

THE NMUN KOBE TIMES



Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

The NMUN in Japan Celebrates the Final Day of the Conference



The delegates in the ECOSOC smiling at the Kobe City Chamber

November 26th. The delegates had been working on their final objectives and the National Model United Nations (NMUN) in Japan had come to an end. In the morning, Committee Session VII of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) took place at the Kobe City Hall Chambers. The Final Voting took place and the three-hour committee session closed at 12:30pm. At the same time, the remaining committees - General Assembly (GA), Security Council (SC), and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) - convened at the Kobe International Conference Center. The delegates worked earnestly in cooperation with one another. At the close of each committee, the delegates experienced a great sense of achievement and also felt not a little relief. From 3pm to 4:30pm the closing ceremony was held at the Main Hall of the Kobe International Conference Center.

All GA Draft Resolutions became Resolutions

The final session was over at 12:11pm after all eight Draft Resolutions (DRs), on the topic 'The Elimination of Weapons of Mass Destruction,' were passed.

After three formal debates and two informal debates, the eight DRs were sent to the *Dais* with applause from the delegates. To give an example, DR1/1 suggested that the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference (NPT RevCon) should be held every two years.

DR1/1, 1/2, and 1/3 were adopted by acclamation. The other DRs were adopted by Roll Call voting with the delegates saying "yes," "no," or "abstention" or by voting by raising their placards high.

After the sessions were completed, eight countries—Angola, Germany, Ghana, Portugal,

the Republic of Korea, South Africa, the UK—were awarded Outstanding Position Paper Certificates, and five countries—Angola, Belgium, Czech Republic, Lebanon, Ukraine—were awarded Outstanding Delegates Certificates. Then, Brazil moved for the adjournment of the meeting, the motion was passed, and the GA session was closed.



The Final Stage and Voting in the UNCHR



In the formal debate, Uganda focused on both long term and short term approaches to “make our society and our future society better.”

Eventually, seven DRs became resolutions; however, DR 1/6 was not passed. At the end of the conference, two awards were announced, one for outstanding delegations with Outstanding Position Papers, and the other for Outstanding Delegations to recognize leadership throughout the conference. Belgium, Japan, Mexico, Rwanda and South Africa won the first award. Argentina, Belgium, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States won the second. The conference finished with a motion by Uganda.

The delegates Work Actively in the Security Council

Some countries emphasized the importance of collaborating with local communities in order to support women and girls. advocated that it is understand the existence of and male-dominated informal debate, the voting procedures. DR2/1 acclamation and every state with applause and some another's hands. Awards for to Angola and the United delegates to Angola and Venezuela. China moved to adjourn the meeting to 2017 in Canada, however Spain raised its placard against it, a gesture greeted with warm smiles from other delegates to show their reluctance to bring the session to a close.



For example Ukraine important to strict religious orders societies. After delegates moved to was adopted through shared their delight delegates shook one position papers went Kingdom, and for best



Four DRs in ECOSOC

The final session was opened with a speech of welcome from Mr. Rintaro Ikeda, President of the Kobe City Assembly. The session offered simultaneous interpretation for a Japanese audience of observers.



Four DRs were voted in. DR 1/1 is about creating resilient infrastructure and early hazard warning systems, and enhancing international cooperation; DR 1/2 aimed at “No one being left behind”; DR 1/3 focused on Assistance Communication Technology Training (ACTT) in Disaster Risk Reduction. Finally, DR 1/4 emphasized the importance on investigating disasters at a local level, funding research institutions, and setting up a forum for sharing disaster data.

At the end of the session, Position Paper awards went to Argentine, Congo, Japan, Nigeria, Panama, and South Africa. Outstanding Delegate awards went to Afghanistan, Belgium, South Africa, and the US. Nanako Ueda, Assistant Director of the committee, showed her thankfulness for all the delegates’ cooperation, with tears in her eyes. The delegates stood up and applauded her.



The closing ceremony opened with a performance by *Minato*, formed by university students in the Kansai area. They performed a *Yosakoi* dance, which originated in Kochi prefecture, Japan, and entertained the audience.

Michael Eaton, Executive Director of the NCCA, said it was exciting that Kobe City University of Foreign Studies (KCUFS) had hosted NMUN 2016 and expressed great appreciation for everyone who had brought enormous passion to the success of this conference.

He quoted a statement by Sadako Ogata, “Japan should get more involved as a mediator in disputes between countries and seek to play a role as a peace maker.” In order to make this possible, people need to be trained in the understanding of international politics and in the acquisition of negotiating skills. The development of such skills will create the leaders of the future.

In his keynote address at the ceremony, entitled, “World Order and I,” Toshiya Hoshino, Professor at Osaka University, emphasized the importance of raising awareness of fellowship in the world. Today, the world order is treated as something simply ‘out there’ for most people, but he advocated that world order is something we build together. It is “something we build for ourselves and we need to change if we have any problems,” Hoshino said. For the sake of connecting world order with ourselves, he illustrated the earth as our home. He certainly believes people can make a better society for everyone on our planet, if we understand that we are connected and are as one.

Lastly, Sachiho Tani, Secretary-General of the conference, said NMUN offers different benefits depending on the individual. For her, it was the awareness that mutual understanding is essential for the creation of a truly global society. She hoped that the delegates would look back on their efforts and consider what the NMUN was for them.

Ms. Tani moved for the adjournment of the meeting to next year, 2017, in Canada.



Outstanding Delegations	
Afghanistan	University of New Haven
Angola	University of New Haven
Costa Rica	Brigham Young University
India	Model UN of the Russian Far East
Mexico	Riverside City College
Panama	MacEwan University
Republic of Korea	Universite du Quebec a Montreal
South Africa	Universite du Quebec a Montreal
Ukraine	University of Bridgeport
Venezuela	De La Salle University-Manila

Lina Andreas, NRW Germany “I was really happy to have participated in this conference and learned a lot from this experience. It was also so much fun to interact with people from around the world.”



Reika Tange,
Okayama University, Japan
"I could not speak a lot on
the first day because I was
nerves, but thanks to other
people's advice, I could get
over it and this made my first
NMUN a great experience."



Testing his Abilities

Edgard Andres RODAS, from Universidad de Santiago de Chile, represented Egypt. This is what he had to say about the conference: "I am a business major. This was a really good experience to test my negotiation skills." Also, he added, "This was the perfect opportunity to test my language skills, negotiation skills, dealing with people from different nations, different backgrounds and learn how to do it."

Niels Oldemeier, NRWGermany
"NMUN gave us the opportunity to
get along with each other, operate
and cooperate together, and nurture
friendships beyond borders even
after the conference is over. I am
proud of receiving a delegate award
in my second NMUN."

Learning from Japan's disaster

Within the conference, Japan was welcoming Thomas Weiler, the Vice-Chair of the United Nations Association of Germany (UNA-Germany). He came to the NMUN as a Faculty advisor of the North Rhine-Westphalian (NRW) Branch with 20 delegate students from universities in the NRW. He is teaching political science and law at the University of Bonn and the University of Cologne. He said that Germany and Japan have had strong bonds through MUN conferences since 2001 when Germany represented Japan at the NMUN in New York for the first time. He also participated in JUEMUN last year and this year, and currently, there are three students from the NRW team who are at KCUFS as exchange students to study about Japan. There are so many students in the NRW association. The students from NRW had special preparation for NMUN in Japan. They arrived in Japan one week before the other participants



arrived, and visited the UN University in Tokyo and met Mr. Akashi, former UN Under-Secretary General, and German President Joachim Gauck, whose lecture at Waseda University about the relations between Japan and Germany they

Masaki Kitsugi,
Doshisha University,
Japan "It was tough to
keep up with the
bewildering pace of
discussion and it was
much different from
Model United Nations
held in Japan."

listened to. The students discovered so many connections between Japan and Germany that it was a special opportunity for some of the NRW delegates to learn to represent Japan at the NMUN. Mr. Weiler has expectations for students both in the conference and outside of the conference. In the conference, he expects all of his students to learn to understand the positions of Japan in the global community. Outside the conference, students went on study tours of Kyoto and to Hiroshima, and they met and heard from a Hiroshima survivor, which was a rare opportunity for foreigners. In Kobe they also visited the scenes of the earthquake disaster in 1995, and found that people still have fresh memories of it. From meeting these people he expects students to notice that real disasters are actually happening in the world, and each individual in the global community has to cooperate each other to save people from such disasters.



Experiencing the Real Japanese Personality

Genevra Candidi, from Italy, representing Chile in GA, talked about a heartwarming experience that she had in Japan. She is a student from the organization of Consules in Italy, and she was participating in NMUN for the first time. She expected it would be really hard since it is well known as a high-level conference, but she took this opportunity to challenge herself and to meet many Japanese people. She had some prior interest in Japanese culture, and she was excited about having the chance to buy some good *sake*. She told a story that taught her about the Japanese personality that surprised her. "I was trying to ask a random man on the street how to use a vending machine, and he was not really good at English. However, he tried so hard to help me and even thanked me that I had randomly asked him to help." Genevra said that she was fully enjoying her stay because of such amazing hospitality.



Delegates Went Clubbing After Release from the Conference

After the tough four days of all-day meetings, the delegates were finally able to relax and be ordinary students again as they enjoyed their last night in Kobe shopping and going to restaurants with friends. The Delegate Dance, the final event for delegates, was held at the basement club "Garage Paradise" in the downtown Sannomiya area. It started at 9pm and went until 2am. The dancing became more intense as the night went on. The club has two floors: one mainly for dancing with DJs playing cool songs from all over the world; and the other, a bar with counters and couches where they enjoyed live R&B performances. Some delegates enjoyed playing billiards. We could see everyone enjoyed the music as the delegates' dance styles were from countries



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History of Japanese household appliances

By Honoka Morita

Our daily lives are filled with very convenient machines, especially for housework. Household appliances save our time and labor. However, a long time ago in Japan, people didn't have the convenience of such modern time-savers. When the inventions appeared, they brought a revolution to the lives of people.

Long ago, Japanese people used a serrated board (*semtakuita*) to wash their clothes in a shallow washtub. Even in cold



winter, they scrubbed the clothes with a solid soap and cold water, so their hands were chapped easily.

Moreover, as they had to bend down to wash, they often suffered from backache. In 1930, a hero for homemakers arrived; it was called a "washing machine" (*semtakuki*). The early washing machines were expensive, though, and most people couldn't afford them. Around 1950, though they didn't yet have spinner-dryers, *semtakuki* were popularized and they saved a lot of time for washing clothes.

In the days before refrigerators, people used a wooden box with some ice to keep foods cool. In the box, the ice didn't melt away quickly, and it lasted for a long time. In 1930, although refrigerators appeared, they didn't change the way people kept foods. People continued to use the box.

Around 1970, when frozen foods became popular, Japanese people started



buying refrigerators to keep them frozen.

Around 1950, television came popular. As it was too expensive for each family to buy, neighbors often visited the homes of those who had a TV and enjoyed watching programs.

In the early days, American dramas and ANIME of TEZUKA OSAMU were often broadcasted in black-and-white. The most exciting broadcasts were the marriage parade of the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess in 1959 and the Tokyo Olympic in 1964. More than five hundred thousand people went to see the parade live, but about two million television viewers

watched the black-and-white broadcast. In 1960, color television was released and many people enjoyed the Olympics in color. After that, color TVs prevailed over the black-and-white ones rapidly.



These three household machines (washing machine, refrigerator, and black-and-white television) were called as "the three imperial regalia." The original ones are a mirror, a gem, and a sword. In Japanese myth, it is said that these were given to HONONINIGI (God of an ear of rice) by AMATERASUOOMIKAMI (Goddess of Sun) when he came to earth because these were very important. Like the real "three imperial regalia," the household machines were also important for daily lives and that's why they were called so.

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