Pan-American School Model United Nations
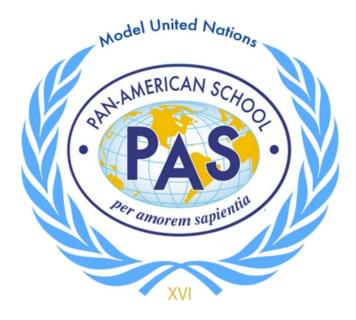## SOCHUM

Model United Nations

PAN-AMERICAN SCHOOL

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Dear delegates and faculty advisors,

We are honoured to welcome you to our sixteenth Model United Nations. For the past 16 years, Pan-American School in Costa Rica has hosted an annual Model United Nations conference, the past two of which have seen schools from all over Central America attend. This year we hope to achieve attendance from schools from even more parts of the globe in order to continue our tradition of inspiring and educating the next generations towards a path of diplomacy and interconnectivity.

This year's conference will be held on Saturday, October 27th and Sunday, October 28th at our school's campus. Our goal will be to provide an enriching and overall entertaining and satisfactory debate experience. With a current repertoire of 13 committees, which includes a Press Corps committee and out of which 3 are Middle School exclusive and 1 is an intermediate council for 8th and 9th graders, we are prepared to have our school's best Model United Nations conference yet.

Please do not hesitate to contact us, if you have any questions, doubts or if you are interested in attending and or receiving more information on the conference.

Sincerely,

The Secretariat

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Dear delegates,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the sixteenth annual Pan-American School Model United Nations for 2018. My name is Melissa Pérez and I will be your committee director. Throughout this conference, I hope you will all enjoy this wonderful learning experience alongside us. We cannot wait to have you participating alongside us as we make this committee a reality.

I have had several years of experience in participating within Model United Nations. Since I was in seventh grade, I have actively participated in various conferences; some which have taken place internationally. As you continue along this same journey, I can only hope you will create memories in this conference. Consequently, as a result of my participation in Model UN, I have grown tremendously as a person through long-lasting friendships which instilled values that have contributed towards shaping me into the person I am today. I have no doubt that you will each take this opportunity to uphold your positions in the debate to your maximum capacity and enjoy every second of it.

Working alongside me will be Sebastián Laredo, an eighth grader who has shown a disposition of leadership characteristics and charismatic abilities. His qualifications as a delegate have been extraordinary as has his enthusiasm towards Model United Nations. I consider him a resourceful worker, as well as a collaborative partner, who has expressed just as much excitement towards this committee than I have.

Once more, we hope you will each share a positive experience by encouraging you to each step out of your comfort zone as you immerse yourself into a new environment. We anticipate your participation with the utmost excitement.

Regards,
Melissa Pérez
Sebastián Laredo

Committee Background

The United Nations branch of the Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee, otherwise known as SOCHUM, was created to focus on social and humanitarian affairs that affect people internationally. This committee is popularly recognized for their propaganda and movements shown in favor of human rights. SOCHUM was created as a result of the Second World War, in 1948, after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights had been adopted on the behalf of the United Nations.

This committee develops solutions that are intended to target the benefit of the promotion of citizens. Often times, this is accomplished through the promotion of freedom and elimination of racial, discrimination, xenophobia, and other pending issues. Through these means, the Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee makes sure that there is a distributed equality for all people alike; disregarding their race, ethnicity, discapacity, or any other social attributes. The Third Committee, as it is often addressed, has been known to adopt over sixty resolutions annually in regards to the hopes of resolving the problems that invade civil, political, social, economic, and/or cultural rights.

The importance designated behind these discussions is made to include other countries in regards to issues affecting large quantities of people, as well as bringing awareness to the same topics. A totaled 193 countries form a part of the United Nations; coming together to negotiate propositions and reach similar terms. This branch contributes to the transformation of mindsets and has contributed to the collaboration between nations. Since the creation of this committee, resolutions have been created in regards to the Syrian and Myanmar Crisis, and many others.

Topic Background

The objectives of this committee, throughout the conference, will be primarily determined through the recognition of the influence of first world countries within developing nations. Through these same means, the risk that this imposes on the hereditary cultures of these areas have been proven to make themselves much more prominent over time. Globalization, over time, has begun to impact ethnic and cultural diversity imposed in various territories, while also presenting various benefits all the same. As a result of a large presence of first world countries, a much larger group of audiences and cultures has been accessed as a result. This often results in the misrepresentation, stereotyping, and the risk of loss in areas of cultural and intellectual property are some of the prime examples of the negative

influences imposed by each. However, there have also been a series of benefits which will equally be discussed.

This is, for the most part, a consequence of the adoption of Western Culture and ideologies that have begun to influence developing countries, along with respective multinational corporations and exploitation of workers. This can be represented through the following claim: "In the past two decades, China and India have grown faster than the already rich nations. However, countries like Africa still have the highest poverty rates, in fact, the rural areas of China which do not tap on global markets also suffer greatly from such high poverty," (blogspot.com, 2009). Referencing the previous idea, this establishes that the setting up of companies in developing nations on the behalf of first world countries further negatively affects the economy of said country, thus increasing unemployment rates. Other consequences include: the spread of diseases into third world countries which do not have access to the proper medical services and the destruction of culture, tradition, identity, and language. Regions such as Iraq and Lebanon have fallen victim under the the change in customs due to the fact that they have seemingly adopted Western Culture over their own.

None of these, however, undermine the benefits that globalisation has also presented within these developing communities. The development of global technologies and media which have been seemingly overpowering in the current twenty-first century. These means of communication and societal advancements have helped assist in areas of cultural preservation. This generally takes place as a result of the ability of preserving cultures, as media has contributed to the promotion of awareness and public knowledge, alongside the ability to voice one's self-identity through these same means. "Global technology has provided the opportunity to redefine collective identity along with identifying a place for distinctive cultures," (Smith, 2000). Regardless, the impact that these have had on indigenous cultures have caused the same exploitation that is often sought to end. African nations have found themselves subjected to the change in policies to further attract tourism, resulting in the relocation of several of their own citizens for these same reasons in an attempt to adopt this Western Culture that has begun to appear in each of these areas and is growing to be favorable within each respective nation.

In conclusion, this debate in favor or against the influences of first world countries within developing nations is ongoing. As globalization

provides a stronger collective identity and distinctiveness, it simultaneously leads to misrepresentation and exploitation. Cultural diversity can either be strengthened or targeted and, for this reason, this issue is currently pending, causing mayor difficulties towards reaching a solution.

Current Situation

As of right now, first world countries are taking the most out of the present world, creating enormous industries which will later generate a lot of profit. This organization's need workers of course, which is were third world countries are affected. Workers in second and third world countries such as India and China are being exploited over terrible working conditions. People that work there are paid mediocrely for hard work. Many people have gotten their companies to spread world wide, leaving a mark of their countries everywhere. The great and helps the country.

First world countries are the most benefiting ones on the present, creating big companies which leave a mark in every single place around the world. It makes the country weather, hinkle it makes it famous. Globalization has a lot of negative effects around the globe , as it works on the interest of richer countries, and they continue to dominate the world market. This leaves the less economically developed countries

(LEDC) to just provide raw and cheap materials to the west and north, not putting them in a developing situation for their countries. This of course added to the fact that the local community will most like not be benefited by the inward investment, as the majority of the times, the profits are sent back to the more economically developed countries (MEDC), which will keep dominating the world market. The more economically developed countries, will often put their manufacturers in less developed countries, where the production is cheaper, affecting the country and leaving the workers in a horrible situation. For example, if you are producing phones, the amount to make it on the United States will be higher than in China, as the labourer conditions are higher in the USA, as well as the minimum salary. This leads to the company to create his phones in China, so the least money is spent.

However, the economic aspects that have brought upon the exploitation of workers internationally has not been considered to be the only downfall of globalization. This issue has also brought upon impacts in culture and language that have been perceived as negative acts of accomodation which may result in the loss of identity midst these outside influences possessed in developing nations. Rather, these outside influences have been viewed as an "invasion of privacy" to citizens of varied countries, whom refuse to

acknowledge the many benefits that have been brought upon by this same turn of events.

Globalization has its positive effects, as it has connected countries and broken down borders. It has a positive impact in developed countries, as it has provided the market with technological advancements, as well as medical, among others. Globalization has made the world smaller, and more connected. Every country can leave a mark in other countries by placing their enterprises there. It helps countries with their poverty problems, and it modernizes the world. Globalization in the present, is easier than ever, as many trading borders don't exist anymore. The countries that are most benefiting from globalization as of right now, according to studies made in 2012, are Ireland, Netherland, and Belgium, tho developed countries are quickly catching up. Globalization has also created an increasing competition, which leads to increasing products and companies, and increased efficiency. Some people believe that the costs of globalization have outweighed the benefits, as it creates enormous tariffs, and tax imports. In brief, globalization has had a positive impact on MEDC, but affected a lot of LEDC's.

Bloc Positions

<u>United States of America:</u> The United States of America is widely recognized as an advocate against globalization due to the wide amounts of people who support the belief promoting that "the phenomenon has robbed Americans of their jobs and livelihoods, opened their borders to too many immigrants […] and diluted America's culture and values" (Grappo, 2016). However, all the same, the United States is also one of the major influencers of globalization, as they often clout gangs of nations to advocate their same ideals. Similarly, the United States has also been found to participate actively in the exploitation of workers which, though benefactory to the nation's economy, is a negative consequence primarily directed towards China's production lines. This, though, undoubtedly comes at a cost as, recently, the government has only begun to divulge into the consequences that globalization offers and the policies or measures that may have to be instilled.

<u>India:</u> As differentiated by a number, "Indians and Chinese also express pride in their respective nation's growing stature," as was stated by Pew Research Center director, Bruce Stokes. On the contrary, India's citizens have been expressing dissatisfaction against the

government in their continuous attempts to integrate themselves into the global economy. The general public continues to be rather divided in regards to the globalization that is made to be present in the nation. All the same, the public satisfaction rate has increased a 36 percent since 2013. This has contributed greatly towards the current education installed in the nation to provide education shared to women and men of all age groups. For this reason, India has expressed how pleased they are with the current changes in the country, despite their concerns. The current economic direction that has been taken on the behalf of the government is thought to have been bringing positive results, further embellishing this idea.

China: China has been predisposed to a numerous amount of positive impacts, each demonstrated thanks to the overwhelming presence of globalization. These have brought on incredible economic developments, contributing to the improved lifestyle that their citizens abide by as a result of their newfound living standards. The employment opportunities for these same citizens has also been facing tremendous growth. Regardless, this opens the doors to exploitations of labor and endless streams of hazardous diseases to become a potential threat. China has also found itself linked to human trafficking due to the constant travels that take place across the borders. Globalization, however, does not distress the nation due to the fact that, along with India, the nations embrace globalization as a growth in their economic integration.

Iraq: A numerous amount of historians and political theorists have the strict belief that the U.S. invasion of Iraq was indeed promoted midst the movement that is globalism. This is encouraged with the supporting evidence demonstrated midst the intercapitalist rivalry that is promoted by the neoliberalism generated by this same globalism. Due to the fact that this encourages intercapilalistic tensions to rise up between nations, this is viewed as the military aspect that is promoted midst this movement. For this reason, globalization should not be limited to the dangers imposed on language or economy, rather, should be recognized as a threat that may lead to acts of militarization, as it has in the past, thus promoting caution when determining a resolution.

Thailand: Thailand has principally experienced both the positive and negative impacts of globalization in the past decades. During the 1980's, the nation has faced high economic growths. Several companies and manufacturers found themselves interested in this area off the Asian coast. However, this trend changed drastically during the late

1990's. Investments implemented in Thailand were soon deserted and, as a result, several companies have become bankrupt. This, as a result, has indirectly contributed to the high levels of child labour and exploitation within these areas, as revealed earlier this year through the Nestle exposure articles. Lots of controversy has been brought over Thailand and the company itself; keeping in mind that the investment of this cooperation within the nation is another consequence of globalism, as a result of their apparent manipulation of Thai groups for their own benefit.

Actions Taken

The United Nations, in and of itself, is already a primary example of the consequences of globalism. A global authority exists with the purpose of imposing law and order or creating solutions to problems that plague societies. "Faced with such a globalism built on sand, we must reaffirm the urgent need of founding international society on the recognition of the equal dignity of all men. The juridical system that predominates at the UN makes this universal recognition strictly impossible, since the law and the rights of man cannot proceed except from voluntarist determinations. We must also reaffirm the primacy of the principle of subsidiarity correctly understood." (Schooyans, 2001).

There has existed an individual tackling of these issues in the past. Solutions targeting economic depleting or cultural eradication have been sought after before, however the root of the majority of these problems has not entirely been tackled. This is primarily due to the conflicting positive outcomes that are generated as a result of globalism in the modern world. According to the input on the behalf of several officials, globalization has brought unprecedented opportunities for developed and developing nations; however, its benefits are unevenly distributed. In many cases, this is what sets apart the defense of globalism and those who are against it. Since both sides argue with unprecedented consequences, it has become difficult for the United Nations to intervene and come up with a solution that will guarantee the satisfaction of all parties.

Potential Solutions

Education is nearly always pointed out as a solution to a problem. Primarily, there will need to exist a renewal of education. This is due to the fact that that education, in and of itself, already allows for us to obtain knowledge about the world that surrounds us, thus developing perspective and opinions that can be grounded; even influencing the change we need in order to solve any problem that arises. These teaching

techniques would have to be applied towards a large population of children and adults with the purpose of supporting those enduring negative aspects prompted by globalization to trade in manufacturing and services with confidence.

Other proposals include the increase of salaries. This idea entails that this would assist the progress of operatives found in healthcare or educational fields. Consequently, government action would be called upon in order to conduct these as a solution. In addition, community requisites are implied to continue their involvement in the markets, which is found to be troublesome for the population in need of their own resources. These would have to be actively driven by groups of people whom maintain incentives to corporations that provide aid to employees as a result.

Infrastructure is often recognized as a point of interest, seeing as no nation can expect to become economically progressive and competitive without adequate infrastructure. Even the most modern and developed economies need to maintain and improve their infrastructure. Nowhere is this more evident than in the US, where neglected highway and other transportation, communication and public service systems have not kept up with the population growth or demand. Private capital will follow public capital, and the latter today needs to be directed toward the country's infrastructure. In turn, that will generate not only the needed private capital into innovative industries but also greater employment opportunities for professional, skilled and semi-skilled labor. Such an undertaking is entirely consistent with globalization and can also effectively address the nation's overall welfare and competitiveness.

Further Research

Although we have provided information throughout the study guide, it is highly encouraged that each of you divulge further into the topic. Continuing to conduct your research will lead you onto a further understanding of globalization, the consequences and benefits produced by each, and the corresponding effects that may be seen in the future. Recall that we, as a committee, must think ahead in regards to future problems. Make sure to branch your investigation outside of your own delegation, allowing yourself to gain a global perspective in regards to globalization. We encourage you to research the consequences of globalization in regards to: nature, well-being, economy, and society. By conducting this research, you will be able to ensure that your understanding will be at its maximum potential.

Questions the Resolution Must Answer

1. What requirements will have to be met on the behalf of each delegation in order to provide the resources necessary within your proposals?
2. What consequences will be endured if countries do not cooperate?
3. How will the negative effects of globalization be reduced?
4. In what ways must cultural preservation take place, despite the outsourcing of native's homes and land?
5. How will the UN successfully influence media in order to bring attention to technological globalization?
6. How will SOCHUM find a solution to the economical outbreaks in Africa, where worker exploitation is frequent?
7. What will be done in regards to developing countries who are unable to reach the same standards as placed by developed countries in the global market?
8. How will a sustainable lifestyle still be ensured for these people in developing nations?

Closing Remarks

Globalization has often been studied and reviewed as the root cause for many of the problems experienced up to date. Many of you will undergo the experience of representing a delegation with ideals that contradict your own. Do not expect to not endure some form of challenge throughout the conference. If you have any doubts, do not hesitate to contact myself or the moderator in regards to the conference through our respective email addresses. We will make sure to help you as best we can so you can come to PASMUN 2018 with the courage and reassurance needed. Understandably, this is a middle-school conference. We know that for several of you, this may be your first Model UN experience. Being nervous is normal and all part of the excitement, so make sure not to let this hold you back. We cannot wait for your participation and to see what solutions you will be presenting to us. As committee director, I'd advise you to work alongside other delegates in a progressive manner, respecting others throughout the course of the debates. Sebastian and I can hardly wait to see how you face the problems that will be thrown at you. Best of luck.

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