

# SDYC | 2019 PROSPECTUS

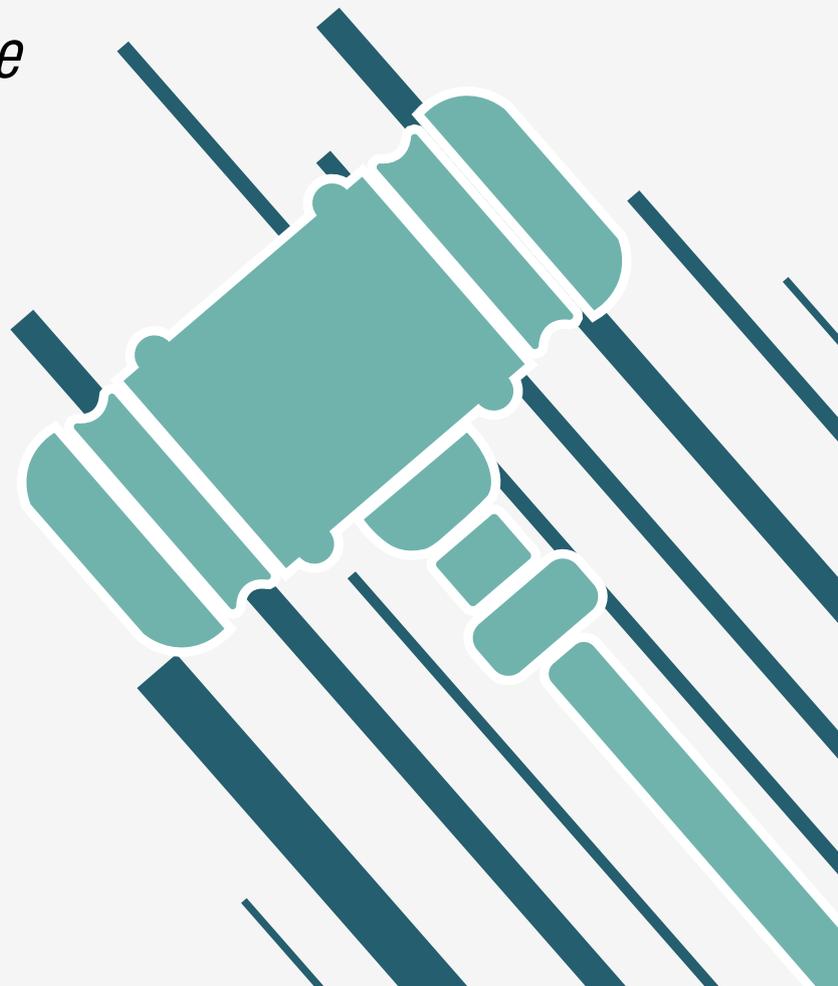


10th Year Anniversary!

*Consensus Through Resolve*

23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August

NUS High School



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# About Us

The inaugural Sustainable Development Youth Convention (SDYC) took place in 2010, making SDYC 2019 our 10th anniversary. Under the Humanities Interest Group of NUS High, SDYC's initial aim was to amalgamate the humanities with Math and Sciences. In our fledgling years, this was done through talks and SDYC even hosted tours of NUS High's specialised laboratories coupled with hands-on environmental science activities.

However, over the years, SDYC has taken flight and now serves as a platform for students to champion their interests in the humanities and current affairs. It is a 3-day Model United Nations (MUN) conference organised by the Year 4s-6s of NUS High School. To delegates, it promises academic rigour over the 3 days as they represent various stakeholders during debates.

The theme for this year's conference - "*Consensus Through Resolve*" - illustrates the very process of diplomacy itself. In the world of foreign relations and domestic politics, sheer resilience is needed to find a solution that satisfies all stakeholders, which is further complicated by conflicts of interests. As such, only by embodying the theme in their approach towards council can delegates best forge a consensus for a better future.

A special feature of SDYC is the Mass Activities. Although presented in different forms across the years, its purpose is for delegates to further explore sustainable development while furthering the friendships they have made over the conference. All in all, SDYC is a conference that serves to promote sustainable development. By youth for youth.

# Welcome Letter

*Dear Delegates, Teachers and Honourable Guests of the Sustainable Development Youth Convention,*

On behalf of the organising team of the Sustainable Development Youth Convention (SDYC), it is our pleasure to invite and welcome you to the 10th SDYC. This year, SDYC will run over 3 days from the 23rd to the 25th of August 2019, and it will be held in NUS High School of Mathematics and Science.

SDYC is one of many Model United Nations (MUN) conferences organised for the youth, by the youth, but with a key focus on sustainable development. SDYC aims to inspire youth to make a change in resolving pertinent issues regarding sustainable development through diplomacy and debate, which culminate in the formation of creative solutions. We aim for delegates to leave the conference with a greater awareness towards global affairs, empowering them to be the leaders of the future.

In this year's iteration of SDYC, we will bring to you exciting and meaningful discussion on a wide scope of topics ranging from the issue of voluntourism in the United Nations World Tourism Organisation to healthcare reform in the United States Senate. The 10th edition of SDYC presents the International Press Gallery for the first time, a Joint Cabinet Crisis committee, as well as the United Nations Security Council that will adopt the UN4MUN format, bringing delegates closer to the authentic UN experience. Topping it all off, SDYC 2019 will be opening registrations to independent delegations as well. We seek to reach out to a greater audience of delegates to join us on this exciting journey!

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In addition to the intense debate delegates will experience, SDYC also features Mass Activities for delegates. The activities provide delegates with an opportunity to experience the complexity of balancing sustainability with progress and competition whilst solidifying the bonds formed over the conference with other delegates. Delegates are also welcome to relax and unwind with a Dinner and Dance event which will be packed with exciting games and performances, a night truly not to be missed.

With the chaos and turbulence taking the world by storm today, it is ever more important that we bring up conversation and discussion on long-term sustainability in order to build a brighter and more peaceful world – a world not just for ourselves, but also for the future generations to come. We hope that you will take this first step and join in the conversation, and we look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Yours sincerely,  
Secretariat of SDYC



# Guest of Honour

We are honoured to have with us Mr. Bilahari Kausikan, our Guest-of-Honour, who will grace the Opening Ceremony of this year's conference.

Mr. Kausikan received his education from Raffles Institution, the then-University of Singapore (now the National University of Singapore), where he graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science degree in Political Science, as well as Columbia University, New York, where he attained a Master of Arts degree in Political Science.

Mr. Kausikan began his career in the Civil Service in 1981 as a Foreign Service Officer before he joined the Administrative Service in 1983. He was elected as Singapore's Ambassador to the Russian Federation from 1994 to 1995, serving concurrently as the Ambassador to Finland. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Kausikan was appointed as Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, serving concurrently as Ambassador to Mexico and High Commissioner to Canada. In 1998, he was appointed Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and subsequently served as the Second Permanent Secretary and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2001 to 2013. He served as Singapore's Ambassador-at-Large from 2013 to 2018.

In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kausikan has served in a variety of positions, including Director for Southeast Asia, Director for East Asia and the Pacific, as well as Deputy Secretary for Southeast Asia. Presently, Mr. Kausikan serves as Chairman of the Middle East Institute, an autonomous institute at the National University of Singapore.

For his service, Mr. Kausikan has been awarded the Public Administration Medal (Gold) and the Pingat Jasa Gemilang (Meritorious Service Medal) by the government of the Republic of Singapore. He has also been awarded the Order of Bernardo O' Higgins (Gran Cruz) by the President of the Republic of Chile in 2002, and the Oman Civil Merit Order (Second Class) by the Sultan of Oman in 2013.



# Timeline

## Phase 1

Registration emails sent!  
(Schools to indicate intent)

## Phase 2 Mid - June

Registration portal opens!

12 Jul 2019

Registration closes.

27 Jul 2019

Deadline for payments.  
External delegate training.

28 Jul 2019

Delegate allocation released!  
(subject to payment receipt)

23-25 Aug

SDYC 2019!

# Conference Schedule

## Day 1

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
0900 - 1000	Registration	Concourse
1000 - 1200	Opening Ceremony	Auditorium
1200 - 1300	Lunch	Canteen
1300 - 1530	Council Session I	Council Venues
1530 - 1600	Tea Break	Canteen
1600 - 1830	Council Session II	Council Venues

# Conference Schedule

## Day 2

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
0900 - 1130	Council Session III	Council Venues
1130 - 1230	Lunch	Canteen
1230 - 1500	Council Session IV	Council Venues
1500 - 1600	Tea and Council Phototaking	Canteen & Respec- tive Venues
1600 - 1800	Council Session V	Council Venues
1815 - 1830	Wash Up	-
1830 - 2030	Dinner & Dance	Hall

# Conference Schedule

## Day 3

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
0900 - 1130	Council Session VI	Council Venues
1130 - 1230	Lunch	Canteen
1230 - 1430	Council Session VII	Council Venues
1430 - 1730	Mass Activities	Respective Venues
1730 - 1830	Closing Ceremony	Auditorium

# Delegate Affairs

## Mass Activities and Dinner & Dance

Ultimately, we strive to make one's experience at SDYC fulfilling, memorable, and enjoyable. Our Dinner & Dance, as well as our Mass Activities, provide opportunities for one to bond and socialise with fellow delegates beyond committee sessions. Needless to say, delegates can expect to break away from intense debate and enter into more lighthearted fun.

Our Dinner & Dance – shorthand as D&D – will not only fill appetites, but will certainly sate a delegate's desire for entertainment as well. There will be a repertoire of exciting performances and fresh, new activities on stage for delegates to participate in. Furthermore, there will be plenty of opportunities for delegates to memorialise the D&D experience with companions both old and new. One thing is for sure: when it all begins, delegates will be easily swept up by the infectious atmosphere of the room.

For the sake of mystery, we will hold out on revealing much about the Mass Activities we have planned this year. However, delegates can expect their discursive skills and leading capabilities to be put to the test once more in a fun and exciting game. There will be strategy, contest, alliances as well as deception, in a frantic race for the finish. We promise an invigorating experience that will be equally thrilling and challenging to all.



# UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

## Health Issues in Conflict Zones

Originally established in 1967 as a trust fund, the United Nations Population Fund (renamed from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities) is the lead United Nations agency tasked with the promotion of population programmes, as well as directing and coordinating projects supported by the UNFPA. The UNFPA leads many such programmes worldwide, providing crucial funding to the development of health programmes in developing countries.

Recognisant of the fact that certain regions of the world still face a looming threat of political instability and conflict to this day, it is crucial to safeguard the health of civilians in these regions. In the aftermath of conflict, healthcare systems are left debilitated, following the destruction of key infrastructure such as healthcare facilities, and the targeting of medical personnel. Other sub-issues, including violence against women in conflict zones, alongside widespread famine also pose major risks to the health of the population.

While there have been notable efforts made by varying levels of the international community to resolve this issue, the problems are exacerbated when aid delivery to conflict zones is slowed or halted by various weaknesses in the healthcare provision and distribution system. Considering the different nature of conflicts and the spiralling need to resolve the issue comprehensively to prevent further loss of lives and violation of rights, delegates of this committee will discuss how best to present policies and allocate aid.



# WORLD TOURISM ORGANISATION (UNWTO)

## Voluntourism

The United Nations World Tourism Organization is a double delegation beginner committee, ideal for individuals who are entering the MUN circuit for the first time, but do not want to venture into the circuit alone.

Tackling the issue of voluntourism, a form of tourism where the tourists primarily participates in voluntary work as their form of sight seeing, this committee will explore the impacts this growing trend has had on tourists, as well as the beneficiary. Delegates will look into the main driving factors of this trend, such as the needs of the beneficiary, as well as the areas by which individuals and societies have begun exploiting these good intentions for self-profit. These include reasons such as stereotypes, false conceptions as well as the growing problem of corruption.

Delegates will be required to come up with creative and sustainable solutions to improve tourism competitiveness of these areas, while simultaneously promoting sustainable tourism development, battling poverty, and increasing the overall socio-economic development of these beneficiaries. Through this, delegates can look forward to learning more about the variations in the tourism sector across countries worldwide and exploring what it means to achieve sustainable tourism.



# AFRICAN UNION (AU)

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## Ensuring Sustainable Water Supply in the African Continent

The African Union is a continental union which comprises 55 nations hailing from the continent of the union's namesake, Africa. Guided by the the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the Union is tasked with the mission of increasing the unity and solidarity of the African people, defending the sovereignty and interests of her member states and to accelerate social, political and economic development throughout the continent.

Water is a precious resource and in light of expanding populations and global warming, this issue becomes ever more pressing. The African continent is especially impacted by the potential of a water crisis, with disputes over water resources and its management slowly translating into what is now known as "hydropolitics". Water resources are distributed unevenly over the continent and there have been historic disputes over key water basins and rivers. Furthermore, the entry of private companies in managing these water resources as either energy sources or a public utility has further complicated matters. Thus, Delegates can expect exciting debate over issues ranging from privatisation to water resource rights and even water conflict.



# UNITED STATES SENATE (USS)

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## The Issue of Healthcare Reform

The United States is a federal republic where legislative powers are vested in the two chambers of Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives. The United States Senate comprises a hundred Senators representing the fifty states in debates that range from the appointment of judges to approval of treaties.

The issue of healthcare in America is longstanding and has long been a bone of contention between the Democrats and Republicans. The healthcare system itself is dominated by the private sector and sees many individuals lacking affordable health insurance. Prohibitively high healthcare costs have consistently plagued the average American citizen, highlighting the need for immediate and effective healthcare reform.

In 2010, the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare) was signed into law, marking the first successful major healthcare reform in decades. However, it was passed only with the votes of Democrats, contributing to an incredibly polarised public discourse surrounding the topic. The Republicans have vowed to repeal and replace the law while the Democrats have called for strengthening its core pillars and transitioning towards universal healthcare. Little headway has been made legislatively ever since, while the American people continue to suffer the consequences.

In this council, delegates can expect engaging debate in discussing the technical aspects of the healthcare system in America whilst representing the well-defined portfolios and positions of their respective Senators. They will walk away with a better understanding of bipartisan negotiations and public policymaking in the health sector.



# UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC)

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## Dynamic Agenda

As one of SDYC's advanced committees, delegates can expect a challenge beyond any other UNSC they've been in. Beyond the thematic differences in topics, the composition of the committee, and the skill levels of your fellow delegates, the UNSC at SDYC 2019 will be pioneering a groundbreaking set of Rules of Procedure that provides a more realistic simulation and a more rigorous academic experience for advanced delegates, inspired from acclaimed international conferences.

Our most obvious change is the introduction of a dynamic agenda - diplomats in the UNSC don't have the luxury of months to prepare to respond to international crises! Delegates will be bombarded with a flurry of specific agenda items throughout the conference - these may be simple procedural matters, controversial thematic issues, or updates to various crises across the globe that concern international peace and security. With little more than an information dossier or a briefing provided on the spot, delegates will have to make swift decisions with profound global impacts.

Additionally, a plethora of procedural changes will be implemented, inspired from elements of the UN4MUN RoP - a MUN format released by the UN itself which more accurately simulates UN organs and their working methods. The delineation of committee sessions into Private and Public meetings will force delegates to treat every uttered word with great care and finesse. Arria-formula meetings will facilitate rapid discussions and bloc-forming as new issues arise. Consultations of the whole will force delegates to consider new strategies in getting their voices heard when it matters most. The aforementioned are among a smorgasbord of changes that will allow delegates to gain a much deeper understanding of the UNSC's nuances.

Delegates in the UNSC must be prepared to be pushed to their limits in on-the-spot research and information synthesis skills - while navigating the vagaries of international diplomacy at the highest level.



# INTERNATIONAL PRESS GALLERY (IPG)

## Press Committee

SDYC 2019 is excited to announce the opening of the International Press Gallery (IPG) - a replacement for the previous internal journalist system that provided commentary on committee events. The IPG at SDYC will be unlike any other Press committee you've seen in the local circuit - adding rigorous and fun mechanics adapted from international conferences on top of the existing dynamic nature of the committee.

As the only roaming committee at SDYC 2019, IPG delegates will be given the opportunity to travel across every committee. Delegates will get to observe proceedings and interview individual delegates to produce exciting pieces for their agency across various media forms. With the gamut of biases and writing styles represented across our diverse range of press agencies, delegates will have to apply the content skills and understanding of nuance that they've learnt in MUN.

Journalists in our world don't exist in isolation - they often have profound impacts on policy, ideas, and populations. Hence, IPG delegates will interact with mechanics designed to allow them a greater involvement in debate - and as a corollary, the resolutions produced throughout the conference. This most chiefly manifests in our press conferences, where press delegates can influence debate and grill delegates on their decisions in their respective committees.

With the advent and increasing penetration of technology worldwide, the ability of the press to influence ideas, populations, and policy has never been greater. With great power comes great responsibility - and delegates in the IPG must wield this with great care and nuance.



# JOINT CABINET CRISIS

## Human-Wildlife Conflict: Hardap

Hardap, meaning “nipple” in the local Khoekhoe (Nama) language due to the region’s abundance of low conical hills, is an administrative region in the South of Namibia. Hardap and Namibia as a whole has adopted a number of innovative approaches to achieve biodiversity conservation conciliatory with national development agendas. The commitment shown by Namibians and their government, who comprise one of the few republics that have baked environmentalism into their constitutions, has led to a remarkable recovery of key wildlife populations.

However, living with wildlife often carries a cost. Wildlife populations that exist in the vicinity of communal and freehold farming areas result in more frequent conflicts between humans and animals; a term coined as ‘*Human-Wildlife Conflict*’ - and this concept will be the crux of our crisis.

The crisis will be a *Joint Crisis Committee* involving 2 committees. The first will be a *Hardap Administrative Region Dialogue*, consisting of members of the Hardap Regional Council, local representatives of some federal ministries, local farm/plantation owners, and hunting range owners. The second will be a *Namibian Inquiry on Protecting Property, Livelihood, and the Environment*, consisting of representatives from the Namibian Ministry of Environment and Tourism, as well as representatives from NGOs active in the area (eg. the Cheetah Conservation Fund).

With the long-anticipated joint crisis committee finally returning to SDYC, delegates can expect a dynamic, rigorous, and fun experience as they navigate the vagaries of Sustainable Development through the Human-Wildlife Conflict.



# Awards

SDYC 2019 principally seeks to provide delegates an enriching and educational academic experience. The conference offers a unique opportunity for students to pick up skills in leadership, diplomacy, research, public speaking, and creative problem-solving - all under the thematic umbrella of Sustainable Development. Hence, our chief aim for delegates is that they leave the conference as matured future-ready thinkers and leaders cognisant of the challenges of achieving Sustainable Development and its relevance across the gamut of global issues. Nevertheless, we recognise that some delegates are able to make exceptional contributions to their committees and the conference, and we will be presenting individual and delegation awards during the Closing Ceremony.

In past years, individual awards have included: Best Delegate, Outstanding Delegate, Honourable Mention, and Best Position Paper. Additionally, one or more delegations may be verbally commended during the chairs' Closing Ceremony speeches. The distribution of these awards within each committee is subject to the chairs' discretion, and traditionally there is no hard quota imposed on award distributions (eg. smaller committees can have as many or more awards than larger committees if appropriate).

Delegation awards will be determined based on the number and type of individual delegation awards that a delegation has accumulated. All delegations are automatically eligible for delegation awards. Potential delegation awards include: Best Delegation, Outstanding Delegation, and situational awards such as Best Newcomer Delegation and Best Small Delegation could be introduced if a delegation that meets the criteria performs sufficiently well.

All awards decisions are final and not subject to appeal. Additionally, any amendments to the awards policy (including the number and type of awards given) are subject to the discretion of the Secretariat, and may be made without prior notice.

# Contact Details

 [@sdyc.19](https://www.instagram.com/sdyc.19)

 [sdyc](https://www.facebook.com/sdyc)

 [nushsdyc.org](https://www.nushsdyc.org)

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Bus Services: 96, 97, 151, 183, 188,  
189, 196, 197, 198, 963

Nearest MRT Station: Clementi and  
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