

# 34<sup>TH</sup> MOAS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

December 4, 2015: Newsletter No. 3

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

Special Working Group GET

Chair: Romeo Caruso

Vice Chair: Joanna Bui

At the beginning of day two of MOAS, the Special Committee delegates were working diligently, brainstorming clauses for the Declaration on “Racism, discrimination and intolerance as obstacles to development in the Americas”. While the delegates were finalizing their clauses, we interviewed the Committee Chair, Romeo Caruso. This is Caruso’s first year being the Committee Chair and he is very excited to see what the delegates’ views are on race and discrimination. Caruso’s goals for the delegates on day two include finishing their clauses and getting their suggestions from the General Committee. Caruso feels that the delegates are working hard and have a good understanding of the topics at hand. He is looking forward to see what the delegates have to bring tomorrow in the debate.

After lunch, I had the opportunity to interview two delegates, Jasper Pearson from the delegation of Haiti and Sebastian Gray from the delegation of Venezuela. Pearson and Gray informed me on the problems with gender inequality in both countries. Both Pearson and Gray feel the delegates are working very well together and, for

gender equality. Unfortunately, gender equality is a pressing issue in Haiti, “Only 43% of Haitian women are literate” said Pearson, “getting them into public schools systems is important”. On the other hand, in Venezuela, gender equality isn’t a pressing issue. Over 95% of both men and women are literate, meaning that men and women get the same right with education. In fact, Venezuela is known for being the most advanced country, with gender equality, in South America. “I believe Venezuela can help other countries with gender equality by leading by example” said Gray. Both delegates feel that MOAS teaches them communication skills and it teaches you how to work well with other people.

GET Writer:  
Alison Currie



## 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*



**General Committee**

**Chair: Gabriela Rodríguez**  
**Vice Chair: Joslyn Gardner**

As the second day of the MOAS began, General Committee came back with even more energy and excitement to work toward their resolutions. Again, the committee split up into their six-subtopic groups where the drafts for resolutions were well on their way. Prior to the lunch break, almost all of the groups seemed to be finalizing their drafts, and making last minute edits in preparation for the break.

Fortunately, I had the opportunity to meet up with President, Gabriela Rodríguez, where we discussed her goals for this year's Model OAS along with her advice for the delegates. Gabriela said that her main goal for this model is to not just draft resolutions that look good on paper, but are viable and effective in the real world. She went on to say that she was excited for this year because, "we see things differently than the real OAS members". With a different set of eyes and different outlooks on the issues, the delegates may be able to catch something that the real OAS representatives may not have. When I went on to ask her what she was stressing the most to the delegates this year, Gabriela responded by saying that she has attended many models like the MOAS in Colombia where there is a deeper level of respect for parliamentary language and to the chair, but is very proud of the improvement from last year. She urges everyone to ask questions because the Committee Chair and Officers are very approachable, and have high expectations but also want to have fun.

General Committee Writer:  
 Alyssa LoRusso

**First Committee**

**Chair: Clayton Lawrence**  
**Vice Chair: Simone Veale**

Following up after day one, the second day of MOAS begins with First Committee splitting up into their subtopic groups. When the delegates got into their groups, they immediately elected one of its members as the "group representative" and another as its "secretary". These roles are vital since they will be representing the delegations defending and the resolutions that they drafted.

Moving along, there are different subtopics that each of the delegates are assigned too. The two main topics include public defenders & access to justice and civic strengthening of local governments. There are three different subtopics in each; therefore one out of the two delegates from each country goes to one subtopic each. This is where the debate and resolutions are created. All of the resolutions have to be debated and approved in the Committee tomorrow.

Clayton Lawrence, First Committee Chair, exclaims he is "very excited to see what is in store for the resolutions that the delegates come up with because they have been working so diligently throughout the course of the working group meetings." Clayton's goal this year at MOAS is for all of the resolutions to get passed and for everyone to stay on schedule, but at the same time to have fun and not have the "rookies" be afraid to speak up and participate. Everyone is very enthusiastic to be participating in the First Committee and cannot wait to meet up again tomorrow to go over the resolutions.

First Committee Writer:  
 Lizzie Nadolski

**Second Committee**

**Chair: Rohan Subramanian**  
**Vice Chair: Matthew Hartzoge**

During the second morning of the MOAS conference the delegates of the second committee were hard at work on their subtopics. They were working on resolutions for firearms. I had the opportunity to talk to the secretary of the Second Committee, Marina Gonzales. She was very pleased with all of the delegates' discussion. She thought they were all very well prepared and saw they were taking into consideration what their ideas could do. There were many innovative ideas, and she said when they started discussing ideas, it sparked other ideas and they were able to come up with even better proposals. Gonzales also shared that everyone was on common ground for the most part and worked well together. It is a very current topic, and the delegates were working diligently to find a solution on the pressing issues. She hopes the delegates' resolutions will be well. If the resolutions are well written the delegations will be much closer to forming agreements and bettering each of their countries.

Second Committee Writer:  
 Gabi Rudnick

**Third Committee**  
**Chair: Marcos Valdez**  
**Vice Chair: Hayden Boldrick**

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As the second day began, students were broken up into groups to talk about the topics. I asked the delegates how they were working together to make these problems into solutions. They answered by saying that they all had very different things to add, but they were able to come to a consensus and combine their ideas. In the case of the topic of “Creation of sustainable cities in the Americas”, there were three working groups with three subtopics, which were clean energy, waste management, and awareness to climate hazards.

The first group said one of their main ideas was to tell enterprises that if they used and promoted clean energy, they would get tax breaks from the government. The other group focused on waste management. Their goal was to have foreign investment until sustainability is achieved. They also want to bring public and private institutions together to work to achieve this. The last group focused on promoting awareness to natural hazards. To promote this, they want to have training programs with community leaders teaching people how to protect yourself if or when something like this were to occur. It will be exciting to see the votes on the final resolutions tomorrow.

Third Committee Writer:  
 Emily Henry

**Special Fourth Committee**  
**Chair: Christopher con Münchow-Pohl**  
**Vice Chair: Robert Mattot**

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Special Committee spent the first half of the day in working groups. Jason Ngov, a delegate from Nicaragua, worked in a working group discussing ways to improve higher education for developing countries. The biggest issue in the group was to develop more international high school vocational training. Since secondary school isn't mandatory in many countries, not all families can send their children through school because they need them to bring in an income for the family. The first resolution that was discussed was to get funding through OAS or taxes. The group talked about a paid internship program that would enable kids to get a strong education and still be able to provide an income for their families. After much strategizing, it was clear that this would be a very expensive resolution and the OAS would not have the financial means to fund the project. It was decided to have international non-paid internships that are at the discretion of the family whether or not to send their child. In addition to this, everyone agreed there should be more job training classes, teacher training and more volunteer and exchange programs for teachers to come from countries like the United States to different countries in need of more experienced teachers.

Special Committee Writer:  
 Sophia Copeland

## PHOTO RECAP



Photographer:  
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