



# APLMUN GAZETTE

Issue No. 8

14th & 15th July, 2023

## FOREWORD



On behalf of the organising committee for the 8th edition of the APL MUN, the organising team extends a warm welcome. We have worked extensively over the last 6 months to make this MUN a successful one. With 6 committees discussing engrossing agendas and a special committee reserved for the best of the best, we hope that this opportunity has helped our delegates to develop their debating skills and welcome new perspectives. Having seven external chairs as part of our executive board as well as showcasing an impressive 300+ delegates hasn't been an easy feat and it was possible only because of the relentless support of the organising committee, members of the executive boards and heads of senior school. We, the APL MUN team, are proud of where our Model UN stands today.

This year's edition of the APL Gazette consists of a plethora of artistic representations of this year's APL MUN '23 conference- articles by young

reporters of APL Global documenting the happenings in each committee; light-hearted sketches from our illustrators and candid photos from our photography team and much more. We hope you enjoy this edition of the gazette as much as we do.

*Written by Divya V, Arpana Shankar,  
Rahaan Alexander  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*

“In case a bio warfare takes place between India and China, Nepal would be severely affected as it shares borders with these two countries.”

-WHO

“So you're telling me COVID- 19 was an experiment?”

-WHO

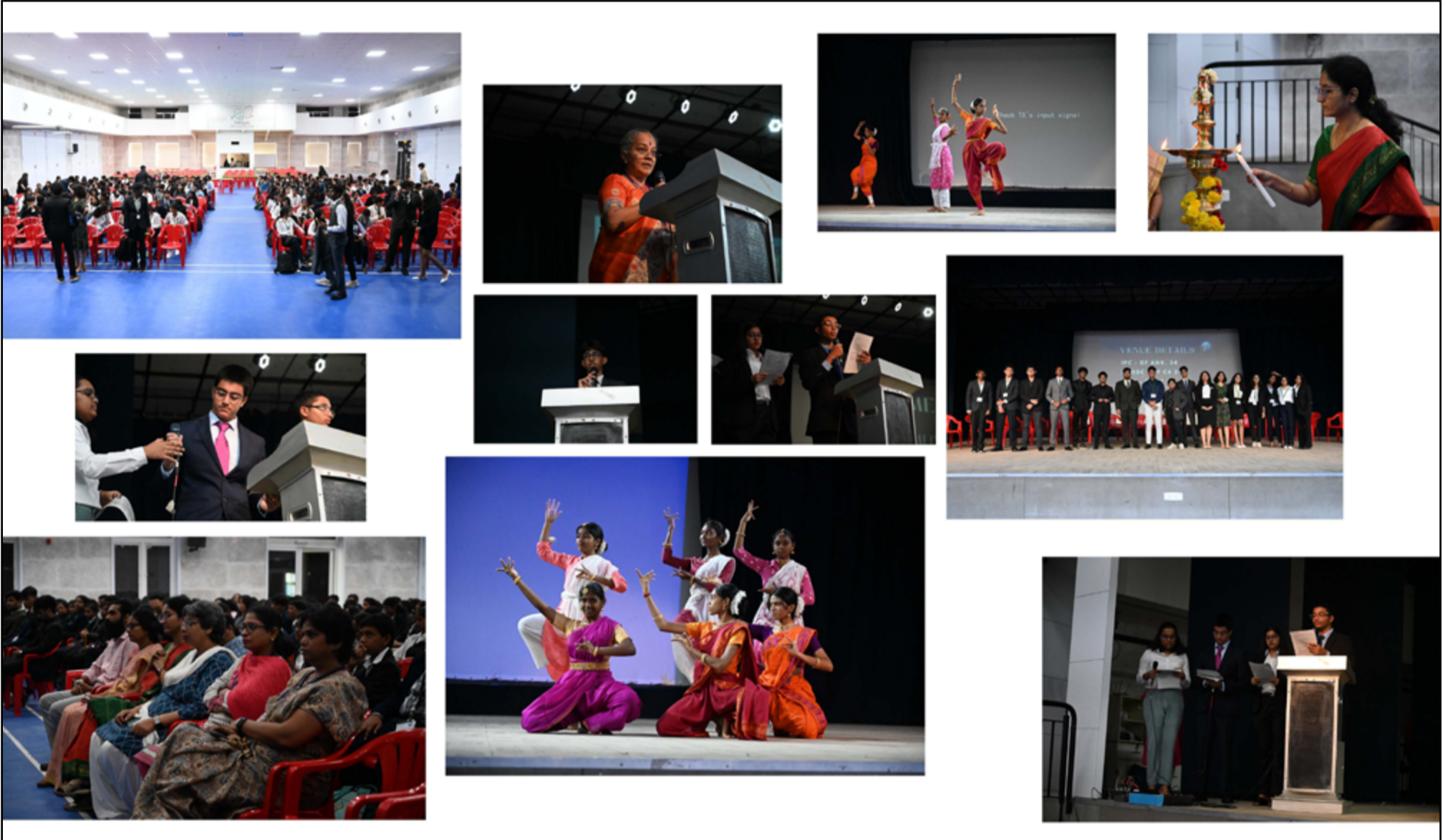
“The government of the People's Republic of China has contributed enough to stop the Fentanyl crisis as it has banned the production of one of the most useful drug from a medical perspective so the delegation of China believes the USA should man up and own up to it's problems.”

-UNODC

“We were in a situation of national crisis, come on!”

- WHO

# Opening Ceremony



APLMUN 2023 commenced with great enthusiasm, marking the first offline Model United Nations hosted by APL Global School in three years. The inauguration ceremony witnessed a vibrant gathering of over 300 delegates from 40 schools, all impeccably dressed and brimming with energy. As the delegates settled into their seats, the auspicious lamp was lit by Ms. Gomathi Prabhakar, head of senior school (CAIE), heralding a momentous occasion.

This was followed by an eagerly awaited keynote address delivered by our esteemed principal, Ms. Sarija Santhosh. Her speech conveyed the important values instilled in participants of the MUN- peace, empathy, collaboration, integrity and much more.

An awe-inspiring invocation dance was then performed by the talented students of APL Global School, which combined classical and western styles, leaving everyone present speechless. Following the invocation dance, the esteemed Executive Board members and Organising Committee members of APLMUN 2023 were introduced and acknowledged for their extensive work.

To top it off, the deputy secretary general, Sathvik Murali, and the secretary general, Lochan Jhunjhunwala, were introduced. Their speeches stressed on how the APLMUN'23 will be an opportunity for growth, learning, and creating lifelong connections.

With that, the secretary general hits the gavel, announcing the start of a transformative two days of debate.

*Written by: Arpana Shankar, Rahaan Alexander, Vedanth Ramji*

*Photos by: Oorja, Vijay Meenakshi*

*Collage by: Arpana Shankar, Rahaan Alexander*

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Secretary General - ***Lochan Jhunjunwala***

Deputy Secretary General - ***Sathvik K Murali***

Head of Organising Committee - ***Divya V***

Chair of the UNSC - ***Dhruv Gadgil***

Vice Chair of the UNSC - ***Madhav Menon***

Co-Chair of the UNEP - ***Rhea Arul***

Co-Chair of the UNEP - ***Ashni Sharma***

Director of the UNEP - ***Varun Jeyanthilal***

Co-Chair of the UNODC - ***Hrishikesh Mohan***

Co-Chair of the UNODC - ***Niyati Kumar***

Director of the UNODC - ***Tanika Kapa***

Chair of the UNHRC - ***Aaryan Anand***

Vice-Chair of the UNHRC - ***Shivnarayan***

Rapporteur of UNHRC - ***Rishabh Jain***

Chair of WHO - ***Kedaar Vignesh***

Vice-Chair of WHO - ***Jasmitha***

Head of IPC - ***Jada Adarrsh***

Deputy Head of IPC - ***Nandhitha Bhagavathy***

Website Developer - ***Vedanth Ramji***

IT Team - ***Ishaan Sathyakumar, Natesh Kumar***



# Day 1

The detrimental effects of fast fashion on the environment have gained widespread recognition in recent years. With its high water consumption and significant contribution to carbon emissions, the fast-fashion industry plays a monumental role in exacerbating climate change and various ecological issues. Consequently, finding solutions to mitigate the impact of fast fashion on the environment and implementing policies to regulate its inner workings are crucial for combating climate change, pollution, and other environmental challenges.

The UNEP session commenced at 9:45 am, with Spain motioning to open the floor for discussion. Denmark took the initiative by suggesting that taxing landfills could help decelerate climate change. Recognizing the need for a transparent supply chain, the USA presented a capitalist perspective on the issue. Indonesia and Ukraine expressed their receptiveness towards sustainable development, aligning with the global commitment to address environmental concerns. China played a vital role in re-centring the committee's focus, emphasizing that countries must make genuine efforts to bring about real change in the environment. Echoing this sentiment, South Korea and Romania conveyed their dedication to creating a sustainable future and raised the topics of recycling, upcycling, and zero waste. The UK, Portugal, and Brazil also showcased their commitment to achieving a net-zero economy by 2050. Ireland prioritized raising awareness about the harmful effects of fast fashion. Taking a more proactive stance, France and Portugal enacted anti-waste laws and climate bills to address the issue. Australia also made noteworthy contributions to sustainability, while Ethiopia began implementing sustainable practices in its energy sector. Turkey enforced environmental standards and planned to introduce green manufacturing practices.

Bangladesh highlighted its vulnerability due to the economic impact of COVID-19 and recurring floods, stressing the need for external assistance from other nations to contribute to sustainability. This prompted the Russian Federation to acknowledge climate change as a global issue that requires international cooperation. The Netherlands, Malaysia, Finland, and India expressed their willingness to collaborate with other nations. Italy offered a different perspective by encouraging craftsmanship as an alternative to fast fashion, emphasizing the importance of preserving

traditional skills and techniques. Afghanistan questioned the worth of pursuing fast fashion at the expense of the environment, raising concerns about the industry's negative impact.

Norway advocated for the use of eco-friendly raw materials, pushing for the adoption of sustainable practices throughout the supply chain. Meanwhile, Morocco drew attention to the pressing issue of working conditions in the fast-fashion industry.



Contrary to the prevailing sentiment of the committee, Canada believed that the problem of climate change should be dissolved altogether. South Africa argued that its rich culture would be compromised if it were to abandon fast fashion, highlighting the complexities surrounding the issue. Cambodia, on the other hand, expressed support for fashion brands and called for an alliance.

Following the General Speakers List (GSL), motions were passed, and an unmoderated caucus was conducted to discuss the implementation of policies concerning waste management and discharge within the fast-fashion industry. This indicated a collective effort among the participating nations to address the urgent environmental challenges posed by fast fashion.

Nations presented various perspectives, policy proposals, and commitments to combat climate change, pollution, and other ecological issues. It became evident that international cooperation and collaborative efforts are necessary to achieve sustainable practices within the fashion industry. The session laid the foundation for implementing policies to regulate the fast-fashion industry and mitigate its environmental impact, with a strong emphasis on raising awareness, promoting sustainable development, and improving working conditions.

*Written by Amudha, Vedanth Ramji  
Photography by Oorja*



## Day 2

The delegates clearly made it an interesting second day at the UNEP. Delegates and chairs have dressed in formal traditional wear to unite culturally today. The effort put in by the honorable chairs and diligent delegates made this committee of the Model United Nations productive and informative. UNEP's agenda this year is – "Sustainability in the field of fast fashion".

As climate change is exponentially increasing by the day, governments are finding alternative plans for these polluting inventions. The parts of production in the fashion industry – extracting or finding raw materials, manufacturing clothes, transporting clothes, and buying clothes. All the steps taken into producing clothes are major factors of increasing the carbon emissions of the environment.

Towards today's debates delegates' state controversy in – "if fashion is really worth changing as some countries like to value their culture". While on the other hand, other countries express that it dries up water and streams as well as pollutes them. On the statistics side they also mention that 85% of textile industries are waste and even after manufacturing, washing clothes releases 500,000 tons of microfibers from water.

Delegate Georgia promoted sustainable fibers such as bamboo and organic cotton, while fellow delegates questioned him about the cost. Cambodia stated that their government is working on a law where shops, including the fast fashion industry, will have to switch non-recyclable products to recyclable products. Country Haiti seems to be doing a lot of work about sustainability – KLIMA project (reduce greenhouse gasses), 55000 kilotons of waste decreased, as well as a researched prediction that with the help of developed countries they can create a more sustainable future. The UAE stated that they started their 0% waste landfill campaign as well as made fellow delegates aware of the fact that their country's local designers use organic materials.

Following this, hearing and voting a motion was resumed. An in-moderated caucus was accepted by the EB for exactly 21 minutes. Through this in-moderated caucus the two blocks that were formed decided on one motion for the next motion.

This motion was produced in committee by the delegate of Armenia. The motion was – "Enhancing consumer education on sustainable fashion choices". South Korea stat-

ed that many role models like a Kpop star, past president, etc. wore recycled clothes to promote sustainable fashion. The USA candidate also states that Biden is funding sustainability, Montreal protocol helps awareness, and that educating the population is important. After the delegate of Ireland, the candidate of the United Kingdom calls out a POO (Point of order).

All in all, the UNEP was an engaging and informative committee, with delegates- first timers and experienced delegates- putting their best efforts into debating.

*Written by Amudha  
Photography by Oorja*



# FEEDBACK

“Committee is interesting, debate is always heated, showing the high quality of research which allows debate to be unparalleled.”

- *UNHRC*

“Despite our hurdles and differences, I am proud to say that the 8th edition of the APL-MUN has been a memorable occasion. I would like to especially thank the OC team for making this event a successful one.”

- *Head of OC*

“Committee has been very lively and interesting so far. The delegates have selected a highly unusual agenda, that is pushing the boundaries of the WHO. Looking forward to the creative solutions they bring about in the resolutions.”

- *WHO*

“Bringing reporters out of their comfort zone and showing them the true depth of the field of journalism has brought the committee great exposure”

- *IPC*

“With fresher’s in the midst of heightened tension, this truly is a committee that evokes the vibes of the cold war. Solidarity, intense espionage, and sheer intellect come together at this vibrant geopolitical amalgamation.”

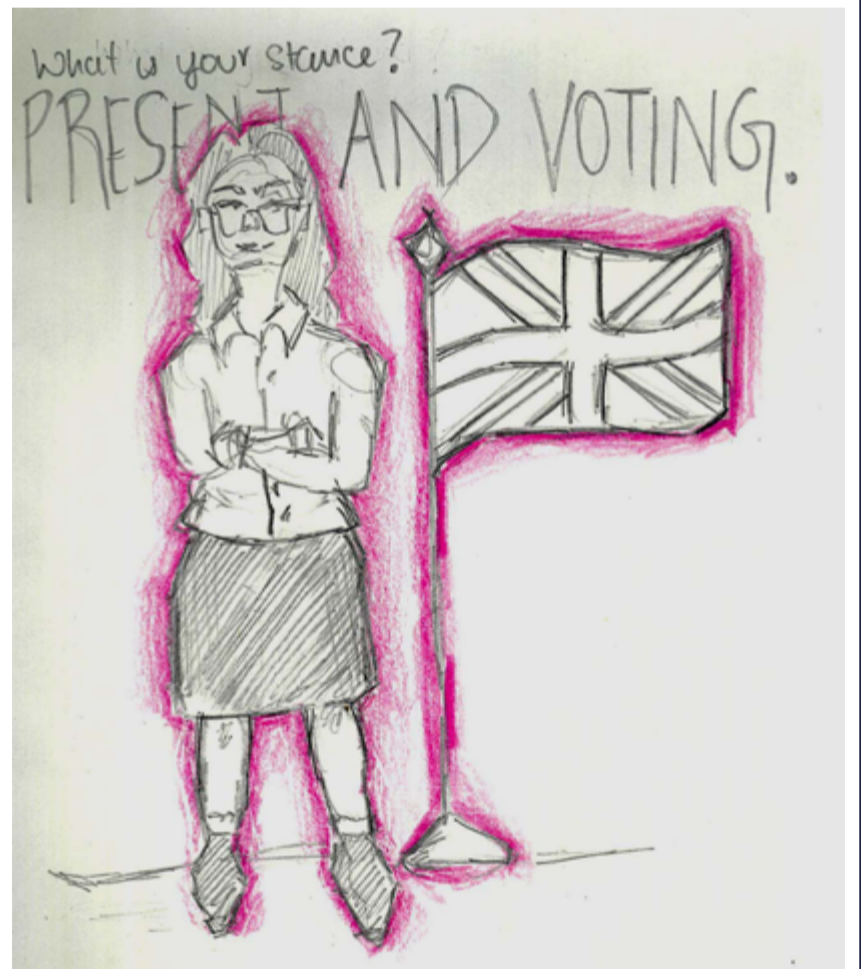
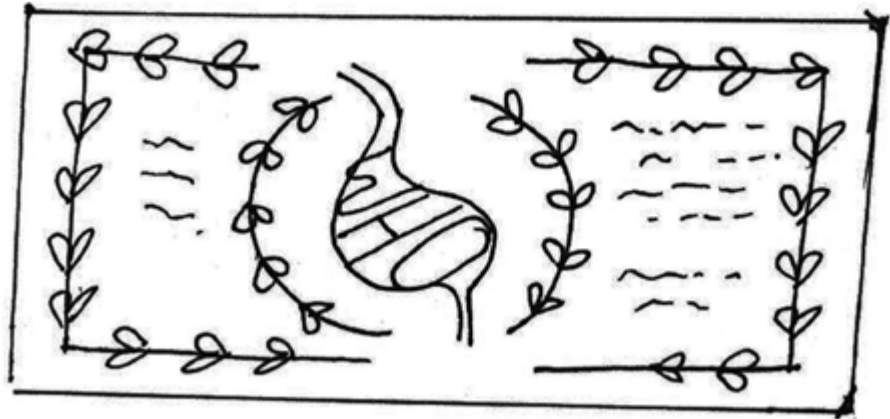
- *UNSC*

“The MUN has been going smoothly ever since the very beginning of day one and the entire OC and EB have been extremely helpful in making this a success. It is lovely to see the excitement and enthusiasm from every single person.”

- *Secretary General*

“The committee has been extremely interactive including the first time delegates and more experienced ones. We love seeing the gap bridged between both countries and individuals.”

- *UNODC*





UNODC was definitely one of the more engaging committees today. The committee's main aim has always been to address drugs, organised crime, corruption, and terrorism; working towards a more secure global environment. Today's committee's agenda primarily focused on implementing solutions to mitigate drug trafficking in North America with emphasis on the recent increase of fentanyl-related overdose deaths.

In context to today's agenda, fentanyl has a much higher potency than most opioids, making it an easy addiction, causing a surge in deaths due to overdose. North America especially has witnessed higher abuse of fentanyl owing to the increased number of drug cartels.

The session began with the GSL, where several countries made their stance. It started with the USA mentioning the importance that the dark web and cryptocurrency play in drug trafficking and proposed to create a subsidiary body to eliminate drugs. Countries identified the main causes of drug overdose to be a lack of literacy, border security, money



laundering, and political instability. The proposed solutions included substance-use literacy, cooperation amongst nations, and military involvement against drug usage. The GSL also included accusations from Syria and Cambodia against the USA and Mexico, respectively. While Syria claims the US attacks it on various insurgencies making it difficult to combat drug abuse, Cambodia accuses the Mexican government of enforcing military actions against drug uses that may not be effective.

Two arguments that were of great significance were between China and Mexico. China took an offensive stance where it accused the United States government of being incompetent in detecting illegal drug usage within its country. China also gave a negative remark implying that even BBC reporters seemed to be more effective than the government itself. Moving on to Mexico, it claimed to be wrongly accused of being the prime cause of the opioid crisis but still took accountability for the fact that the Mexican border security was not at its strongest, additionally agreeing it is impossible to eliminate drug cartels since its economy thrives on its production.

# Day 1

The committee conducted two moderated caucuses. First, the countries discussed measures to improve land and nautical border security, where most countries' thoughts on the matter aligned. Strengthening of borders through militarisation, capacity-building programs, and an emphasis on international cooperation to improve security. The second caucus discussed possible solutions to mitigate drug usage among ethnic minorities. The countries jointly recognised lack of awareness, poverty, and social stigma as the root cause. Improved educational and job opportunities, awareness campaigns, and increased surveillance came up as the more popular solutions.

UNODC was then joined by the former Secretary General, RV Pranav, shortly after which a crisis was introduced in the committee. The crisis consisted of various entertaining plots. Packages dropped in Mexico from the US, that were initially thought to contain Cuban cigars, were found to be laced with fentanyl. Information regarding US President Joe Biden, exposed his divorce from Jill Biden and a rumoured relationship with Shakira Escobar, granddaughter of drug lord Pablo Escobar. Reports of a prominent Chinese drug lord that has been allegedly producing concerning amounts of methamphetamine have been known to have connections with a Mexican terrorist organisation. Following Joe Biden's granddaughter's engagement to the same organisation's leader, there have been concerns over this marriage being a pawn of a much larger money laundering scheme. Adding to the political chaos, Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau stepped down, making Justin Bieber the new Prime Minister. Some say the decision is to pave the way for increased production within Canada.

The committee enfolded into a 10-minute unmoderated caucus for the delegates to absorb the impromptu crisis, soon followed by an SSL. The delegates came up with interesting responses that provoked even the EB's thoughts. The crisis, without a doubt, was a well-needed refresher after a long day of committee, while also tackling ODC-related issues.

Needless to say, Day 1 of UNODC had been a huge success, leaving the delegates eager for Day 2.

*Written by Sandhya Girish, Aditi Keshav  
Photography by Oorja*





## Day 2

**Day two** of the UNODC continued with the previous day's crisis where countries shared their stances and solutions with the committee.

A majority would like to cut ties with the US government and ensure that the US are condemned for prioritizing personal needs over those of the country and the world. On the other hand, there were certain countries who expressed their concern at the thought of severing connections with one of the largest economies, fearing the consequences on the country. While few countries played it safe and suggested waiting for further investigation and evidence before confirming the next mode of action, few others took a firmer approach on who they thought were responsible for the crisis at hand.

Soon after, a motion passed allowing a moderated caucus, to discuss the solutions to overcome the current crisis. The countries that took to the floor recommended solutions including usage of technology such as military drones to improve surveillance along borders; Anti-drug checkpoints and many others. Investigations by neutral bodies on Delta Airways was proposed along with dissolving the current US govt to ensure any possible means for drugs to enter the country be reduced as much as possible.

One incident that captured much attention was the interaction between China and the USA. With heavy accusations from the USA, China, determined to prove itself, asked for the sources of their claims to which the USA stated 'Vice City Podcast'. This happened to be a source that describes themselves as a 'paranormal podcast' causing China to call out on "USA's incompetence" and expressed its displeasure over their behavior.

The committee welcomed the IPC reporters to interview certain delegates and the EB members. Certain thought-provoking questions were raised against some of the important countries.

Speaking to the Co-chairperson, Hrishikesh Mohan, we learnt that he had a very positive expectation for the committee. He wished to provide a platform to give all first timers a chance to understand the world of MUN and build up their confidence in public speaking. Getting into Day 1 of the committee session, the Co-chair noticed certain delegates that contributed a lot to the committee. He applauded the Delegate of Peru for being courageous enough to bring up new topics to go against

countries, especially since he is a first timer.



Moving on to Niyati Satish, the other Co-Chairperson for UNODC, she expressed similar views on her goals for the committee. The Chairperson wished for every delegate to get an equal chance to express their views. The Chairperson found the delegates of USA and Argentina to catch her attention due to their active involvement throughout the two days.

Our conversation with the Director, Tanika Kapa provided us an insight of her expectations for the committee. Talking about her experience as Director, Tanika really loved her first experience as part of the chair. She said, "there was a perfect balance between having fun and also having a knowledgeable discussion." The director commended the delegate of the USA for being prepared for anything to come.

*Written by Sandhya Girish, Aditi Keshav  
Photography by Oorja*



## Day 2

Day 2 began with the pinnacle of press, a press conference. The delegates started their morning preparing for the well awaited press conference; which according to the Deputy Head, has the most weightage for journalists in pursuit for the best performance. Today, delegates went ahead and gave it their best shots to break surface level stigma among countries regarding their agendas. Certain journalists decided to take the path of asking strong thought provoking questions; while others went through the path of ordinary questions in an everyday press report. It is safe to say that some journalists prefer making bold choices, which is appreciated in the field of journalism. The most memorable press conference was conducted in UNSC. There was a plethora of brilliantly phrased and researched questions from our journalists that left the delegates at a loss of words. This article would be incomplete without reporting about the marvels of The Guardian's reporter. He emphasized on his observing of Day 1; and put every single delegate between a rock and a hard place. His questions were so raw and cut-throat regarding the Cuban missile crisis. He strategically targeted the USSR and The United States. The reporter was subject to several standing ovations; deservedly so.

to articulate an answer. The delegate of the USA was a highly memorable interviewee. Initially he was unable to answer questions and got shut down by the chair due to his constant error. In a matter of minutes he picked up his pace to beautifully answer questions asked by other reporters. A worthy mention of his is the interaction with the reporter of Antara. The delegate pointed out the journalists dwelling on the past and requested presently relevant information. Upon that request, the reporter then pointed out the relevance to the present but had no sources. The reporter of Antara was then rapidly shut down by the Chair of UNEP and the delegate of the USA. The delegate received an applause on more than one instance; a true example of bouncing back.

The rest of the day consisted of the rest of the press conferences and a heated debate which panned out very well for the reporters. From observing the debaters to being put in their spot; a great opportunity for a caterpillar-to-butterfly transformation. IPC's day two was a success in the books of APL and the executive board. The metamorphosis of their growth as reporters was highly evident throughout the two day process of APL MUN 2023; which can safely let us come to the conclusion that the event met all its goals.

*Written by Sampriya Swaminathan, Anoushka Jagan  
Photography by Oorja*



IPC's first press conference starts at UNEP. Saying the conference was interesting is a severe understatement. The entirety of it ended up with at least one party speechless. One of the most commendable exchanges happened between United Press International and the Philippines. Her question being 'how can The Philippines afford to encourage slow fashion right after recent industrialization.' The questions being asked were by far highly relevant and well researched on. On the other end of the spectrum, several journalists ended up being shut down with claims of irrelevant questions, unplanned questions and incomplete research. The delegates of UNEP tried their best to answer questions but often were not able



# Day 1

**On day 1**, we had 25 enthusiastic reporters working for the IPC. They were assigned to six committees, led by their chairperson Jada Adarrsh and their vice chairperson Nanditha B.

Day 1 involved a large amount of observation from the reporters of the IPC to analyse their chosen committees and conduct a press report. The chair of the IPC, Jada, said "The sole purpose of this committee is to delve deeper into the arguments made by delegates during the session. This process develops confidence, analysis, listening skills and engages curiosity."

According to him, the IPC is one of the only committees that gives enough freedom to address the uncertainty of the MUN process.

The process started off with delegates observing their assigned committees, after which they submitted a beat paper at the end of the day. A beat article is a report journalists write about the given agenda along with relevant details and a detailed summary. Opinionated editorials are then written reflecting the events of the day.



Interviews are carried out to further understand the delegates and their stance on the given agenda. A press conference follows, in which, according to MKV Ezhil, "Delegates make uncertain claims that can be proved wrong. For example, the USSR and Cuba were denying the existence of missiles despite there being concrete contradictory evidence"

The IPC fosters curiosity in journalists, enabling them to question country representatives in order to get facts and accurate answers. The process is then summarized with a report stating the events of the past two days. It also elaborates on the events and topics discussed during the debate. Finally, the IPC journalists debate on their given agendas: protection of journalists from

serious human rights violations in conflicts or post conflict zones and the big question- is the newsroom big enough for journalists and AI?

On day one, the enthusiastic journalists began understanding the proceedings of committees and preparing their finest articles.

According to the journalist representing Reuters, "The debate was smooth and there were lots of active interactions between delegates. Delegates were well prepared and knowledgeable." "From the viewpoint of an IPC reporter, being able to observe each and every delegate has been an ecstatic experience. The committee had a lot of experienced delegates building up to a wonderfully rich session" says the representative of African News Agency observing UNHRC.

Journalists of the IPC had several inputs on individual committees as well. Kyodo news' journalist said, "The UN-ODC was fun and lively with a lot of debate going on. The agenda regarding drug trafficking was a very hot topic with several takes from each delegate. The delegate of the USA was impressively contributive. This agenda and committee were perfect for publishing reports as a journalist." "As a journalist who was present at the UNEP committee sessions, I found certain interactions and parleys there quite engaging to witness. I spotted multiple politically shocking alliances and teams that certainly made me rethink. I am grateful to be in the IPC as it catered to my strengths and allowed me to look at political issues from a different perspective." said the IPC reporter from United Press International when asked about the proceedings of the UNEP.

July 14th 2023, day one of APL MUN happened to be a successful event throughout, providing each participant with enormous amounts of information - especially taking into consideration the large population of freshers. The process was a great learning experience for every delegate and reporter. To conclude day one, it is safe to assume that day two will be an interesting flow of events.

*Written by Samprita Swaminathan , Anoushka Jagan  
Photography by Oorja*



# World Health Organization

## Day 1

The World Health Organisation (WHO) had lively and cooperative sessions due to the resourceful chairs. The UK delegate motioned a law against biological weapons, followed by Zimbabwe. The Executive Chair (EB) proposed a formal debate with a General Speech List (GSL) consisting of Russia, UK, DPRK, Myanmar, Latvia, China, Switzerland, Australia, Argentina, and France.

Russia emphasized the need for unanimous community support for the bio weapons convention, discussed prevention efforts, and addressed questions from Canada, UK, and France. The UK delegate called for cooperative measures to address biological weapons, DPRK highlighted laws for supervised usage, and Myanmar expressed concerns about their biological safety program. Canada questioned the usage of weapons affecting the entire country due to wars, while China asked about global mitigation strategies, and Spain inquired about prevention measures. Latvia discussed their prevention efforts and China raised allegations of BWC violations by the West.

Zimbabwe questioned China's alleged involvement in using COVID-19 as a bio weapon, and the origin of COVID-19 was debated. Switzerland emphasized their focus on prevention, preparation, and strengthening the BWC, and Italy questioned how they would improve it. Russia challenged Switzerland's efforts to educate the public. France proposed measures to prevent the effects, Australia opposed the usage and manufacturing of biological weapons, and the UK classified COVID-19 as a pandemic. Argentina highlighted the importance of knowledge, prevention, and vaccinations.

After the break, a moderated caucus was agreed upon for delegates to state their 'public policy on outbreak'. Ten delegates spoke on the agenda, including the UK, Russia, China, Belgium, Colombia, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Mexico, UAE, and Myanmar, addressing various aspects of the issue. Pakistan concluded the moderated caucus by mentioning laws and rules against bio weapons.

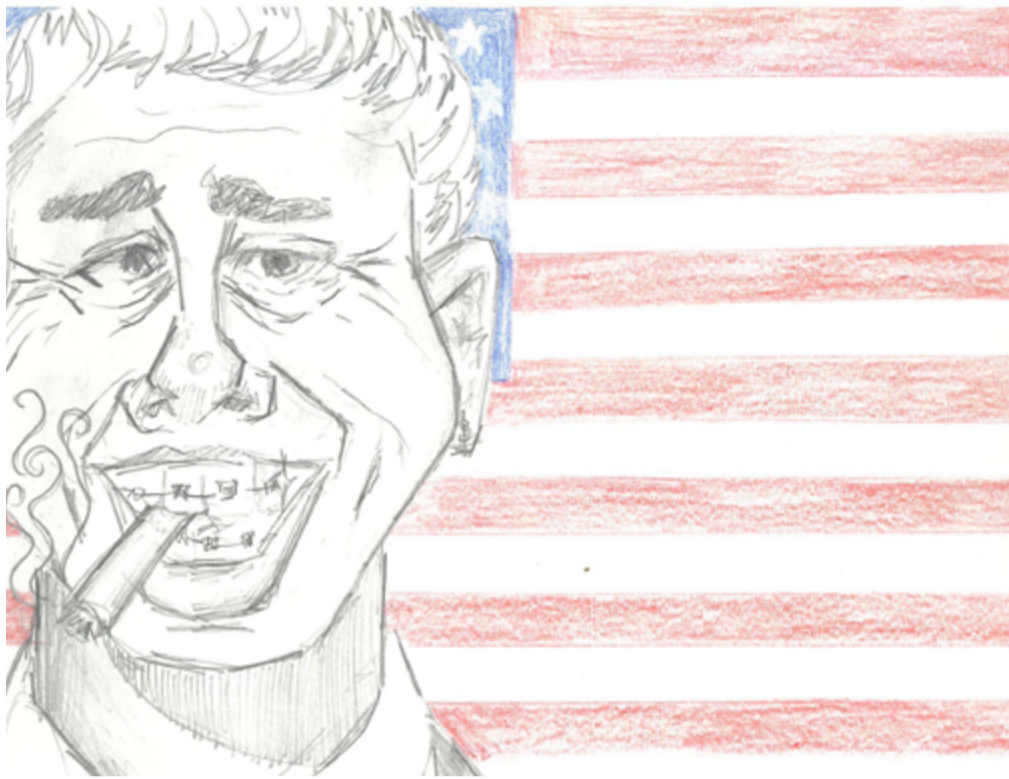
The GSL for the second session began with Belgium addressing the constant use of bio weapons and the global community's responsibility. Turkey mentioned chemical weapon conventions for defense and the obligation of countries under the United Nations. Russia proposed the impeachment of China, but the motion failed. Russia then proposed a moderated caucus on biological flaws resulting from the BWC motion, which was ac-

cepted. Bangladesh expressed support for the BWC and emphasized funding for defense. Iran's delegate raised questions about nuclear warfare, leading to a request for their impeachment by Italy resulting in a 5-minute suspension.

Delegates proceeded with their stances during the second and final session of the day 1 MUN debate at the WHO.



*Written by Samhita Das, Jason John  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*





## Day 2

The second day of the APL Model United Nations started with Costa Rica motioning for a General Speakers List-it passed without opposition. The Delegate of Gabon was the first speaker on the floor, addressing the topic of the death penalty. They began with a powerful quote by Martin Luther King Jr., emphasizing Gabon's stance against the penalty.

Following Gabon, the Delegate of Austria also expressed opposition to the death penalty. They proposed awareness and educational campaigns as a means to rehabilitate criminals. In contrast, the delegate from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) supported the death penalty, stating that the country's strict laws contributed to its safety.

However, another delegate corrected the UAE delegate, noting that Ireland was actually the third-safest country in the world- this led to a Point of Order being raised. Morocco then voiced their desire to abolish the death penalty, highlighting that their last recorded execution was in 1993.

Next, the delegate from Egypt recognized the importance of human rights but argued that the death penalty should still be applied for particularly heinous crimes. Ukraine, South Africa, Malaysia, and Montenegro followed, all expressing their opposition to the death penalty.

South Africa raised concerns about how the death penalty could target innocent people and minorities due to



corruption. Malaysia quoted Clint Smith- "the death penalty not only takes away the life of the person being executed but also diminishes humanity in all of us". The delegate from Montenegro remarked on the failure of humanity, as the very discussion of the death penalty highlighted.

Cuba supported the death penalty, arguing that countries had the right to decide, citing concerns about crime rates and severity. Paraguay firmly opposed the death penalty, while Nepal initially expressed acceptance of its abolition until a bomb blast in Kathmandu led them to reconsider due to the mass genocide and loss of life.

The Republic of Lithuania, also opposing the death penalty, quoted Archbishop Desmond Tutu, stating that there is no justice in killing in the name of justice. Indonesia neither supported nor opposed the death penalty. Russia then spoke in favor of the death penalty, suggesting it should be used sparingly and excluding children and those over the age of 60.

The delegate of Montenegro motioned for a Moderated Caucus to discuss ethics and recognize the worst forms of torture. This motion passed, yet no fruitful discussion took place

During the MUN HRC session, a crisis unfolded when a terrorist attacked the council and allegedly shot the DPRK leader, Kim Jong Un, and the Secretary General. As updates were provided, it was revealed that the DPRK was mourning and experiencing country-wide riots. The enraged DPRK delegate threatened France and South Korea, claiming support from Russia. However, a subsequent update identified a South Korean official, Han Dong Un, as responsible for the attack. The DPRK demanded that South Korea deliver the assassin promptly. Russia supported this claim after finding the South Korean emblem on the bullet. South Korea caused an uproar by stating that the assassin deserved to die. The DPRK, Russia, and South Korea engaged in heated exchanges. The French delegate accused the DPRK of staging the crisis to divert the UN's agenda. Another crisis occurred when Russian President Putin was killed in France while urinating under the Eiffel Tower with his gym trainer. Russia and France engaged in heated banter, with France justifying their actions based on Putin's past mistakes. Surprisingly, the DPRK defended France, arguing that spending a small amount on public toilets could have prevented such incidents. Throughout these two days, the MUN HRC successfully addressed various topics under immense pressure.

*Written by Avril, Adity, Vedanth Ramji  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*



# Day 1

The UNHRC session commenced promptly at 9:13, with delegates promptly forming blocs and engaging in discussions. As France motioned to open the floor for discussion on the topic of the death penalty, the delegates expressed their varied opinions on whether it is a necessary form of punishment.

The delegate of Belgium took the initiative by addressing the unworthiness of the death penalty and emphasized its brutalizing effect on society. Echoing this sentiment, the delegates of France, the UK, and Romania stressed that the death penalty was a violation of fundamental human rights. They argued that it went against the principles of dignity, equality, and the right to life. Similarly, the delegate of Germany strongly opposed the death penalty and emphasized the importance of exploring alternatives that focus on rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

The delegate of the USA proposed long-term imprisonment as a more effective solution, highlighting the potential for individuals to undergo rehabilitation and contribute positively to society after serving their sentences. Supporting France's stance, the delegate of Finland argued that there was no concrete evidence to prove the efficacy of the death penalty in deterring crime. The delegate of Costa Rica also expressed their opposition to the death penalty, aligning themselves with the belief that it violated basic human rights. Conversely, the delegate of Pakistan presented a different perspective. They argued that the death penalty should only be applied in cases of the most heinous crimes. When questioned about why children were not exempt from the penalty, the delegate of Pakistan held their stance, reiterating that it should only be applicable for the most extreme crimes. Indonesia also expressed support for the death penalty, stating that their citizens demanded harsh punishment for drug trafficking offenses. Furthermore, the delegates of Sudan, Nigeria, Japan, and the DPRK voiced their support for the death penalty as well, emphasizing its necessity for dealing with the gravest crimes. Taking a more extreme view, the delegate of Oman argued that the death penalty is the most effective way to reduce crime, citing its endorsement in the Quran. However, they clarified that it should be employed sparingly and not unnecessarily.

Following the General Speaker's List (GSL), a moderated caucus was motioned regarding the specific crimes that may be punished by the death penalty. During this discussion, the delegates of the DPRK, China, and Indone-

sia expressed openness to allowing individual countries to determine how they wish to punish different crimes, while asserting their right to administer punishments in accordance with their respective laws. On the other hand, the delegates of France and Luxembourg strongly argued against the death penalty, deeming it



inhumane. The delegates of Ukraine, the Czech Republic, and Luxembourg proposed rehabilitation as a more suitable alternative compared to the death penalty, emphasizing the potential for personal growth and societal reintegration. Another moderated caucus was held to address the effects of Sharia Law on the death penalty. The delegates of Yemen, Egypt, Austria, Indonesia, Iran, and Qatar argued that Sharia Law, being intrinsic to their cultural and religious beliefs, should allow for the administration of the death penalty. They contended that the application of Sharia Law, including the death penalty, was fair and just. However, the delegates of Gabon, Oman, Nepal, Germany, Spain, China, Finland, France, the UAE, and South Korea countered this argument, asserting that the principles of Sharia Law should not be used as an excuse to take lives. They advocated for exploring alternative methods that would respect human rights while maintaining societal order.

As the debate on the death penalty unfolded within the UNHRC session, it became evident that the topic was complex and multifaceted, eliciting a wide range of opinions from the delegates representing different nations and cultural backgrounds. The discussions would continue as delegates sought to find common ground and explore alternative solutions to address the issue at hand.

*Written by Avril, Vedanth Ramji  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*



# World Health Organization

## Day 2

**Day 2** started with EB motioning and permitting the beginning of the first GSL.

Argentina strongly opposed the use of biological weaponry, calling for all the countries to comply with the BWC



and the OPCW operations. UAE questions Argentina's measures to prevent the use of biological weaponry, responding by taking measures through research universities like CONICET. Finland's delegate deviates from the given agenda, by mentioning topics of NATO and nuclear weapons, creating widespread confusion within the committee.

Singapore emphasizes the impacts of biological weapons and BATA is taken into account to improve the regulations of the country. Chile talks about the initiation of workshops in order to prevent the agenda. Egypt makes it well-recognised that the inhalation of harmful biogens could lead to the distress syndrome, Germany then adds that the production of biological weapons has been brought to an end since WW2. Kenya mentions a workshop in Mombasa since 1972. Constantly talking about the harm that is caused to the citizens as well as all of the neighbouring countries.

The committee's session had just had an unmoderated caucus, which on resuming should have just continued with an ongoing debate, however a crisis had come upon the committee.

'People of the republic of Korea have been severely infected by the virus named 'Jianmie' it has resulted in the death of 10,000 people already and lacks had been affected. Reports have shown that North Korea is behind the attack, being fed up with South Korea encroaching on their sovereign land. China once being outed has proudly proclaimed that they are the owners of the weapon

and that it has been in development for the past decade.' To this sudden crisis all the countries were left shocked. The EB then addresses the crisis and questions the delegates asking what their stances are, the EB then calls South Korea, DPRK and China, these countries are then asked to explain themselves against all the accusations made.

South Korea begins with their response to the crisis by invoking the agreement and completely willing to punish the DPRK. Stating how the DPRK violated the BWC. DPRK begins explaining its frustrations and how the country has constantly negotiated and come to terms with other countries of the UN. Mentioning how they have acknowledged worldwide issues, DPRK claims that South Korea has been neglecting all information being provided.

China admits that DPRK is an ally and accepts responsibility for both the COVID-19 pandemic and the 'Jianmie' virus' breach, however mentions how measures were taken to resolve both and awareness was provided to foreign nations. Threatens to pull out of the BWC in solidarity with DPRK. Delegate of Canada questions the morality of the "COVID-19 pandemic experiment". China assures that the Jianmie virus will not affect their own citizens following the large affected toll due to the COVID-19 virus. China believes that developing biological weaponry is for security reasons and to establish the PRC as a sole superpower in the world in its response.

France threatens China with repercussions should France be affected in this crisis. They answer how they will stand against China due to the fact that so many lives have already been lost. Russia then questions why the virus is only within China and the territorial states and finds it humorous. Talking about how it shouldn't and mustn't be tolerated for this is not the first but, the second time China is spreading a pandemic. Russia accuses China for the Covid-19 breach. In response, China finds it humorous how Russia openly uses all its warfare to invade other countries with stride, specifying the Ukraine.

Delegates of WHO wasted no time and finished the session in an orderly manner.

*Written by Samhita Das  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*





UN Security Council

# Day 1

The current UNSC's agenda was the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 which was a riveting case to resolve. Most countries made it their utmost priority to upkeep the peace and diplomacy of international relations, whilst others sought to antagonise one another as an act of superiority. The sessions were an enthralling experience of active debates and strong connotations of warnings and threats.



Once roll call concluded, the committee delegates of the UNSC ensued with the GSL which was raised to motion by the Delegate of Romania. It began with Belgium talking about the provinces of peace and strongly disapproving the quoted words of the USSR. As a resolution, they requested a public apology. Spain continued with encouraging peaceful resolutions which consisted of open and transparent negotiations with international cooperation and understanding. The People's Republic of China stated that the USA's naval blockade was 'hypocrisy at its best' and gave its sincere condolences to Cuba while also demanding for the blockade to be removed. The UK took a stance on being internationally diplomatic while also demanding removal of missiles in Cuba. The delegations of UK, Greece, Libya, Japan, Republic of China and Israel prompted towards international diplomacy and peaceful stability whilst Sweden agreed to the same with refusal of aid to the USA.

Cuba claimed that the USSR had not placed missiles and that it was just a propaganda spread by the US to destabilise the alliance between USSR and Cuba. The USSR then began their stance with a strong rejection towards any claims of the existence of the missiles in Cuba and asserted that it was a controversy fabricated by the USA as a repercussion for USSR's good relationship with other countries. The delegation also demanded compensation by the USA for the

quarantine in Cuba while stating countless violations of the UN charter that USA committed. However, before the end of the GSL, the bloc created by the USA had found concrete photographic evidence that proved the USSR's missile transportation to Cuba. Due to this, USSR averted the crisis towards USA who broke multiple laws before the incident. They then strongly stood against the missile placed in Italy and Turkey by USA and said they must be punished for their war crimes. After these comments, USA responded by questioning the secrecy and refusal of the existence of missiles in Cuba to which the USSR said that they had no obligation to report this action to the UN. USA's speech consisted of how the long-range ballistic missiles in Cuba were an act of aggression and how the missiles in Turkey and Italy were defensive and claimed that the blockade was a protective measure. The USSR argued by questioning how the missiles in Turkey and Italy can be claimed as defensive if the Cuban missiles were considered offensive. USA replied by stating that the missiles they placed in Turkey and Italy were Jupiter Missiles and the missiles in Cuba were long-range ballistic missiles.

The GSL continued with Finland, Romania, Ethiopia, India, Ivory Coast, Denmark, Mexico, Canada, and Nigeria prompting for peaceful resolutions. Turkey, Cuba, Ecuador, Bolivia and Egypt also stated the critical necessity of nuclear disarmament. The delegation of East Germany wished for the USA to remove missiles from Turkey and Italy before having a negotiation with Cuba and USSR whilst West Germany did not wish to interfere due to their own policies. With this, the GSL concluded and with discretion of the EB, an unmoderated caucus for fifteen minutes to form blocs and discuss motions for moderated caucuses followed.

The motion that passed for the moderated caucus was the 'Legality of the action taken by the USSR and USA' raised by Sweden for twenty minutes with twenty speakers. This debate opened pathways to many different perspectives and factual evidence of many places that needed resolution. Even though it was pertinent that USA and USSR would form blocs, it wasn't apparent that the situation split only into two separate ways since many countries had demanded both USA and USSR to reprimand their actions and be given strict consequences.

*Written by Jefna Ajaikumar  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*



## Day 2

The US naval quarantine resulted in significant obstruction of cargo and essential goods in the Cuban Economy. The Atlantic Fleet of the US Navy also intercepted three PRC Submarines transporting 100 soldiers of special rank of the Chinese Navy. Upon undisclosed interrogation methods, it was known that the actual number of these soldiers transported to Cuba was in the thousands under an operation termed 'Realise, Real Eyes'. This put the international committee on high alert since a non-belligerent party now entered the crisis. NATO allies condemn the PRC for the heightened naval espionage and ask the UN to immediately impose sanctions on the PRC and deploy UN peacekeeping forces to Cuba. Meanwhile, a secret US delegation composed of top diplomats was spotted in the northern South America country of Ecuador. Wiretaps by the KGB reveal that the discussion involved mentions of the construction of a high rank counter-revolutionary camp, but the implications are unknown.

USA declares war on the PRC for sending submarines and troops to CUBA claiming that PRC's actions were irrational and assumes that PRC's action is a declaration of war. USSR mocks the USA for declaring war after violating multiple charter policies themselves. The USSR, however, was pushing for punishment against the USA for the naval blockade they disguised as 'quarantine'. Since, USA also isn't allowing humanitarian resources to pass Cuban waters which was addressed by the USSR as 'hypocrisy for the so-called harbingers of peace'. Also, Ecuador stays in alliance with the USA and means to aid the USA in military actions against the PRC. Ironically, Ecuador itself refuses admitting the setting-up of the counter-revolutionary camps by the USA in secrecy since there wasn't concrete proof of it and seeks to support the USA on all actions. Surprisingly Cuba condemns both the USA and PRC. Understandably, the USA has isolated the Cuban population of its resources without permission however, due to undisclosed reasons for sending troops, Cuba is also against the PRC. PRC claims that 'Realise Real Eyes' was to protect and check upon Cuban citizens and that America had American soldiers disguised as Chinese soldiers to antagonise PRC. France, in turn, warns the PRC that military action will be taken against the Chinese Country, and a joint NATO reply that, if PRC does not fall back from Cuban soil, France will take military action against innocent Chinese civilians.

Day 2 began with tension between the USA and USSR due to the declaration of a sudden war. Many countries preached for a diplomatic solution. The session began

with raises for motions to moderated caucuses.



The USA was open to diplomatic resolution but considered the PRC's actions an act of war due to their violation of the naval quarantine and the quantity and rank of soldiers they considered to use for "aid and protection". France allied with the USA and is also at war with the PRC. Cuba appreciated the troops at PRC after solving the miscommunications between them, continuing to state that the USA are the aggressors for violating the sovereignty of Latin-American countries, as a chance for superiority. The USSR threatened to declare war and mocked the USA for calling themselves diplomatic when they contrasted their own statements by declaring war for assuming that submarines were an offensive attack. The PRC claimed that 'Realise Real Eyes' was just to protect and check upon Cuban citizens and were on the diplomatic relationship between both countries. Italy and Argentina questioned the PRC's intentions, which were quite suspicious after knowing the number of soldiers sent. To retaliate, PRC claims their aid was appreciated and no other country has the right to call it an aggressive act. The PRC also claimed that the president of the USA acknowledged PRC's support to Cuban civilians and will retract their declaration of war. The delegate of USA, however, was unaware of this, making tension rise between USA and the PCR rise again.

The UNSC was a tense and happening committee, bringing out the best of all delegates present. Questions left to uncertainty were answered and resolved in the proceedings of the second day of committee leading to fruitful resolutions.

*Written by Jefna Ajaikumar  
Photography by Vijay Meenakshi*

# Best Awards

## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

**Best Delegate:** Saahil Ayyaril Ali, France  
**Best Debutant:** Sarang Deepak , Costa Rica

**Special Mentions:**  
 Jainul Abdeen, Nepal  
 Tarun balakrishnan, DPRK

**Best FPS:** Amrutha  
 Sree, Nigeria

**High Commendations:**  
 Adam Meshach, South Korea  
 Dheeraj Pesala, China  
 Neel Mantri, Russia

## UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF DRUGS AND CRIME

**Best Delegate:** Jaswant Rakesh, Saudi Arabia

**Best Debutant:** Srijan Sharma , Peru

**Special Mentions:**  
 Dharun, China  
 Thaniya, Libya

**Best FPS:** Hitansh Bhutani, USA

**High Commendations:**  
 Hitansh Bhutani, USA  
 Arjun R.K, Afghanistan  
 Harshita Balaji ,Mexico

## UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

**Best Delegate:** Rohit L, USA

**Best Debutant:** Claire Fernandes, Monaco

**Special Mentions:**  
 Shruthikaa Balaji, Spain  
 Meiyammai R, Australia

**Best FPS:** Nishesh Vijai, Singapore

**High Commendations:**  
 Arjun Easwaramoorthy, China  
 Akshara, Bangladesh  
 Anushka Sharma, Ireland

## WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

**Best Delegate:** Sahaana Shobanbabu, UK

**Best Debutant:** Mridul Rishi, Canada

**Special Mentions:**  
 Hansini M, Zimbabwe  
 Bavinika S, France

**Best FPS:** Hansini M, Zimbabwe

**High Commendations:**  
 Sanjay Sai Rajesh China  
 Lakkshay Dhanuka, Russia  
 Ratan Rajesh, South korea

## UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

**Best Delegate:** Aditi Srivatsan, USSR

**Best Debutant:** Saarthak Bajaj ,Sweden

**Special Mentions:**  
 Aarav Johan, Poland  
 Pradyun Prasad, UK

**High Commendations:**

S Jaresvar, China  
 Adithya Kashyap, Pakistan  
 Akarsh Jaykumar, Japan

## IPC

**Best Reporter:** Abdul Hafeez, Moscow Times

## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Best Committee:** WHO

**Best Delegate Special Committee:**  
 Hitansh Bhutani, UNODC

# From the Editors



A team of tenacious and talented individuals have worked tirelessly to create this edition of the APLMUN gazette. We want to give them a special mention to acknowledge their great efforts. For weeks on end, our team of photographers, illustrators and reporters have poured in hours of work to make sure the APLMUN gazette provides a special and enriching experience to all readers. We would also like to thank the teachers and management of APL Global School for providing us with critical guidance and infrastructure while creating this magazine. Although we faced many challenges along the way, we firmly believe that it is the journey that matters and not the destination, and we can proudly say that we've enjoyed every moment of the creative process. We hope you enjoy this edition of the APLMUN gazette.

Thank you.

- Arpana Shankar  
- Rahaan Alexander

## **Photographers**

Vijay Meenakshi  
Rhea Prabhu  
Oorja

## **Reporters**

Sandhya Girish  
Jefina Ajaikumar  
Samhita Das  
Aditi Keshav  
Amudha  
Tanvi  
Avril  
Bhrithi  
Adity  
Jason John  
Samprita  
Nivedha Sundar

## **Illustrators**

Divya Krishnan

## **Designers**

Arpana V Shankar  
Rahaan Alexander