

Dear Delegates,

It is with great delight that I invite all of you to the sixteenth session of the annual Paris Model United Nations Conference, taking place from 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

Once again, we are pleased to announced that the conference will take place at La Maison de la Mutualité, in the vibrant Latin Quarter of Paris. Last year was the first time the conference was held at this location, and it can be safely conveyed that it proved to be an exceptional host. The conference centre was stunning and spacious, and created an energetic, enthused environment for debate.

This year, the Executive Team's primary focus was on an extraordinarily simple word: responsibility. This is a term frequently used, and is one which possesses global significance. Each individual possesses a duty to the planet; whether it be socially, economically, environmentally or politically. Our theme of "*Seeking to action global responsibilities*" is one which begins with an individual, yet holds the potential to have international influence.

The notion to action global responsibilities began with the Special Conference. This year, PAMUN XVI's Special Conference will re-evaluate the role of the United Nations itself through the UN charter. Since 24<sup>th</sup> October 1945, the Charter has had the objective to promote global cooperation and peace. As time advances, this goal still stands, yet the ways in which such coordination, collaboration and communication aims to be achieved changes and develops. It is the duty and responsibility of the United Nations and its members to recognise these responsibilities, act upon them and shape innovative, sustainable and practical methods to achieve these objectives. Thus, an abridged version of the UN Charter will be debated and amended by delegates in the Special Conference, keeping the fundamental and reputable objectives of the United Nations in mind while also updating them to 21<sup>st</sup> century needs.

The conception of responsibility is prevalent throughout our Agenda. Whether it be our Themed Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees dealing with the duties and capacities of neighbouring countries in global refugee crises, or our Political Committee, evaluating the role of UN peacekeeping forces. Furthermore, it can be exemplified within our Economic and Social Council which aims to attain a balance between increasing the total production of an economy and its growth with improving welfare and standards of living through action by governments, firms and individuals. This idea further spreads to extremism and terrorism, seen within the Disarmament Committee and the Security Council.

With Paris as a centre of diplomatic activity, the entire PAMUN XVI team is looking forward to being a part of a productive and invigorating journey. Our hope is that delegates leave with a firm understanding of our rapidly changing society, and how that is reflected in both individual as well as collective responsibilities.

I look forward to the pleasure of meeting all of you at PAMUN XVI,

Sara Kamboj  
Secretary General  
PAMUN XVI