In 2007, the budget allocated by the UN and its partners for humanitarian efforts alone surpassed US\$ 650 million, and among the more than 12,000 humanitarian staff from 13 UN agencies can be found.

But peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts alone cannot end a conflict and bring peace to a region, Mr. Peter Jackson reminded us. What is needed in the long run is a political solution to the conflict. Keeping this in mind, high hopes have to be placed on the diplomatic efforts undertaken by the UN and others. In spite of all the obstacles, it is not too late for an inclusive peace-agreement among the parties.

The hope that such an agreement can be reached and that the *United Nations* will have played its part, when the conflict will eventually end, is what drives the work of so many parties concerned with finding a solution to the conflict. Above everything else, it is this hope that Mr. Jackson managed to communicate.

Martin Ebeling

4.9. Briefing on Terrorism, Mr. Mitchell Hsieh

On Monday, 17 March 2008, we had the honor to have a briefing on Terrorism by Mr. Mitchell Hsieh. He is the Media Officer of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED).

The CTED's main task is to support the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, which was established by *Security Council* Resolution 1373 (2001). It therefore gathers information

from all kinds of sources regarding terrorism (state reports, internet, and press releases) and analyzes them. A variety of legal experts and human rights advisers work at the CTED in order to appropriately monitor the compliance with the Resolution and provide recommendations on terrorism issues to the states that need them.



Mr. Hsieh emphasized the fact that terrorism is now one of the main issues of the *United Nations* (UN) agenda, on which both the *Security Council* and the *General Assembly* focus their efforts to counter it effectively.

He provided us with a brief historical background of terrorism and the UN. He stated that, although the threat of terrorism has been existent for decades, the *Security Council*

stayed clear of this vulnerable issue for a long time, regarding it as a domestic one. It was not before the 80s and after the increase in the number of high-jacked airplanes that the issue came once more on the agenda. In the 90s and especially after the United States Embassy bombings in East African capital cities (1998), linked to the al Qaida, the *Security Council* took action. Pursuant to Resolution 1267 (1999) the *Security Council* imposed sanctions on the Taliban, froze their assets, put them under an arms embargo and their executives under a travel ban. Moreover the development of a terrorist list was considered being of great importance. This was to be monitored by a Sanctions Committee.

11 September 2001 changed the world and was also milestone for the measures taken against terrorism. Only few days after the attack the *Security Council* adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter its Resolution 1373, which aimed to counter terrorism at its roots (especially financing of terrorism) criminalized assistance to terrorists and established the *Security Council's* Counter-Terrorism Committee. Following Resolutions focused on weapons of mass destruction (Resolution 1540 (2004)), the protection of the human rights of victims of terrorism (international compensation fund, Resolution 1566 (2004)) and forming of a legal framework in the nations for investigating and prosecuting terrorists. With Resolution 1624 (2005), the Council called for a strengthening of measures for border security and the criminalization of the incitement to commit a terrorist act. Although states tried to agree on one for a long time, there is still no commonly accepted international definition of terrorism.

Furthermore, Mr. Hsieh informed us about the work and commitment of the *General Assembly* to combating terrorism. The *General Assembly* counters terrorism since the 70s with declarations, resolutions and reports. The *General Assembly* calls on the Member States to cooperate on the international level to counter terrorism and foster the development of instruments to achieve this goal such as the *International Convention for*

the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, the 1999 *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism* and the *International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism*. In 2005, the *World Summit* unequivocally condemned terrorism and requested the Member States to cooperate in the *General Assembly* to establish a comprehensive convention on terrorism. As Mr. Hsieh added, there are plenty of UN Agencies which are occupied with Counter-Terrorism. He stressed that the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy of 2006 is a blueprint for all agencies.

At the end of the briefing, Mr. Mitchell Hsieh answered a variety of questions concerning terrorism; we discussed the issue of the infringement of basic civil liberties due to some countries' legal framework about terrorism. Moreover, he answered questions about the definition of terrorism and its importance and about the work in his department. And finally, he informed us about the prospects of a carrier in his Department.

On behalf of the Delegation of Japan I would like to stress out once more how much we do appreciate and thank Mr. Mitchell Hsieh for his excellent briefing.

Despoina Glarou

4.10 Briefing on the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Mr. James Sniffen

On 17 March 2008, we met Mr. James Sniffen, Information and Liaison Officer at the *United Nations Environment Programme's* New York Office.

The mission of the *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP) is the analysis of developments in environmental protection, and the collection of information and its dissemination. UNEP also adopts environmental guidelines and coordinates projects for the conservation of the environment on the planet as a whole.



The aim is to put the states and men in a position to improve their lives without any negative impact on coming generations. The headquarters of UNEP is located in Nairobi (Kenya) and it receives annually 135 million US\$.

Mr. Sniffen pointed out at the beginning of his lecture one additional main goal of UNEP: To convince the various states of the existence of climate change.

To gain precisely this awareness, UNEP publishes reports to the States. In addition, specific topics and reports are published and every five years such as the "Global

Environment Outlook” (GEO). UNEP collects the information needed for these reports from different sources, such as satellite imagery from NASA.

UNEP also works very closely with the environment ministries of the different Member States.

The issue of climate change is more and more understood since the early 1970s, though different opinions existed on this topic at that time. Since the 1980s, the science of climate change became clearer, even if diverging views on climate change impacts existed. Also, one major achievement was the *Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer* of 1985 and especially its *Montreal Protocol* minimizing the use of CFCs. Scientific research and evaluation of a variety of literature eventually led to the 1992 *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* and the 1997 *Kyoto Protocol*. While the *Protocol* has received the needed 55 ratifications, it is clear that perception continues to change in the issue, so that more has to be done. Finally, it was UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who stated that the environment is one of the most important issues of our time.

With this in mind, the goal of UNEP is to get all states on board in order to tackle climate change together. Another important issue for UNEP is “water”, as the sustainable and equitable management of water is one of the main challenges. One third of the world’s population lives in countries with good water supply, but with disproportionate consequences for the poorer parts of the planet. Another important topic for UNEP is disaster prevention. This includes e.g. the use of early warning systems after the tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean 2004, in order to be prepared for future disasters.

UNEP tries to reduce the threat posed by chemicals to the environment, through various conventions and information programs, as much as possible.

Furthermore, UNEP helps the states to use chemicals in a safer way in order to not harm the environment. An important measure in this field is the dissemination of information on the various chemicals. In this context, the *Rotterdam Convention on Chemicals* and the *Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants* (POPs), which both entered into force in 2004 are essential.

Another institution that Mr. Sniffen explained to us is the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC), which was founded by the *World Meteorological Organization* (WMO) and UNEP, in order to provide an objective source of information on this topic, so that governments and others can take action to tackle climate change. The mandate of the IPCC is not to conduct research. It only assesses the existing data on the subject.

Finally, Mr. Sniffen stressed again the responsibility of the Developed Countries in the fight against climate change.

In addition, Mr. Sniffen mentioned in this context the importance of the *Kyoto Protocol* and its performance on climate change. The significance of Kyoto rests in the setting of binding targets for the 37 industrialized countries and the *European Community*. To date 180 countries have ratified the *Protocol*. The *Kyoto Protocol* is also characterized by its mechanisms. These include emission trading, clean development mechanism and joint implementation.

The Delegation of *Freie Universität Berlin* is grateful to Mr. Sniffen. The mood during the briefing was very enriching and the delegates followed the remarks by Mr. Sniffen carefully, as climate change is a very important issue.

Semjon Rens

4.11. Briefing on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Mr. Saahir Lone

The briefing concerning the *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East* (UNRWA) was highly expected by us, as many of us wanted to have a clear insight on the concrete work of the *United Nations* in the management of the Middle East conflict. First of all, our speaker, Mister Saahir Lone, Senior Liaison Officer at UNRWA, wanted to clarify that UNRWA was not handling the pursuit of a solution in the Middle East conflict, but the management of the refugees resulting from this conflict. UNRWA is a development agency reporting to the *General Assembly*.

Mr. Lone was very passionate about his work. He explained to us why it was so important to maintain the functioning process of UNRWA even if the agency is in place since 1948. He worked four years in the field and it gave him the opportunity to realize how useful the *United Nations* was. It is crucial to realize that without this agency the situation would be even worse in the region than it is already now. The economic collapse that followed the deepening of the conflict has brought more refugees than before. Moreover, since the Hamas recovered the Gaza Strip, the things are far from getting better and it has created real difficulties from a socio-economic point of view.

4.5 millions Palestine Refugees are helped by UNRWA. Managing such a large amount of refugees requires a large organization: There are currently 28,000 people working for the agency, but only 3 persons are stationed in New York as they want to focus on the concrete help for Refugees. More than 90% of the staff is Palestinian for both



economic and practical reasons; a special class was created to enable the formation of the Palestinian personnel. The agency centers its work on education and health (more than 9 million medical consultations are run every year). 660 schools are actually run by the *United Nations* which explains why a large part of the people working for UNRWA is actually teachers.

Even if Education and health are the priorities, the alimentary assistance has turned to be a central focus of UNRWA due to the deep economic recession following the conflict in 2000. Nowadays, 80% of the population live below the poverty line, while before the worsening of the conflict, “only” 20% were. Today, 1.2 million people receive food aid.

The *United Nations* is not the only organization active in the Middle East to help Palestinian Refugees; the *World Food Programme* is also very active. They entertain a constant dialogue in order to avoid existing projects from overlapping one another. Indeed, even if UNRWA is very well supported by the Developed Countries, there is, however, a lack of financing, which can turn to be difficult to handle in case of emergency crisis. UNRWA operations are financed almost entirely by voluntary contributions from governments and the *European Union*, which account for 95 per cent of all income. The Agency’s largest donors in 2006 were the *European Commission*, the United States, Sweden, Canada and the United Kingdom. As of 30 November 2007, the United States, the *European Commission*, Sweden, the Norway and United Kingdom are its largest contributors.

Mr. Lone left us enough time for our questions. Many were interested in knowing more about the position of UNRWA concerning the political situation in the country. Mister Lone therefore stressed that UNRWA was first of all a human development organization and not a political one. Even if UNRWA has raised concerns during the conflict in Lebanon, it was more in a humanitarian perspective than a political one. The solution of the conflict has to be found within the parties and the *Security Council*, UNRWA has been established only to help the refugees and nothing more.

The final goal of UNRWA would be to finally stop its activities, as it will mean that a solution of the Middle East conflict has been found and, as a result, the Refugees could be reintegrated into their home as provided by the right of return.

Laura André

4.12 Visit to the Delegation of the European Commission to the United Nations, Mr. Emanuele Giaufret

Imagine you are part of the Japanese Delegation to the *United Nations* (UN), which essential information could you expect to receive from the *European Commission*? As we found out during the briefing with Mr. Emanuele Giaufret, who is responsible for cultural and social affairs at the Commission’s Delegation to the UN, it is vital to know about the relationship between the *European Union*’s and the Japanese foreign policy. Since the NMUN Conference was to begin on the same day, we were very appreciative to learn about possible strategies of our fellow delegates from Europe.

The *European Union* is represented at the UN in many different ways. First of all, the state holding the presidency of the *EU Council*, which is shared by Slovenia and France in 2008, represents the EU in all *Common and Foreign Security Policy* (CFSP) matters at the *United Nations*. At the *Security Council* (SC), elected or permanent members can put forward relevant issues for the EU. The *European Commission*, our presenter's main focus, represents the European Community (EC) at the UN. The EC is, together with the CFSP and police and judicial cooperation, one of the three pillars of the EU created under the *Maastricht Treaty* in 1992. The EC was founded in 1957 by the *Treaty of Rome* which created a common market without internal frontiers and with common policies. Today, it has been integrated into the body of the EU and it is characterized by the transfer of competences from the Member States to the community level. In



addition, the EC has a legal personality and can, thus, appear internationally and sign international treaties. It is represented by the *European Commission*, which is an independent institution of the EC. The *European Commissions* consist of 27 Commissioners, one from each Member State, and all its policy decisions are taken collectively. In the UN context, the *European Commission* can, obviously, not be a Member State of the UN, but it has been holding an Observer Status since 1974. The only exception is the *Food and Agriculture Organization* (FAO), where EC is a full member, because of its exclusive competences to manage the Common Agricultural Policy. The *European Commission* has Delegations that are accredited to all UN bodies

To date, one of the main challenge of the EU is time: in CFSP matters all decisions are taken unanimously, which is problematic with 27 different national interests. It is difficult to find consensus on texts in an appropriate time frame. Much effort is put into these internal negotiations, more time could be spent, e.g., lobbying with other UN Member States in order to attract attention for urgent issues. Most of the time, the EU succeeds at finding a common position. If this is not the case, the EU cannot speak with one voice, as the following example shows: during a recent meeting of the *UN Commission on the Status of Women* there was no agreement on a statement on sexual reproductive health and rights because Ireland, Poland, and Malta were concerned that the language could be interpreted as somehow implying support of abortion. Hence, there could be no coordination of the entire EU. When Member States disagree on a topic and are divided, the influence of the EU on other UN Members might diminish.

Our French-Italian born speaker put emphasis on three pillars in which the UN activities is articulated: Development, Peace and Security and Promotion of Human Rights. These are also Japan's main concerns.

First of all, development issues are of great importance to the EU because it is the main donor worldwide. Current main objectives are poverty eradication and improving aid efficiency. The Commission's relationship with the UN has evolved moving from ad hoc cooperation towards more strategic and systematic partnership. The EC is a major source of financing for UN projects and observes very closely whether Official Development Assistance (ODA) is properly and efficiently used to implement the Millennium Development Goals. In 2000, 189 Member States agreed to try to achieve those eight goals by 2015, yet it has not shown much progress in Africa, absolutely and relatively compared to Asia and Latin America. Within the UN the recipient countries are in constant negotiations with the donor countries, which comprise inter alia most Members of the EU. The largest and most influential group in the General Assembly, as far as the number of votes is concerned, is the "*Group of 77*", representing Developing Countries.

The G77 was established in 1964 by 77 Developing Countries and has accepted 53 more members during the last decades. It is a coalition that promotes the interests of the South within the UN system and South-South cooperation for development.

A second focus is peace and security with the SC as the main institution of negotiation. France and the United Kingdom have a different status because they are part of the Permanent Members in the SC and, thus, have a higher level of information. Therefore, Article 19 of the *EU Treaty* states that Members of the SC have to keep the other Member States fully informed and that Permanent Members shall defend positions of the EU. The most important task for the EU Presidency is to coordinate Member States and the flow of information. Furthermore, Mr. Giaufret underlined the EC's commitment towards the *Peacebuilding Commission* (PBC), which was established in 2005 by the SC and the GA together. It is committed to help countries in resolving conflicts and building a sustainable peace. The need for such a commission has become obvious as it has been realized that an ending conflict does not necessarily cause peaceful stability in a country. The EC is has the status of a Participant as an institutional donors in all meetings, along with the *International Monetary Fund* (IMF), the *World Bank*, and the *Organization of the Islamic Conference*.

The Union also plays an active role in the promotion of human rights in the proceedings of the UN Commission on Human Rights and in the 3rd Committee of the GA. Mr. Giaufret especially underlined the battle to promote the abolition of the death penalty worldwide. Combined efforts are directed towards universal abolition of death penalty, although in countries that still retain the capital punishment the EU is seeking, through regular demarches, to raising awareness on minimum standards, e.g. prevent executions of convicts below 18 years and those with a mental disorder. A significant step has been made by the adoption of a GA resolution on 18 December 2007 calling for the establishment of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, though it is not binding.

During this informative briefing, the NMUN Delegation of Japan learned about its intersections with the *European Community's* interests in particular, and the *European Union's* in general. For the first time, we learned about our partners' position and how we could approach them in finding a joint solution. We also understand the difficulties that the *European Commission*, as the diplomatic organ of the EC, faces within its

structures. But more importantly, the Community is a model of regional cooperation and, hence, of conflict resolution.

Wiebke Wodni

4.13 Visit to the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, Ambassador Dr. Takahiro Shinyo

After a first day of committee sessions on Tuesday, all delegations had their Wednesday morning free to visit their respective Permanent Missions to the *United Nations*. Our Delegation therefore headed off to the UN Plaza, right next to the *UN Headquarters*, to meet with H.E. Dr. Takahiro Shinyo, Ambassador Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary and Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the *United Nations*. Ambassador Shinyo gave us the honor of taking nearly two hours of his time to present us with Japan's work at the *United Nations* and answer our many questions.



Source: Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations/Jane Conrad

To our surprise, Ambassador Shinyo greeted us in perfect German and even offered to proceed with the entire briefing in the language of Goethe. Obviously delighted at speaking German, Ambassador Shinyo, who studied at *Göttingen University* and was on post in Germany and Switzerland, shared with us his love of the German language and strongly commended the

international students among our delegation. We however declined his offer, for the sake of our international students and in order to stick to our working language and *lingua franca* of the conference.

Ambassador Shinyo first presented us with the many challenges facing Japan in the world of international organizations in 2008. This year, Japan is holding the presidency of the Peacebuilding Commission, the G8, and is running for election in the Human Rights Council (in May 2008, Japan was re-elected as a member of the Human Rights Council for another three-year term), the ECOSOC and the *Security Council*. Furthermore, Japan will be hosting the fourth *Tokyo International Conference on African Development* (TICAD). He then moved on to mention the main topics covered by Japan at the UN.

Ambassador Shinyo sees a “shift” in the UN concept of security from a military security to a human security. This change also has repercussions on the work of the *Security Council*, which has been recently busy with climate change or human rights issues. The concept of security is not only shifting, it is expanding. Ambassador Shinyo was later asked about a definition of human security: recalling the current debate on the definition of terrorism, his answer was that we need to “avoid unnecessary legalistic discussions on definitions”, the importance being to have a concept. He then elaborated on this concept, which focuses on the need to protect and empower the individual and the community, whereas many countries at the UN remain “obsessed” with the notion of sovereignty.

In this evolution of the security concept, climate change is high on the agenda. Japan has contributed to the international “beauty contest” for climate initiatives by the launch of “*Cool Earth 50*”, a program that sets targets for the reduction of emissions.

The other main topic covered by Japan is the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Ambassador Shinyo characterized 2008 as a turning point and therefore recognized the need to increase Japan’s ODA. In efforts to achieve the MDGs, Japan has a particular focus on Africa. Ambassador Shinyo explained why Japan cultivates a privileged and vibrant relation with the African continent. Japan, a country that has no colonial past in Africa, is “the country which tried to help Africa in the early days”. TICAD was launched in 1993 already, a decade during which too little international attention was paid to Africa. Ambassador Shinyo insisted on the difference between charity and assistance, stressing that Japan was not pursuing a political agenda in Africa. Later faced with a question on China’s involvement in Africa, Ambassador Shinyo answered that China has been following Japan’s lead in Africa, “but not in the same way”. China’s aim is a “very political” one, said Ambassador Shinyo, before pointing out the weight of the African countries at the UN in matters of votes. China’s energy needs to meet its economic development lead it to a “give-and-take” relation with Africa, whereas Japan is less politically motivated.

Moving to the important topic of UN reform, Ambassador Shinyo reminded us of the efforts to reform the *Security Council*. 2005 was a decisive year of energetic activities by the so-called G4 - Germany, Brazil, India, and Japan. These however failed to achieve a result due to the opposition of countries united in the so-called former “Coffee Club,” now referred to as “*Uniting for Consensus*: UFC” Group. Ambassador Shinyo displayed with humor Japan’s determination by suggesting the creation of a “Sake Club” supporting Japan’s bid. “Active consultations” are currently being conducted within an overarching group.

Coming to the budget reform, Ambassador Shinyo recalled the “huge amount” Japan contributes to the UN making it the second largest contributor (16.62% or US\$ 332.6 million of the regular UN budget in 2007) and peacekeeping operations and gave figures about China and Russia (2.67 % and 1.2 % respectively).

Concluding with Human Rights, Ambassador Shinyo briefed us on the issue of abductions by the DPRK, concerning 16 Japanese having been kidnapped by North Korea, e.g., to teach Japanese language and culture to Korean agents, and mentioned

Japan's efforts to pass a resolution on the subject in the *Third Committee of the General Assembly*.

Ambassador Shinyo finally took questions from the delegation. The questions mostly focused on issues discussed in the various committees, ranging from the situation in the Middle East to solar energy, nuclear disarmament or the international economy.

Scheduled just after the beginning of the conference, this meeting with Ambassador Shinyo at the Japanese Mission was extremely precious in supporting the Delegates in the course they had taken in their committees. It also gave us a sense of being an "actual" Japanese diplomat and made us return to our committee sessions even more committed to representing Japan and defending its interests. Our many thanks and recognition go to Ambassador Shinyo and to the lovely staff at the Japanese Mission.

Hikmat Maleh



5. Japan at the NMUN 2008 Conference, 18-22 March 2008

“... Let me start by welcoming tomorrow’s leaders to today’s *United Nations!*” The person greeting all delegations with these words was no less than the Secretary-General of the *United Nations*, Ban Ki-moon. About 2,000 people from around the world attended the Opening Ceremony in the *General Assembly Hall*, and they immediately knew the seriousness the following days were built upon. How could the most important organization of our time spend more appreciation, than allowing all participants of NMUN 2008 to stand vis-à-vis to its Secretary-General?

The Opening Ceremony itself was a good opportunity for every delegate to make himself familiar with the upcoming tasks. Seeing all 192 Member States from the place of Japan was not only helpful to measure the huge size of the *United Nations*, but also brought to everyone’s mind that every country has equal rights.

Just shortly after the ceremony, the Japanese Delegation split up for the first committee sessions. It is of utmost importance to be present and active right from the beginning. To be placed on top of the speakers list, e.g., is a good start for the following debates. One of the first debates concerned the setting of the agenda. This is the first time every delegate gets to express himself in a speech or forge possible alliances.

A fixed time at the end of each day was reserved for the Delegation meeting. This very important gathering in the largest hotel room we got was necessary to exchange experiences and ideas, develop strategies or give hints. It closed each day of debating and also prepared for the next day. During the conference, days were long but we stuck together, always connected through our Head Delegates. The days consisted of negotiation, resolution writing, debate and preparation, as well as, of course, promoting Japan’s position, particularly the fight for Human Security.

Throughout more than half a year of preparation, the conference was the ultimate goal. When it ended, everyone was left with some kind of mixed emotions. All the work was done, but something great had been achieved, something valuable has been left in the head of every participant. A time not to forget, a benefit that lasts. Just as Ban Ki-moon said: “Your support is crucial...You can be catalysts for change.”

André Richter



5.1. Secretary-General's welcoming remarks at the National Model United Nations Conference

Mr. President, Madam Secretary-General, Distinguished young delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,



Let me start by welcoming tomorrow's leaders to today's *United Nations*! Seeing all of you here is a timely reminder that our Organization exists to serve succeeding generations.

I am heartened to see such a large and enthusiastic group of young adults engaged in global issues. Together, you represent the *United Nations* as it should be – people from all countries coming together to find solutions to problems through constructive debate and an exchange of ideas.

Your Model UN is built on open minds and fresh ideas. Many of you have been asked to represent national agendas or stands that you may personally disagree with. You will do so fairly and forcefully. This open-mindedness is the essence of successful diplomacy – the ability to understand and analyze all positions, including those that you oppose.

Your acceptance of differing viewpoints clearly distinguishes your conference. I believe it will prove crucial as you assume leadership roles in the twenty-first century. Let me add that it gives me great pleasure to utter the words “Madam Secretary-General”. By selecting a woman at the helm, you are already guiding our Organization by example!

I sincerely hope that in the future we will have a woman Secretary-General of the *United Nations*.

Young delegates, it is when your conference is over that the real work begins. With this experience, you become representatives of the *United Nations*; student ambassadors charged with building a better understanding of the Organization – what it is, what it does and what it can do. And you assume this responsibility at a crucial period in the life of the *United Nations*. Every day and on a wide range of issues, our Organization is expected to deliver in new and better ways.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

People expect us to work for a more prosperous and healthy world. The clock on the Millennium Development Goals is ticking, with many regions in danger of losing the race. Indeed, not a single country in sub-Saharan Africa is currently on track to achieve

the MDGs by 2015. Urgent action is needed to bring these people – the world's bottom billion – into the folds of global prosperity.

People expect us to deliver results for a more secure world. Currently, one hundred and twenty thousand brave men and women serve as peacekeepers in 17 Missions worldwide. Another 13 field missions are engaged in conflict prevention and mediation support. This year promises even more challenges. An unprecedented AU-UN peacekeeping force will deploy in Darfur, Sudan. The situation in the Middle East remains on a knife's edge. Rising food and commodity prices have the potential to trigger additional instability.

People expect us to speak up for a more just world. 2008 marks the sixtieth anniversary of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. A year-long awareness campaign is already underway. We must help spread its message, and rededicate ourselves to the cause of truly universal human rights.

And people expect us to advance the global common good by securing global public goods – in the areas of climate change, global health, counter-terrorism, disarmament and non-proliferation. The *United Nations* is uniquely placed to lead these efforts.

These issues are daunting. But the *United Nations* has proven, at various stages of its history, that it is capable of rising to new challenges. Your support is crucial. Your voice and your organization, activity and energy can help highlight the UN's successes, and explain the Organization's constraints. You can be catalysts for change by creating social networks in support of our work. And as leaders of the future, you can come up with innovative approaches to help confront the challenges facing the global community.

Let me commend you on the most rapid ascent possible in the diplomatic services: you entered this hall as junior delegates, and you will leave as ambassadors!

Dear young leaders, I thank all of you for your commitment, and wish you all a most stimulating conference.

Thank you very much. All the best.

Source: Office of the Spokesperson of the Secretary-General, Latest Statements, <http://www.un.org/apps/sg/sgstats.asp?nid=3052> (retrieved on 26 May 2008)

5.2. Japan at the General Assembly Plenary

represented by Paula Podehl and Helge Schröder

The *General Assembly* (GA) is one of the six main organs of the *United Nations*.

The GA deals with a large variety of internal (organizational) and external matters. Internal functions include the decision about the UN budget and the election of both the 10 non-permanent members of the *Security Council* and the Secretary-General. Articles 10 and following of the UN Charter grant the GA the competence to deal with all matters mentioned by the Charter, e.g. development and the general principles of international peace and security.

The GA has several subsidiary organs, which have to report back to the GA, so do other organs, as e.g. the *Economic and Social Council* (ECOSOC).

In the GA Plenary, we had prepared to discuss the issues of:

1. Breaking the Link Between Diamonds and Armed Conflicts;
2. Promotion of Alternate Sources of Energy;
3. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.

The first issue to be discussed in the GA was the agenda setting for the session 2008. Japan's priority was to discuss the promotion of alternate energy sources first, then the roll back of malaria and as a thirdly breaking the link between diamonds and armed conflicts. Japan favored this order because development and, through this, peace and prosperity is one of the national priorities as well as climate change and therefore insuring energy supply in developed and developing countries. In order to secure both it is important to secure the production of clean energy for the future.

Africa too is high on Japan's priorities, both TICAD (*Tokyo International Conference on African Development*) and the *G8 Summit* (hosted by Japan in 2008) will be dealing with Africa in various points and the problems on this big continent have to be addressed but alternate energy sources is just as much and maybe at the origin of other agenda point a topic for Africa. We were pleased with the outcome of the vote for setting the agenda as it reflected our favored order.



Throughout the discussion, in the five days we only managed to discuss the first topic, Japan tried to address a large variety of partner countries in order to come to a wide consensus. The U.S. were a strong partner working on a working paper together with the Russian Federation and Germany. Afghanistan became a strong partner with other countries of the Middle East and South East Asia. Throughout the discussions the

central concept of Japan's foreign and national policy "Human Security" was brought to the attention of other negotiation partners and introduced to all but one draft resolution which were being voted upon at voting procedure.

The GA Plenary passed in total eight resolutions on the topic of promoting alternate energy sources. Japan's position and collaboration was clearly for the promotion of new and alternate energy sources. Japan is also willing to promote and to share the necessary technology and also financial aid to developing countries but with the clear message "it has to be efficient!"

In order for programs to be efficient, Japan pushed through the human security approach which focuses on the human centered mechanisms and development aid in order to achieve sustainable development result in the countries. “It is important not to only give the people a fish to eat so that they can survive the day, but to teach them how to fish so that they can survive a lifetime”.

The GA, as pointed out before, has several sub committees, which report back to the GA Plenary. This was going to be the same at NMUN. On the last day of conference before the closing ceremony the GA and the ECOSOC were going to be voting upon resolutions being passed by these sub committees.

The resolutions were passed also by the GA on the last day of the conference, and Human Security is to be found in them.

5.3. Japan at the General Assembly First Committee

represented by Martin Ebeling and Ruth Halle

Our job in the *First Committee of the General Assembly* of the *United Nations* was to take care of disarmament and international security. “Said and done!”, or so we thought and dug into the research. The topics on this year’s agenda were various. They were:

1. Private Military and Security Companies in Conflict;
2. Combating the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons;
3. Measures to Uphold the Authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol.

These topics were of special interest for us because we discovered that, disarmament and arms control is a priority on the Japanese agenda, and Japan takes a very active role in the discussion and often initiates new ideas. Due to historical reasons, nuclear disarmament is one of the main focus points of Japanese policy. But Japan is also very active concerning the other topics which were on this year’s agenda. E.g. Japan has extensive initiatives regarding biological and chemical weapons, has ratified and enforced the *Geneva Protocol* and the follow-up conventions and it gives assistance to other countries in their efforts to do so and invites them to share its experiences.

The research about the Japanese policy regarding private military and security companies in conflict situations turned out to be a little more challenging, due to the fact that there is no official policy with regard to these companies, as well as a, so far, rather passive stance of the *United Nations*. But these obstacles made the research even more challenging. The more fertile was our engagement in the third topic on the combat of the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons, but more about that later.

After we had thoroughly familiarized ourselves with the Japanese position on the topics on the agenda we felt well-prepared and were very much looking forward to the negotiations in New York. The session of the *First Committee* started out with the discussion and voting on the agenda. Thus we had to make first alliances, lobby and mobilize support for our national agenda. Our main priority for agenda-setting was to set

the fight against the Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons as the first topic on the agenda. Fortunately, several countries shared this opinion, so the agenda passed without many difficulties.

After this first small success we went into the first substantial debate. The central point of the Japanese policy with regard to small arms and light weapons is to establish long-lasting international binding instruments to control the legal trade with conventional weapons and therewith to limit the possibilities for illicit trade. Therefore, our main goal during the negotiations was to make progress with regard to



the establishment of an international convention for the regulation of the trade with conventional weapons, the *Arms Trade Treaty*, which is supposed to also include small arms and light weapons as well as ammunitions. In addition to that we meant to enhance and support the implementation and enforcement of already existing mechanisms like the *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* (PoA) and would of course support all initiatives of other delegations in this direction. In addition to that we continuously tried to include references to the concept of Human Security in the proposals. This concept includes the idea that international security should not only be seen with respect to nation states but to focus more on the individual. For the topic on our agenda this idea is especially important since civilians are most affected by the illicit trade of small arms.

In cooperation with other states, e.g. Uruguay and Switzerland, we worked out a working paper, which we then merged with the working paper of some European states in one very long nightshift. The combined paper laid down the framework and timetable for the drafting and establishment of the *Arms Trade Treaty* and already included some of the most fundamental principles which were supposed to be covered by it. By incorporating some proposals of other groups we managed to gather a broad support for our draft resolution which was then passed as a resolution by the *First Committee* during voting procedure on the last day of the conference.

Other draft resolutions focused more on the fight against terrorism, the establishment of financial funds for the support of measures for the implementation of the PoA, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures. Most of the drafts were passed as resolutions, some of them also with Japanese support.

All in all it was a successful session of the *First Committee* for Japan, even if we personally would have wished for more time to discuss the topics left on the agenda. For

both of us it was a great and very rewarding experience for us, which we will cherish for a long time.

5.4. Japan at the General Assembly Second Committee

represented by Florian Heydrich and Florencia Ricci

The *Second Committee of the General Assembly* (GA 2nd), also referred to as the Economic and Financial Committee, is one of six Committees of the *General Assembly*. It deals with a range of different topics, all aiming to promote economic development. In addition to that the committee also deals with financial issues, e.g. external debts, and works in cooperation with various international financial institutions. All this influences one of the main goals of the *United Nations*: international peace and security. The GA 2nd issues resolutions to the *General Assembly Plenary* about the outcomes of current meetings. Just like in the *General Assembly*, all Member States are represented in the GA 2nd and it works with a “one country, one vote” system.

Since both of us study Economics, this was the perfect Committee for us. Furthermore it was not only our committee that made NMUN 2008 a very interesting experience, but it was also a true honor to represent Japan as the world’s second strongest economy, since it has a privileged position on economic issues as well as a leading role.

The topics of the Agenda were given to us in the following order:

1. The Role of Foreign Direct Investment in Development;
2. The Politics and Economics of the External Debt Crisis;
3. Public-Private Partnerships in Infrastructure Development.

Without a doubt, all topics were very interesting. We had prepared Japan’s position on them during our preparation in Berlin, and came to the conclusion, that Japan would prioritize the first topic, because of its large amount of outward Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), that contributed to the development of many Asian nations and because of its own experience with opening to inward FDIs in the past years. Further to this, External Debts would have been an interesting topic. Japan is very keen on discussing this subject as well. Japan was able to reconstruct its country after World War II due to external credits and after its economic recovery became a creditor country, not only on a bilateral basis, but also within international financial institutions. After the debt crises in the 1990s, the international community committed to help indebted countries and Japan took a leading role in debt relief and debt rescheduling.

On the first day of NMUN, we voted on the agenda setting. In a committee with 192 countries, it can be very difficult to be put on the speakers list. Every country willing to be put on the speaker’s list raises its placard and the chair chooses the countries he sees first. Everybody tried to be put on the speaker’s list on the first day, and so did we. For us, it was very important to present Japan’s priorities for the agenda setting and to explain the reasons for our preferred agenda setting. By the time the floor was opened by the chair, we raised our placard and it was surely good luck, that the first country that

was mentioned by the chair was: Japan! Thus now we were the first one on the speaker's list, and hurried up to prepare our speech. We feared that most Developing Countries would favor topic number 2 and the majority in the *General Assembly* is represented by them. To our surprise, the motion of one of the delegations to adopt the setting of the agenda passed. The agenda therefore stayed in the same way that it was: At first topic 1, then topic 2 and at last topic 3. Sadly, after the agenda setting was done, a new speaker's list was reopened and we were no longer on the first place. Unfortunately we found ourselves on place 70 and we were lucky enough to at least be on the speaker's list at all, even though at that day we were not able to deliver our speech.

On the second day, we started at 2 pm and were in session until 10.30 pm. We spent most of the day with informal caucusing, and it was very interesting to meet other delegates and hear more about their positions. Japan's main position on the first topic was to underline the importance and positive impact of FDIs on economic development and, recognizing that Developing Countries still receive a very small percentage of worldwide FDI, to help them improve the situation in their country. Very quickly we found a powerful group of allies to work with: mostly the G8 and its "friends" (Israel, New Zealand, Australia). These are countries whose position on the topics as well as economic situation is very similar to Japan's. Their opinion is certainly of utmost importance for all other countries in the GA 2nd, and that is why we decided to work on a joint position. To be honest, even though we would share the same ideas and opinions, the team work was rather difficult. Although this group had a lot of common interests, there was a lot of resistance from the Russian Federation and China on some crucial points, e.g. "good governance", "human rights", "transparency", "free trade" and others. It was very difficult to reach a common position, but it was also very satisfactory to be able to negotiate one by one and try to convince the other parties of our position. Since the group was very small, we were able to discuss every single sentence of our draft paper and sometimes spent a long time discussing on how to write the most important phrases. The work on the resolution with the G8 and friends did take a long time, mostly because it was very difficult to find a common position and because the Resolution had to be written in a way so that most of the other countries could identify themselves with the Resolution and vote for it. Our most important negotiation partners were the U.S., Australia and Israel. We were lucky not only to be able to work together very well, but also to build up a good interpersonal relationship.



Thursday was truly a "Super Thursday" and Fluffy's, a bakery around the corner as well as Starbucks at the hotel were selling as much coffee as never before. We started our

work at 8.30 am and finished at 11 pm. This day we started to work on a resolution together with Australia, Brunei-Darussalam, Sri Lanka and Costa Rica. This one specialized on creating an organization under the umbrella of *UN Conference on Trade and Development* (UNCTAD) to serve as an international forum to coordinate FDI activities. Japan and some of the members of the “G8 and friends” with very similar positions decided to join forces with the *European Union*, and to support their Resolution. After we had our main ideas in some of the working papers that circulated, we decided that while one of us was going to continue working on changes of the resolutions we were sponsoring, the other one would promote Human Security. Human Security is one of the top priorities of the Japanese Government in foreign policy. We tried our best to explain the concept to as many delegations as possible and tried to insert it in other draft resolutions. We could sadly not include Human Security in all of them, but one thing was for sure: we fulfilled our task of informing each and every Delegation about Human Security and all delegates present at the GA 2nd knew what Human Security is about and would associate Japan with it.

On Friday, the last changes of the draft resolutions were finished and 13 (!) were presented. After noon we entered the voting procedures. It was, quite honestly, very exhausting. We had three roll-call votes, and one can imagine what that means with 192 countries! After all, the GA 2nd passed 10 resolutions (including the “G8 and friends” one and the one we had worked on together with the EU) which all included ideas on how to promote FDIs in Developing Countries, but mostly differed on which organization should be in charge of promoting FDIs. There were only two resolutions that Japan had a problem with (one submitted by China and Russia and another one by Cuba and Venezuela). Japan would not have been happy to see them being passed by the GA 2nd, but fortunately neither of them did pass.

Sadly that was the end of NMUN 2008 for our committee, since there was no time left to discuss the other two topics of the agenda. After so many months of preparation, we could not believe that we were discussing these so familiar topics with delegates that had also done as much research as we did. We had the chance to work in so many different ways, writing together, negotiating, convincing, lobbying, promoting, explaining, all together with many well-prepared people, who never got tired (we didn’t either, because of the generous coffee deliveries by our faculty advisors). We enjoyed this unique experience very much, even though – or may be because – some things worked completely different to the way we expected it and because we had to overcome many unexpected obstacles. All together it was never boring in any way and we are very grateful that we had the chance to make this experience that will leave us with memories for a lifetime.

5.5. Japan at the General Assembly Third Committee

represented by Laura André and Uwe Porwollik

The issues discussed before the *Third Committee of the General Assembly* were:

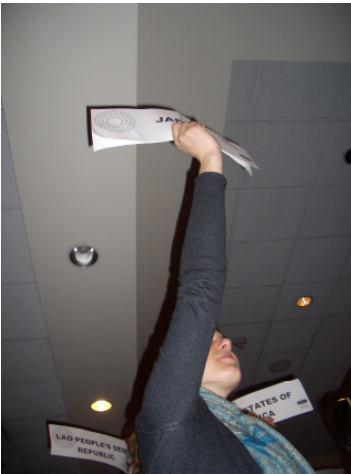
1. Evaluation and implementation of the United Nations Literacy Decade;

2. Cultural Property: Illicit Trafficking and Restitution;
3. Combating the Spread of Illicit Drugs.

On the first day of the conference, the delegates discussed and voted on the question in which order the different topics would be treated. For the Japanese Delegation, there was no question that the *United Nations* Literacy Decade was of highest importance.

Japan is one of the biggest donor states for educational purposes in the world and it has implemented a development aid policy which puts forward the importance of education in order to fight problems, such as hunger and drug abuse.

This opinion was shared by most of the delegations in the committee except the Latin-American countries, the U.S. and Afghanistan, thinking it would be more appropriate to discuss illicit drugs and its trafficking. At first there were vivid discussions that, however, came to an end very soon, as we moved very quickly into voting procedure. After only two hours there was a comfortable majority thinking that the committee should deal first with the UN Literacy Decade, second with drugs and their trafficking and third with cultural property. This outcome fitted perfectly with Japans policy and was therefore welcomed by our Delegation. During these first negotiations we were glad to make important contacts to the U.S. delegation and numerous African countries.



After the agenda was set, substantial discussion could start.

Since many of the other delegations had studied our position paper in advance, we could benefit from the work we put into it. We didn't face any difficulties when we started writing a working paper for a possible resolution together with the U.S. delegation. This resolution was supposed to reveal how to evaluate the success of the UN Literacy Decade until now and how to make it more efficient. Of course, for us there was no resolution possible without mentioning the concept of Human Security, which is an essential concept of the Japanese foreign policy. Another important point was to establish a higher transparency and accountability of the receiving countries with regard to the usage of the funds.

Our following job was harder than we expected in the beginning. The group of delegations wanting to support this working paper increased exponentially and it was therefore no more possible to run a constructive discussion with every single delegation. Particularly problematic countries were Costa Rica, Ecuador and Burkina Faso. It was a big problem to find consensus with these countries concerning the above mentioned issues. Moreover, some countries acted quite ambivalent supporting different working papers with different priorities. This was the reason why the following negotiations took a lot of time. At the beginning we hoped that we would have had the opportunity to also

discuss the second topic on the agenda, the combat of the spread of illicit drugs, but these hopes were dashed on the third day, the “meltdown Thursday”, so called due to the length of this negotiation day. The whole day we tried to merge the numerous working papers to be finally able to go into voting procedure on Friday. Doing this, it was indispensable to overlook all the upcoming changes to prevent that one of our hard negotiated points was dropped in the end. The consultations with the European group were unexpectedly difficult. Having strong ties with Iran, the United Kingdom was afraid to lose an important negotiation partner through the inclusion of the concept of Human Security, which seemed to them being much too controversial. Anyway, after hard negotiations a compromise, even with the Europeans, was found.

We had to vote on four resolutions; three of them were finally adopted. All of them contained our main interests and Japan was proud to have sponsored and initiated one of them.

We were happy about a big success and came back to Berlin bearing in mind that we have improved our negotiation skills. These wouldn't have been possible without the intense and good preparation given by our faculty advisors and their great support during the conference especially through the supply of caffeine.

5.6. Japan at the Economic and Social Council

represented by Malte Gregorzewski and Thomas Heinrich

The *Economic and Social Council* (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the *United Nations*. After the number of the members has been increased in 1965 and 1973 it now comprises 54 states. The membership is attributed on a geographical basis. Fourteen members have to come from Africa, thirteen from Western Europe, eleven from Asia, ten from Latin America and six from Eastern Europe. The ECOSOC acts under the authority of the *General Assembly*. According to Articles 62-66 of the UN-Charter ECOSOC's tasks consist among other things of drafting resolutions and carrying out research in the areas of economy, culture, education, health and other related topics. The following topics were presented to the Delegations during the NMUN 2008 Conference:

1. International Cooperation for Migration Management;
2. Global Management of Water and other Resources;
3. Review of the Role of Civil Society.

After the opening ceremony, at the first meeting the setting of the agenda was to be discussed and eventually voted on. The "Agenda Setting" is of great importance to such a conference, because it sets the course of debate. The Japanese Delegation therefore tried from the beginning to successfully defend its own interests and ideas about the sequence of the topics discussed. Japan's top priority was "Global Management of Water and other Resources", followed by "International Cooperation for Migration Management" and "Review of the Role of Civil Society". All three subjects are highly topical and of enormous sensitivity, which is why the discussion of the issues in ECOSOC seemed

promising. The position of Japan regarding the preference of the issues reflects the recognition that the dispute over scarce water and other raw materials can have dramatic influence on conflicts and wars. In times of increasing raw material shortages, the situation is likely to worsen in the near future. The lack of water and other scarce resources is nowadays one of the main causes of increased worldwide migration. In this context, an important question is the role of civil society. How can and should we adapt it to the changing circumstances? How e.g. can it ensure a better integration of migrants into the society? Japan holds the view that primarily water shortages, but also the depletion of other resources, are the origin of many conflicts and, consequently, refugee flows. Consequently, from a Japanese perspective, the search for effective ways to improve the access to water for the largest population possible is fundamental. For this reason, Japan hosted the Third World Water Forum in 2003 in Kyoto.



The outstanding importance of topic 2 was recognized by most Member States and it thus quickly became clear that a sufficiently large consensus on the agenda would prevail in the body. The ECOSOC could therefore start already on the first day with the substantive discussion of the second issue. The Japanese Delegation here immediately started talks and negotiations

with potential partners. From the start, the U.S. were the main partner of Japan. The talks between both countries were based on mutual respect and it quickly became clear that the cooperation would be fertile and that it would be possible to work on a common resolution. Both countries already worked closely together on water-related issues before the start of the conference. For instance, they initiated the “Clean Water for People Initiative”. At the same time the Japanese Delegation started talks with other Western countries, such as Canada and Germany, as well as the most important neighboring countries of Japan. During the conference, interesting and stimulating discussions were especially led with the People’s Republic of China. Unfortunately the talks did eventually not result in a common position.

Japan’s main objective in the negotiations was to promote the concept of “Human Security”. The almost ten-year existence of the *United Nations* Trust Fund for Human Security did however not change the fact that the negotiating partners have never heard about it before. The Japanese Delegation therefore spent a lot of time explaining and promoting this concept. Thanks to the unobtrusive, polite but firm way in which Japan held the talks the majority of Member States soon knew of the “Trust Fund for Human Security”, his background and tasks and welcomed its existence. The reception of the Fund and the concept of Human Security was so large that this essential part of Japanese foreign policy was included in the working paper of the United States, Canada, Japan and

other partners. Parallel, the Japanese Delegation constantly worked on convincing other countries to join the working paper and on informing about the concept of Human Security. This work was however only partially successful.

The focus of the North-American and Japanese resolution was on the active promotion of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). This is in the interest of Japan, because as the largest donor on water- and sanitation-related issues, Japan wants to be sure that the payments will not soar and PPP's represent an alternative to the increase of the main donor countries contributions. The explicit strengthening of PPPs therefore seemed appropriate to all countries – mainly the donor nations – that participated in the elaboration of the resolution.

At the end of the conference, the chair approved eight working papers. They consequently became draft resolutions. During the course of the longest day of debate, the so-called “melt-down Thursday”, the ECOSOC voted on all draft resolutions. The resolution 2/6, in whose elaboration Japan was decisively involved was adopted with a large majority. This confirmed the good work of the Japanese Delegation, which put a great effort on including its proposals in this resolution and on convincing as many countries of the goodwill and excellent ideas of this resolution. Japan, however, assumed that at the end of the conference two to three draft resolutions with opposing or complementary ideas and priorities were going to be adopted. The fact, that, at the end, all draft resolutions were adopted, was therefore slightly irritating. Especially because some countries evidently behaved completely arbitrary, as their behavior during voting procedure was not in compliance with the ideas and concepts they promoted during the course of the conference. The result was consequently the existence of eight partly conflicting resolutions.

Nevertheless, the Delegation of Japan is happy with the outcome of the conference and looks back satisfied and with joy on a remarkable cooperation with the United States of America. Concluding, Japan's gratitude goes to all delegations that consistently represented their country's position (like China) and enjoyed the time in New York despite the hard work.

5.7. Japan at the Commission on the Status of Women

represented by Despoina Glarou and Carina Siegmund

The *Commission on the Status of Women* (CSW) is a subsidiary functional body of the *Economic and Social Council* (ECOSOC). Its main aim is the promotion of gender equality and the advancement of the position of women in society. Having been a subsidiary committee of the Human Rights Commission initially, it became a full status commission under ECOSOC in 1946.

In the years that followed, the Commission produced respectable work with one of its main milestones being the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW), which was adopted in 1979 by the *General Assembly* and later ratified by 185 Member States. A very important attainment was also the declaration of the UN to devote the years 1976 to 1985 to the *United Nations Decade for Women*:

Equality, Development and Peace. Other great achievements were its general contribution to the advancement of Human Rights, the inclusion of a gender sensitive language in conventions concerning Human Rights and the contribution to the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women*, adopted by the *General Assembly* in 1993. In 1980, it was decided that the CSW should become the foremost body of the UN focusing on the promotion of women's rights. In 1995, the *Fourth World Conference on Women* under the aegis of CSW took place and produced the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*. The *Beijing Declaration* stresses the commitment in the empowerment of women's rights and the elimination of gender discrimination in both public and private life. Moreover, it introduces the *Platform of Action*, which sets a number of actions and changes which lead to the advancement of women and are referred to national and international stakeholders (governments, NGOs etc). The implementation of the measures taken by the *Platform of Action* was to take place by the year 2000, in the Five Year Review of Beijing Conference – 23rd Special Session of the *General Assembly*. In 2005, the CSW in its 49th session made a review and appraisal of the *Platform for Action's* progress until then. However, until today, it still needs to be implemented.

In its annual sessions, recommendations and reports on the promotion of women's rights are being discussed and prepared and are afterwards directed to the Council for review and adoption. These "Agreed Conclusions" are being referred to specific actions that governments, institutions or other stakeholders and entities of the international community need to perform.

Forty-five Member States serve on a four-year term basis, according to "equitable geographic distribution", while representatives are being elected by the Council. Japan's membership expires at the end of 2009 with the close of the fifty-third session.

At NMUN 2008 the agenda was set by the Commission to discussing the topics in the following order:

1. Enhancing Gender Equality Through Financial Strategies;
2. Access to Employment;
3. The Elimination of all Forms of Violence and Discrimination against the Girl Child.

While this was not the agenda favored by Japan at the outset, the Japanese Delegation to the CSW quickly became involved in the discussions on gender equality through financial strategies. Of particular importance here was the definition of financial strategies, with most parties favoring micro credits. Japan worked closely with the delegations from the United States of America and Indonesia, respectively, and was successful in bringing other parties, such as Peru and the Kingdom of the Netherlands into the discussions as well. With such a multifaceted topic, many caucuses and drafts were needed before agreement could be reached, and so it was not until noon of the last day of NMUN that voting began on this topic. Japan had been successful in including the concept of Human Security in all drafts introduced, and finally voted in favor of two of the three papers, with both of these passing with a clear majority. The third proposal had been very vague, with the authors not willing to make amends to suit either Japan or the

United States of America. It duly failed in the voting procedure. The remaining two proposals were united and accepted as one by ECOSOC.

At the outset of the discussion on access to employment,

Japan reminded the participants that this topic had already been discussed to a sufficient extent as an aspect of the topic previously discussed, and having convinced a myriad of states during the previous caucus, asked for a vote to change the order of the remaining two topics. This was achieved, and Japan

again acted as a catalyst in the discussions on this topic. Sadly, only one draft proposal could be written in the remaining time.



Throughout the conference Japan was continually approached by other delegations, asking for the Japanese position. Japan successfully defended the concept of Human Security, and was able to include it in all draft proposals. As a sponsor to two drafts and a signatory to the third draft on financial strategies, Japan was one of the first countries to be asked for approval of changes made to the drafts. Japan was taken seriously as a member of CSW and particularly as a major donor of ODA – indeed there was hardly any difference in how the United States of America and Japan were treated by other delegations. Japan continuously acted both as a leader and as a mediator, for instance asking Human Rights Watch to make a statement on violence and discrimination towards the girl child.

Overall, this was a very successful conference from the perspective of the Japanese Delegation.

5.8. Japan at the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (HABITAT)

represented by Semjon Rens and André Richter

Since 2007, for the first time in history of mankind, the majority of people live in cities. The *UN Human Settlements Programme* (HABITAT) has been established not only to describe this development and to provide knowledge of future trends, but to take concrete actions. Since 2001, it is a full-worth committee of the *United Nations* passing resolutions through the *Economic and Social Council* and consists of 58 Member States. Its seat in Nairobi indicates the close connection to the Developing Countries. Dealing with an estimated one billion slum dwellers worldwide, HABITAT is a main force to turn

the Millennium Development Goals into reality: “Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020.” (Target 11).

Representing Japan always means to be well-prepared and highly focused on both a consensus and a concrete outcome. For decades, Japan belongs to the main contributors of this program. Furthermore, Japan is proud to host the Asian regional office of HABITAT in Fukuoka. All things considered, the two of us representing Japan turned this pride into motivation to act as “Japanese” as possible.

Confronted with the first task, the setting of the agenda, we were ready to defend our proposed agenda:

1. The Provision of Housing for Displaced Persons;
2. Reversing the “Urban Penalty:” Empowering Vulnerable Urban Populations;
3. Promoting Public Safety in Urban Areas.



Being well-prepared we could have just relaxed and presented our original speech and arguments. But we listened attentively to every speaking delegation and got hold of their positions. In order to reach a consensus and get everyone on board, we adjusted the speech, knowing that it would serve as a basis for the following negotiations and also be deemed as

our first appearance on the stage. It is important for Japan to deal with “the provision of housing for displaced persons” in order to avoid conflicts between states. But after an unexpected diplomatic move of the African Union, “slum upgrading” was chosen to be the first topic on the agenda. Still, Japan fully welcomed this approach to deal with vulnerable urban populations, taking into account that the “Human Security” concept”, a basic pillar of the Japanese foreign policy, might be the right instrument to treat this topic.

Having concluded the setting of the agenda, HABITAT immediately jumped into work and opened up a new speakers’ list. Bearing in mind the will to act due to our responsibility, we managed to be in the first half of it, what can be seen as an advantage. But it took just three speakers to interrupt the official debate and to move into informal caucusing. We were always open to new ideas and worked closely together with the G 8 states. It was mainly the United States who was interested in our ideas, and we decided to

meet each other the next day even before conference would start. The Asian group was also a reliable partner, whose first negotiation with us laid the foundation for our close cooperation.

Being confronted with such continuous tasks, we never let go our topic for the whole week. Speeches had to be arranged; there was a lot of preparation to be done. We got up earlier to meet other delegations and were often in the last group to leave the room in order to work on a common resolution. We never quit or hid from a discussion, even if the positions of the different groups were hardening. We always tried to convince others by arguments instead of the political strength Japan possesses, appreciating each single country and their policy. E.g., there was Iran, fully integrated into the *Asian Group* and making really good proposals. There were also countries like Indonesia, defending our position against attacks by India due to a misunderstanding. Due to our activities in nearly all of the groups, almost everyone came in contact with the Human Security concept. However, not foreshadowing the consequences of this topic, a big controversy aroused. Some countries felt that their national sovereignty was affected, and others just did not understand the concept. We went through a hard time until finally, one of our speeches helped explaining our policy. Finding not absolute but wide acceptance for our proposals, we turned back to work. As a major sponsor of a resolution dealing with the financing of projects, we participated in the continuous process to improve the resolution, so as to win new partners and signatories. Knowing that China would be a crucial partner, we offered our connections - the official ones and the human factor. Also, charm is a way of diplomacy!

Our proposals were simple, but nevertheless hard to accomplish. We called for more efforts to fight corruption, better sanitation systems and a consideration of long-term effects: Economic help, educational projects, perspectives and the guaranteeing of each and every single one his human rights. To put it in a nutshell, we asked for sustainable urbanization under the guise of human security. In general, everyone agreed. But it took hours and hours of informal debate to achieve a unified position whether the institution, in order to control the fight against corruption, should be able to enter a country without permission. Finally, due to our compromise, the inspectors of the institution have to ask for access to a country.

After one hard week, six draft resolutions entered into voting procedure. Japan could have lived with any outcome strengthening individuals, but since voting procedure is also policy and diplomacy, we had to abstain twice due to our credibility. We were contented that all six resolutions, all with high level, were passed, seeing all the hard work has paid off. Each resolution covers a specified topic, and Japan's position is represented in each one of them. With pleasure, we could let go the exertion after the approximated one and a half hour of voting procedure, knowing we did our best to represent a very admirable country: Japan.

5.9. Japan at the International Atomic Energy Agency

represented by Natascha Braumann and Hikmat Maleh

The IAEA does not only have the most unpronounceable acronym in the *United Nations* family, it is also a committee represented at NMUN by 144 Member States and one country with Observer Status (Togo). The IAEA is an agency with special affiliation status to the UN *General Assembly*. Its work within the field of nuclear energy is based on the three pillars of safeguards & verification, safety & security, science & technology. The IAEA's activities usually go unnoticed in its Vienna headquarters, but the *Agency* and its Director-General Mohammed ElBaradei have been in the spotlight over the past years through the handling of the crisis in both Iran and the DPRK.

At NMUN 2008, the proposed agenda was the following:

1. Reintegrating Iran into International Regulations and Agreements;
2. Implementation and Strengthening of the Non-Proliferation Treaty;
3. Nuclear Materials Management.

Iran and Nuclear Materials Management concerned the safety & security pillar, and the Strengthening of the *Non-Proliferation Treaty* (NPT) related to the safeguards & verification pillar.

It should be mentioned that we benefited from a briefing about the IAEA during our UN study tour before the actual start of the conference. Tracy Brown, who works at the IAEA, told us in a very diplomatic fashion about the work in the *Agency*, its achievements and its difficulties.

We arrived in the first committee session to find a small room at the disposal of the committee. No tables were available and delegates were seated in great proximity. Furthermore, only one delegate from each country could enjoy the comfort of a seat, the partner remaining on the floor. The room was changed later in the conference and the new one, spacious and well-equipped, surely contributed to improving the work of the committee.

The first important step after an interminable roll-call in the committee was to set the agenda. This did not take a very long time, as a coalition of nuclear and non-nuclear states quickly emerged to favor the NPT over Iran, an issue that was felt as only concerning a few very involved states. While the nuclear states were mainly interested in the non-proliferation aspect of the NPT, the non-nuclear states wanted to concentrate on the sharing of nuclear energy. Another expected division occurred between states possessing nuclear weapons and others. The former countries were mostly concerned with the safeguards and verification side of the NPT, while the latter insisted on the commitment to a nuclear-weapon free world and the obligation to disarm.

Japan's tragic history gives it a special role and a moral authority in the field of atomic disarmament. As the only country to ever suffer the devastating effects of nuclear weapons, Japan has a duty to remind the world of the destructive power of such arms. Japan is a very strong advocate of nuclear disarmament and has been presenting the UN

General Assembly with a resolution on the matter every year for nearly two decades. While Japan does not possess nor pursue nuclear weapons, it is still dependent on nuclear energy. The peaceful use of nuclear energy, and hence a strong safeguards and verification system, are important to Japan's policy.

In the IAEA committee, Japan's role could therefore be seen as that of a moderator between countries focusing on disarmament and the ones worried about non-proliferation. Indeed, this is the way we proceeded in the committee, working as a bridge in a compromise-searching way between the various factions. Interestingly, the different



groups and alliances in the committee were not divided along geographical lines. There was no true African, Latin-American, EU, Asian or Arab League group. Rather, many like-minded countries started writing working papers together. Not only were these groups heterogeneous in their composition, but the communication between them quickly led to an informal division of the work; each group focused on one issue that was identified as problematic and addressed it specifically in its working paper.

The two of us definitely benefited from our language abilities when creating strong ties to other delegates. We obviously had a privileged access to German-speaking delegations and also formed a strong and precious alliance with the U.S. delegation coming from Paris. While English remains the official working language of NMUN, other languages were still spoken during breaks or unofficial meetings and allow stronger ties. In forming close ties to various countries, we had access to a number of working groups that we were not directly involved in. This was the case with Ghana that was drafting a very interesting draft report segment, or Kazakhstan, who had also gathered a dedicated and like-minded group. Through close ties to those two countries – maintained continuously with written notes even during formal debate – we had friendly and competent points of contact for those working groups.

Whereas the division of topics among the various groups proved efficient in the first days of the conference, it was put under strain as the end of committee session approached. Some delegations, worried about awards they may or may not get, then started overlooking the search for compromise and pushing for their working papers to be turned in as draft reports as quickly as possible. We tried to prevent this from happening as much as we could, so that mergers of working papers or changes to them could take place before them irreversibly becoming drafts. However, at the time of voting on the different drafts, they still contained many redundancies and sometimes contradicted themselves. The final report is therefore very long, and many of its segments were not accepted unanimously.

As it is often the case in MUN conferences, some countries grew to a role and a stand that they would not dream of in actual negotiations. We could witness the Czech Republic being the closest partner of the U.S., or the Democratic Republic of the Congo leading the developing countries. On the other side, China or France were completely underrepresented and remained out of most of the negotiations. A few countries also were blatantly out of character: at some point, Israel distributed a working paper drafted with the Arab states calling for a nuclear-weapon free zone in the Middle East! It was only after we brought the U.S.'s attention to this that they could persuade the Israeli delegation that this did not necessarily reflect their foreign policy.

Some countries, known for blocking negotiations within the IAEA, took their role very seriously. Sudan motioned for closure of debate, a motion that requires a roll-call vote from the 144 Member States. Despite the chairs' efforts to bring the Sudanese delegate to withdraw his motion, he held firm "with all due respect".

Sudan was also responsible for another incident during voting procedure, amidst confusion on the kind of majority required to pass a draft report: majority of those voting or absolute majority? Unhappy with the outcome of the voting, Sudan challenged the Committee Director who was unable to calmly quote the relevant article from the rules of procedure. What followed was a 30-minute agora-fashioned debate, during which every delegate tried to explain the rules to Sudan, who would not budge, while the Director was shouting "Decorum, Decorum" and striking his gavel. Switzerland's offer to mediate was strongly rejected by Sudan, who could only be brought to reason by the explanations of NMUN's Director-General.

Voting procedure could then resume and we were very pleased that those report segments that Japan had been closely involved in working on – had either sponsored or become a signatory to – all passed with a comfortable majority. At the same time, we were also relieved that those report segments which we felt would have detracted from the quality of the final report were not included, with one exception. We take this as a proof that our lobbying work was effective. After all, until the very last minute, we had rallied support for those report segments we considered important and of high quality, and also pointed out the weaknesses in flaws of those segments we did not, or could not, support.

And despite the turbulent voting procedure, the final report of the *International Atomic Energy Agency* is a respectable outcome of several days' hard work in debating, negotiating, drafting and lobbying. The Delegation of Japan experienced a challenging and exciting conference and proudly motioned for adjournment of the debate until next year.

5.10. Japan at the United Nations Environment Programme

represented by Kai Striebing and Tse-yu Su

The Japanese Delegation stood for environmental progress in the deliberations of the *United Nations Environment Programme* (UNEP). Established in 1972, UNEP plays an increasingly important role in finding solutions for global environmental problems. The Governing Council of UNEP consists of 58 members who are elected according to the

UN's system of regional distribution. In its meeting, three topics were on the original agenda:

1. Protecting Water Resources in a Changing World;
2. Post-disaster and Post-conflict Environmental Programs;
3. Chemicals Management.

The tempo of agenda setting session was going really fast. Almost every delegation had in mind to vote for “water topic” as the first order. It is a multidimensional topic that contains a broad scope of different issues and hence every region has its own interest in it. As a result, not too much time wasted and the order was set, determined by a clear majority that “Protecting Water Resources in a Changing World” came out to be the agenda topic one, a result expected and welcomed by Japanese Delegation.



It is also the only topic that we dealt with for the upcoming days. The Japanese Delegation strived for the creation of an “International Arbitration and Mediation for environmental progress”, also known as I AM for environmental progress. We remembered the words of Ban Ki-moon who urged us to think ahead and find new, creative and progressive solutions and thus decided to pursue the idea of an international arbitration and mediation mechanism specifically

dealing with environment-related conflicts. A new institution to prevent upcoming environment-related wars. An institution to secure peace.

Quickly, groups formed focusing on different topics: climate change, water pumps, technology transfer... Instead of working on several topics at the same time, we chose to focus on drafting our own resolution. We did not target regional groups or particular developed countries as working partners. The partnership forming was topic-oriented. Therefore, we ended up working with Chad, Czech Republic, and Zimbabwe. Working inside a smaller sponsor group had its merit. Flexibility was one of them. The quick-wittedness of Chadian diplomats brought about great laughter. The cooperation between sponsors was very lively. With more and more discussions, our big concept gradually came into details. I AM stands for centralizing knowledge and advising countries when they are experiencing an environmental problem; an effective, knowledgeable, judicial process when two countries give their express written consent to have this binding judgment; a complete process of dealing with environment-related conflicts.

Once the working paper came into concrete shape, the real task began. All the sponsors walked around the room, passed around our working paper, and sought for signatories. We talked our idea to others, and tried to dissolve the rising concerns. At the end of the

day, it proved quite fruitful, many countries considered it unconventional and interesting, and actually liked it. We got 19 signatories.

However, while getting signatories was one thing, keeping close and immediate track of them was another. Most of the delegations were busy working on the draft resolutions of their own. There are EU, working on a resolution promoting Environmentally Sound Technologies, or big countries like Brazil, the Russian Federation, and the U.S., calling for creating a technology transfer base. Groups were spreading around inside and outside the room. Even in a smaller committee like UNEP, trying to find a delegation wasn't such an easy task.

Some words slowly fermented: one of the key words was sovereignty. It was quite an effort to assure the other delegations that such a resolution would never infringe the principle of sovereignty, a principle that Japan greatly upholds.

In the process of persuading other delegations, we constantly revised our working paper. E.g., when we realized that most countries have problems with our wording "final and binding", we had it changed to "without further appeal", in order to detour from their concerns, but at the same time, not to lose the essential spirit of our resolution. However, this was not enough, and soon some important countries (e.g. the U.S. and China) that have a different conception of environmental protection and international jurisdiction than Japan has, were starting to work against us.

Not surprisingly, most of the sessions were conducted under informal caucus, leaving little time for formal debate, but we still managed to put Japan on the speakers' list twice. The first time, the Japanese Delegation successfully drew attention to the necessity of the establishment of I AM for environmental progress; while the second time, right before the speakers' list was closed, our Delegation tried to "break the myths", namely, that 1. indeed I AM has great connection with solving "Water" conflict, even when it does not limit itself only to dealing with water conflict; and 2. it does fall under the mandate of UNEP.

The result, however, indicated that myths remained. Eleven draft resolutions were handed in. Ten were passed in very quick voting procedure. Our draft resolution was the one that did not with a result of 15 in favor, 17 abstentions and 21 against. The fact that big countries like Brazil or China voted against it was not surprising, since it was in line with the position they consistently posed during the meeting. However, when some of our signatories turned against us, we didn't expect that to come. But this proved that, politics, after all, is ever-changing.

5.11. Japan at the United Nations Population Fund

represented by Lina Claudi and Wiebke Wodni

The history of this committee traces back to 1966 when a small trust fund was established by the UN *General Assembly*. It was created to be a helpful source for information on population-related issues. But this trust fund did not evolve into a committee until two years later, administered by the *UN Development Programme*. It is

guided by ECOSOC's policies and also reports there. A major turning point was the *International Conference on Population and Development*, held in Cairo in 1994, concerning the way population issues were going to have to be addressed: a correlation between poverty, health education, reproductive health, the status of women, and the environment was established. UNFPA was charged with the implementation of the *Conference's Programme of Action* and formulated a mission statement, which is directed towards "the right of every woman, man, and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity".

At NMUN 2008, we were given three urgent topics to be addressed by the current members of the *Executive Board*:

1. Enhancing Family Planning Capabilities and Educational Programs;
2. Eliminating Child Marriages;
3. Addressing Sexual Violence in Emergency Situations.

Enhancing Family Planning Capabilities and Educational Programs mainly focuses on the vicious circle of poverty, reproductive education, and high birth rates. As it is impossible for poor women to receive a proper health education and sufficient possibilities to prevent pregnancy, they have a greater number of children. Families usually do not have enough resources to nourish every child. Another aspect is the unbelievable high frequency of sexually transmitted diseases. All these factors contribute to an exacerbating poverty of the already poor.



Secondly, our schedule proposed to discuss Eliminating Child Marriage in coherence with early childbearing. The practice of wedding persons under the legal age represents a grave human rights violation and Japan, therefore, believes that this issue needs to gain global relevance. The rights of the child, in Japan secured by several acts against sexual exploitation, child prostitution, and child abuse,

have to be addressed by several UN programs and specialized agencies. Furthermore, we believe that needs-oriented services and community-based projects are a comprehensive approach of changing the situation in a culturally sensitive manner.

Thirdly, Addressing Sexual Violence in Emergency Situations belonged to the committee's concerns, since it poses a mayor threat to peace and security in the world. Sexual violence is a common instrument of war, directed mainly against women and the girl child in order to intimidate or take revenge. This is where Human Security, our core

concept for solving problems, plays a vital role. Japan believes that stable families and communities can only exist if these basic units are protected with regard to special vulnerabilities and threats in emergency situations.

Although we considered, in accordance with Japan's foreign policy, the latter topic most urgent and wanted to integrate a gender perspective into UN Peacekeeping Operations, the *Executive Board* decided by majority on the first day of conference that the former topic was to be discussed first, the third second, and the second topic last. After this decision we had two and a half days left to concentrate on possible strategies how the world could become a better place for each individual. Committee work consisted mostly of informal caucuses in which small groups joined, not necessarily according to their interest or region how it can be usually observed, but to work out different parts of a report. Hence, there was no ambition to draft separate papers from the beginning on, which is why the *Executive Board* adopted this report unanimously and within about three minutes. Since every delegate worked on it seriously, the report turned out to be six pages. Although we had compiled the main ideas within about a day, we were not able to address any other issue due to bureaucratic obligations.

The simulated Populations Fund recognized and recommended mutual responsibility between developing and developed states, the promotion of educational programs and public awareness, establishment and stabilization of research institutions, a reproductive healthcare plan, and cultural sensitivity. Japan had success in changing parts that are not compatible with its foreign policy interests and in integrating our approach as a recommendation to address population issues by the UN: "...through economic growth, women are empowered and protected and given the possibility to plan their life independently. Therefore, a Human Security driven approach is vital..."

5.12. Japan at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

represented by Ada Jonusyte and Matthias A. Simnacher

At NMUN 2008, Japan was represented by Ada Jonusyte and Matthias Simnacher in the *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East* (UNRWA). This specialized agency focuses on neutral humanitarian help in order to provide welfare and human development for the Palestine Refugees in the Middle East. It is the largest UN mission in the region and the main employer for about 30.000 Palestinians.

This year at UNRWA, three issues were to be debated:

1. Ensuring the Continuation of Services to Palestinian Refugees during Conflict;
2. Promoting Good Governance through Refugee Programs;
3. Outlining Strategies to Build Capacity of UNRWA.

The Agency reports directly to the *General Assembly* (GA) and to the Technical Assistance Board of the *Economic and Social Council* (ECOSOC). Our task during NMUN was to prepare a report which was then introduced to ECOSOC.

Originally, UNRWA has 21 members which can be classified into two categories: donor countries (mainly Western countries) and the neighboring host countries of Palestine (Arab countries). Japan, as the second biggest contributor to this Agency, belongs to the first group. Being a non-Western and non-military power, it has good relationships with the neighboring states. Due to certain reasons, Spain and Sweden were missing, so the number of delegations with a right to vote was 19. This absence was disadvantageous for our Delegation since it changed the balance within this committee in favor of the Arab countries. There were also several delegations which only had observer status: Palestine and NGO's like Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch (only the last NGO was represented at the NMUN conference).

On the very first day, we easily succeeded to set the agenda of the committee in our preferred order: 1, 3, 2. This proposal found a broad consensus, due to a strained situation of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza strip after the attempt to breach the borders in January 2008. This and many other examples did show that UNRWA needs a theoretical framework to effectively deal with a crisis situation. However, soon it became clear that delegations understood the definition of conflict very differently. The main question was to make it clear whether UNRWA would be responsible for emergency situations in this Middle East conflict only or if it should deal with the overall continuing conflict since 1948, the founding year of the State of Israel. A common decision was not found, so the Agency split into several working groups, which were working on housing, water supply, financing, cooperation with other regional and international organizations, as well as a working group with a focus on a humanitarian approach dealing with crisis situations.



Japan's Delegation did sponsor housing and humanitarian approach draft report segments and was a signatory of draft segments on financing and water supply issues. Our Delegation focused on implementation of the Human Security concept which is an overall priority of Japan's foreign policy. As an important contributor to the UNRWA budget we were also tracking developments in the financing working group. To reach our aims the Delegation worked hard trying to promote the concept of Human Security by explaining its meaning and usefulness.

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For UNRWA, it is relevant because of its complex mandate in the security-troubled region which needs a special interpretation in emergency situations. The main problem UNRWA has to deal with is its mandate: to provide relief for only Palestine refugees.

This is practically impossible and not acceptable from a humanitarian point of view during a crisis situation. The Agency has already supplied humanitarian help for people in need, most recently during the Lebanon war in 2006. That is why our Delegation found it important to have a link to the Human Security concept in UNRWA's emergency strategy. The draft report segment was also dealing with measures to help vulnerable refugee groups like women and children and to help victims through psychological relief during post-conflict periods.

Unexpectedly, the only extremely controversial proposal was the one introducing the concept of human security. The concept and its consequences became the main focus of UNRWA for a whole last day while the other 5 draft report segments were not debated in public at all. Within the committee, delegations started to work along regional groups lines, which was not very beneficial for Japan. The whole *European Union* (EU) group acted out of character and surprisingly decided to abstain from this draft report segment – the humanitarian approach. Arab countries had increasing concerns speaking about women's rights and expressed their decision to abstain or vote against Japan's and its allies' proposal. Due to the lack of time, it was not possible for Japan to change the situation before the committee turned to the voting procedures.

This draft report segment was the very first accepted by the dais and therefore was voted upon first. The atmosphere was rather tense as it became clear that there were only five members voting for the segment. The largest group of the Agency abstained from the draft paper and it was then asked for the votes against it. As the chair announced that the number of "No" votes is only four, it was an unbelievable outcome for Japan. Even a Member State of the EU immediately complained about the decision of the chair, claiming that there were five votes against the draft segment. The chair, however, did not entertain the motion and we went through the remaining six drafts which were all adapted without any serious opposition.

After this challenging experience the Delegation congratulated its allies and expressed its satisfaction of the cooperation and the final outcome of voting procedures. The Agency began to debate on the second agenda topic – Outlining Strategies to Build Capacity of UNRWA – but due to the nearing end of the simulation, delegates were not able to come up with any substantial results.

On the very last day of NMUN, on 22 March, the UNRWA report was presented by the committee chair to the ECOSOC: The segment on the Human Security concept was mentioned twice as an important part of the Agency's new strategy in crisis situations. Additionally we could prove that NMUN has an educational purpose: after an exhaustive discussion about the humanitarian approach we were sure that everyone learnt something about Human Security.

5.13. Japan at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

represented by Doreen Meier and Jonathan Ries

The *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* (APEC) was established in 1989 in Australia. Japan was a founding member. The APEC currently has 21 Member Economies, most of

them with a coastline on the Pacific Ocean. This multilateral forum represents about 56% of the world GDP and almost 50% of world trade. The aim of the cooperation is to reduce trade barriers, increase investments throughout the region, foster interdependence and prosperity. But no Member State is required to enter into any binding obligations with the other Member States since commitment is voluntary and decisions are supposed to be made by consensus to achieve open and free trade. Dialogue and respect among its members for the view of all participants play an important role. APEC Members take individual and collective actions to open their markets and promote economic growth.

The provisional agenda of the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation* at the NMUN 2008 Conference included the following topics:

1. Development of Agriculture and Bio-Technology;
2. The Fight against Corruption;
3. Linking Tourism and Sustainable Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Before walking into our conference room we were slightly nervous but also excited about the coming days. Compared to other committees in which Japan was represented, our committee was rather small with only about 40 people being there. Entering the room some people had already arrived and were getting to know each other. From this moment on, we were Japanese delegates – something we have been working towards for a whole semester – and immediately started talking to the other delegates and trying to find out their positions. The first official meeting of our committee was about the agenda setting. But first, our chair briefly explained the rules of procedure and how a report has to be structured before we went into formal session. Once the speakers' list was opened every country was eager to deliver a speech – so was Japan. After listening to some speeches about the preferred agenda we quickly moved into informal caucus. There it became obvious that the APEC was almost split in half about the choice for the first agenda item. After several more informal caucuses comprising already some coalition building and a lot of convincing, as well as some more formal speeches, Japan happily welcomed the following agenda: (3), (2), (1). The third topic was what we had wished for. After a successful first day of holding speeches and negotiating we were looking forward to the second day, when the work on the reports was about to start.

With the work on the draft reports the committee split up in smaller groups of coalitions that were to be expected and each group worked on a different aspect of Sustainable Tourism. Japan and the United States quickly assembled all J.U.S.CANZ countries (Japan, U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand) to work on a joint proposal. We were joined by countries such as Peru, Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines. This draft was mainly focusing on the economic aspects of Sustainable Tourism and the use and advancement of public private partnerships in the region. Together with the U.S., we were the key initiators of this draft. Since all decisions in APEC are to be made by consensus we were, from the beginning, in constant consultations and negotiations with the other countries, especially with Russia and China. After some modifications in wording we could secure their support for our proposal. Additionally, we were working with the other groups on proposals concerning educational and environmental aspects. Apart from the aforementioned topics, Russia and China worked intensely on a draft

involving the possibility of tourism furthering the development of rural areas. A fifth proposal evolved around eco-tourism. At the end of the second day the first drafts were handed in to the chair for review. Some revisions had to be made before they were accepted as draft report segments the next day, because we were all not so familiar with writing a report. Over the course of the third day, all five drafts were to become draft report segments. It was a pleasant experience that everyone in our committee was keen on giving every draft the chance to become officially acknowledged as such to be able to be voted on. Over the whole drafting process as well as the amendment process Japan succeeded in introducing the concept of human security - a human-centered approach to further the well-being, the security, the dignity, and the empowerment of individuals – which is a cornerstone of our foreign policy. After explaining and discussing the importance of this approach for the Asia-Pacific region we were very confident and pleased to see human security included in every draft report. At the end of the third day, Japan sponsored the draft report segment on economic development and public private partnerships. We also co-sponsored the drafts on education and on the environment.



After some negotiations and changes we gladly became signatories to the remaining two drafts on rural development and on ecotourism.

The whole committee was eager to work effectively to move on to the second topic of fighting corruption. Therefore the voting procedure started in the early morning on the fourth day but it

nevertheless took more time than we expected because of the amendments that we had to vote on. In the end the drafts on rural development and education were accepted by a vote by acclamation. Our draft and the one about eco-tourism were also successful with only a few abstentions. The draft involving environmental measures failed with one vote against it. Interesting in this case was that the initiators – Japan, Peru, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia – were able to secure the support of the U.S., Russia, and China, at least in a way that they would not vote against it. It became apparent that one should not forget about the smaller countries. This last draft was vetoed by Brunei Darussalam!

After having been rather successful on the first topic with four draft report segments accepted and only three more hours left, all countries fully committed themselves to the second topic on the agenda: Fighting Corruption. Although there was not much time left, our committee was able to hand in two drafts to the chair for review. We were highly involved in both because this is an important and sensitive topic for Japan. There was no

voting procedure on these two drafts because we were running out of time and therefore the meeting was to be adjourned.

Our committee was very devoted to produce reports with a substantial outcome. The aspect/motto of APEC of dialogue and respect among its members for the view of all participants was present at all times during negotiations and discussions.



6. Award for the NMUN 2008 Delegation

“Outstanding Position Paper Award”



A Position Paper is a kind of essay comprising the country's policies concerning the topics on the provisional agenda. As the Position Papers are to be handed in a month before the Conference, we started working on them very early and we put a lot of time and efforts in them. So we were all happy to learn that we received an award for our Position Papers.



Participation of Freie Universität Berlin in the National Model United Nations Conference 1995 - 2008

Republic of Lithuania (1995)

Syrian Arab Republic (1996)

Kingdom of Norway (1997)

Republic of South Africa (1998), Award "Honorable Mention"

The People's Republic of Bangladesh (1999)

The Republic of Turkey (2000), Award "Honorable Mention"

The Argentine Republic (2001)

The Republic of Poland (2002)

The International Council on Social Welfare (2004)

The Republic of Guatemala (2005), Award "Honorable Mention"

The United Arab Emirates (2006), "Outstanding Position Paper Award", Award "Honorable Mention"

The Kingdom of Morocco (2007), "Outstanding Position Paper Award", Award "Honorable Mention"

Japan (2008), "Outstanding Position Paper Award"

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