

34TH MOAS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

December 3, 2015: Final Newsletter

FAREWELL



As we come to our final day of this year's MOAS it is time to reflect on the last couple of days. We were pleased to have the OAS Specialists to help each committee with any questions or help with any ideas they had. All of the committees were able to break into working groups to develop final resolutions, which were later debated. Congratulations for all of the resolutions that were passed and congratulations to each delegate who participated in an amazing 34th MOAS for High Schools. We would like to give a special thank you to Ambassador Nestor Mendez for supporting MOAS. A big thanks you to our MOAS Program Coordinator, Nelly Robinson, the MOAS Consultant, Jeymar Bianchis, and the MOAS Intern, Alejandra Pinelo.

Good luck to everyone in their future endeavors and we are eager for next year's MOAS!

Head of Press:
Meg Chandler
Katie Quigg



Organization of
American States

Ambassador Nestor
Mendez
Assistant Secretary General

Ambassador Francisco
Laínez
*Chief of Staff of the
Assistant Secretary General*

Nelly Robinson
MOAS Program Coordinator

Jeymar Bianchis
MOAS Consultant

Alejandra Pinelo
MOAS Intern



COMMITTEES

Special Working Group GET

Chair: Romeo Caruso

Vice Chair: Joanna Bui

To start off the third day of MOAS, the GET spent their time making amendments to make their declaration the best it can be. After they finished, I got the opportunity to talk to a delegate from El Salvador, Katie Varoga. In her working group, they talked about the issues regarding discrimination towards children around the world with lack of education. To help solve these issues, the working group decided that making primary school mandatory, preserving indigenous traditions and raising the minimum years of education would be a good start. "By doing these three things, children in El Salvador are required to have more education and this will help in the long run to solve the lack of education", said Varoga.

After the lunch break, the delegates got back into their working groups. The delegates were working hard and got through their revisions very quickly. After resolutions, it was time for debating. The delegates had a lot to say and were much more comfortable with each other than they were the last two days. For being a new ad hoc group, the GET did very well and had a great time at the 34th annual MOAS.

GET Writer:
Alison Currie

General Committee

Chair: Gabriela Rodríguez

Vice Chair: Joslyn Gardner

The General Committee seemed pressed for time during the first half of the day, but got on track and successfully passed all six of their proposed resolutions. The first presented resolution, concerning the cooperation of countries that migrants originate, travel, or arrive at to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all immigrants seemed to be the most controversial on the discussion floor. Delegates took part in almost an hour and forty-five minute long debate where questions were flowing and opinions were stated. Following multiple amendments, the resolution was passed with a majority vote along with its five succeeding resolutions. The Committee did an impressive job of staying focused and involved in resolution debate regardless of the duration of the session all the way up to their lunch break.

After the General Committee returned from lunch, the election for the Vice Chair of next year's 2016 Model OAS took place where Juan Camilo Castro, from the delegation of the Dominican Republic, but originally from Colombia, won the seat. The session concluded with current General Committee's Vice Chair, Joslyn Gardner closing remarks as her final duties were coming to an end. During the final Plenary Sessions, the General Committee approved the MOAS Declaration "Racism, discrimination and intolerance as obstacles to development in the Americas" by consensus. Finally, after hearing very inspiring speeches from the candidates, the delegates elected Sadie Proud as President of next year's MOAS and Dominic Blair as the MOAS Secretary General. Great job from General Committee this year!

General Committee Writer:
Alyssa LoRusso

First Committee

Chair: Clayton Lawrence

Vice Chair: Simone Veale

The final day of the First Committee kicked off with the delegates meeting in the conference room ready to discuss and debate their resolutions. There were six resolutions that were discussed throughout this session but out of the six there were two main resolutions that covered the main topics of "Public Defenders & Access to Justice" and "Civic Strengthening of Local Governments".

The first resolution that was discussed regarded encouraging the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in promoting the access to justice in impoverished communities. The resolution wanted to expand the definition of "impoverished people" for the purposes of this resolution including but not be limited to those who are economically and/or socially compromised to provide sanctuary from potential discrimination. The delegations also wanted to prevent corruption and to provide access to justices for minority groups in training and education, legal cases, publications, media, and cultural programmes. After thoroughly debating and discussing this resolution, it was approved.

Another resolution that was debated talked about civic strengthening of local governments. The resolution recognized promoting a multi-dimensional approach to improve the issue of citizen security at the state level. Since citizen security was addressed in the resolution, the resolution was passed through the delegations after a thrilling debate.

To wrap up the final session, delegates voted for the new Chair and Vice Chair for the 2016 MOAS. After all of the votes were tallied, the new Vice Chair is Bernardo Reyes Varela, and the new Chair is John Besche. Congratulations to them both!

First Committee Writer:
Lizzie Nadolski

Second Committee

Chair: Rohan Subramanian
Vice Chair: Matthew Hartzoge

The final day of the MOAS Second Committee was bitter sweet. Though all the resolutions were passed, many wished this experience would not end. We talked to Caelan Mitchell-Brant, a delegate representing Trinidad and Tobago. He spoke to us about his thoughts on the resolutions. He stated that all the resolutions were well written and well spoken from all of the delegations. He thought the Second Committee greatly improved parliamentary procedure by the end of the conference. Everyone understood the topic and correct procedure by the end which made it much more enjoyable, especially during debate. He also was impressed by everyone's contributions to discussion. Everyone was involved which led to great resolutions. At the end of the committee sessions, the delegations voted and the new Chair is Eduardo Gonzalez from the Delegation of Mexico and the new Vice Chair is Sophia Azimi from the delegation of Venezuela. Spirits were high at the end of the day. Each and every delegate has learned something from this extremely lucky experience. MOAS has changed the way of many look at the world for the better.

Second Committee Writer:
 Gabi Rudnick

Third Committee

Chair: Marcos Valdez
Vice Chair: Hayden Boldrick

On the last day in the Third Committee the delegates had a very slow start, but were excited and ready to start the debate over the resolutions. Many were eager to hear what others had to say and voice their own ideas for their country. Out of the six resolutions covered, there were two that really stood out.

The first resolution was under the topic of encouraging enterprises to promote energy efficiency, and it was to encourage states to support S.T.E.M. (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs. Students discussed how this helps with energy efficiency in different ways. They stated that it would help with enterprises in the future and also to use cleaner energy in the future. After weighing all the factors of this resolution, it was passed in the end.

The other resolution was about waste management and sustainable cities in the Americas. Delegates were promoting trade and communication between the Americas through the cloud. Many people said that this was already happening throughout the Americas, and some said that some countries wouldn't be able to access the cloud at all. Others disagreed and stated that since technology is spreading, this would not be a problem. After going back and forth, this resolution was passed as well. After everyone's hard work in the Third Committee, it was time to vote for Vice Chair and Chair. After voting and revoting, the Vice Chair elected for next year's conference is Isaiah Barnes, and the Chair is Delion Bowes. Good job to everyone in Third Committee for a successful conference.

Third Committee Writer:
 Emily Henry

Special Fourth Committee

Chair: Christopher con Münchow-Pohl
Vice Chair: Robert Mattot

Today the committees were hard at work finalizing resolutions and electing future authorities. In the Special Fourth Committee regarding the topic on "Youth protection and empowerment", one resolution passed and two failed. All three resolutions were pressing to keep children safe; away from any affiliations with gangs and criminal activity. The three shared a commonality to train teachers to recognize alarming signs of criminal activity within their students. It was popular among the delegates to vote in favor of extending the age requirements for secondary school, adding more programs to train students and teachers, and encouraging communication between teachers and parents. Studies show that occupying students with activities in and out of school, training teachers to identify at risk students, and connecting the student's teachers with their families, has a positive effect on children by keeping them off the streets. However, many of the delegates were not in favor of giving out more scholarships and lowering the costs of schools due to lack of funding. Fourth Committee discussed producing videos with Pop Stars promoting after school programs, although it was not voted in due to funding issues. Finally, after all six resolutions were discussed, the new Chair and Vice Chair were elected. For next year's 35th MOAS conference the Fourth Committee Chair is Tanner Matott and the Vice Chair is Katharine Hornish. Congratulations everybody in Fourth Committee!

Special Committee Writer:
 Sophia Copeland