

# H-MUNEA '23

## HARITHKRAM

### H-MUNEA '23 REPORT

07-10-2023 - DAY 1

The sixth edition of Harithkram Model United Nations Environment Assembly 2023, organized by the environment society of Shaheed Bhagat Singh College commenced with an opening address delivered by our Chief Guest for the day Mr. Atul Bagai, Head of country office, India, of the United Nations Environment Programme, who was accompanied by Ms. Gayatri Raghwa, Environment Education Consultant, UNEP - India.

The focal theme of H-MUNEA '23 is “Youth for ‘One Earth, One Future’: Climate Change, Sustainability and Sustainable Practices,” which is based upon the theme of India’s G20 Presidency this year, “One Earth. One Family. One Future” and the India-led global movement, Mission LIFE “Lifestyle for Environment.”

The Chief Guest delivered his inaugural address in which he expressed his happiness about Harithkram’s unique initiative of conducting a simulation of UNEA ever since the UNEA started in 2014. He lauded the efforts of the organizing team, and drove home the singularity of the event: he reiterated that SBSC is the only institution in the country and possibly also, the only college in the world organizing a Model UNEA.



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On the request of the organizers, the Chief Guest, Mr. Bagai, declared the sixth edition of the Harithkram Model UNEA open. Ms. Raghwa, in her brief address, expressed her hope that the draft resolution of the Harithkram Model UNEA makes it to the youth session of the UNEA 6 to be held in Nairobi in February 2024. The inaugural session ended with the vote of thanks by the Executive Director.

Primed for an insightful first session of the H-MUNEA, the delegates were then introduced to the Executive Board. Mr. Lakshya Yog, the President, outlined the purpose of all the subsequent sessions, emphasizing, “Our goal is to understand the youth’s perspective on burning environmental issues.” Following his introductory speech, Ms. Prerna Raman, serving as the Rapporteur, elucidated the rules and procedures of the session. The session officially commenced with the Roll Call conducted by the Rapporteur, followed by a series of General Assembly speeches, starting with the Delegate of Afghanistan, followed by speeches from 36 other delegates in succession.

The representatives highlighted the measures taken by their respective nations in addressing climate change, reducing carbon emissions, and adopting sustainable methods. Numerous countries underscored the significance of planet Earth, with Canada’s delegate asserting, “Earth caters to the needs of all, not the greed of all.” Meanwhile, Iceland’s delegate remarked, “Earth is what we all share.”

After the suspension of the GSL (General Speakers List), the committee moved to its first Moderated Caucus on the agenda – Renewable Energy Transition. The motion was raised by the delegate of Belgium which was seconded by the majority (30 out of 37 delegates) for an hour, giving 90 seconds to each delegate. During the moderated caucus, delegates of different countries raised numerous important, relevant and contextual points that made the discussions immensely interactive and fruitful.

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## IMPORTANT CONCERNS RAISED IN THE COMMITTEE:

- Nearly every representative echoed a shared ground to faithfully commit to the SDG objectives and uphold the commitments made during the Paris Summit 2015, COP 27, and the recent G20 Summit in India.
- Many delegates talked about their current usage of renewable resources and made a mention of the alternatives, such as the use of Electrical Energy, Hydro Power, Wind Energy and Hydrogen Fuel, underscoring the significance of setting up larger number of solar panels.
- Along with the stimulating discussion came numerous POIs (Points of Information) and POOs (Points of Order), keeping the International Press and Executive Board constantly engaged and on their toes.
- Where many delegates were in favor of phasing out coal as it is one of the major contributors to greenhouse emission, others asked for the support to do so.
- The delegate of Sweden proposed introducing fuel taxes as a punishment enforcement so that people switch to cleaner energy and gradually decrease their dependence on non-renewable resources.

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- The delegate of Georgia voiced their opinion on creating and utilizing an enhanced technology for multi-hazard mapping.
- South Korea proposed the idea to create an attractive market for clean energy and talked about their campaign where they spread awareness on proper usage of renewable resources, while also focusing on developing sustainable habits simultaneously.
- The delegate of Youth, NGOs, Women and Children Major Group rightfully observed that Energy and Human Rights issues are complex and interrelated, and stressed on the need to have universal access to digital services and networking through NGOs.
- The delegate from Indonesia proposed a coherent and collaborative effort to mitigate the rapid climate change, echoing the ideas of many other delegates, using the umbrella term “Just Energy Transition Partnership” (JETP), also focusing on building more Public Private Partnerships (PVTs) for better and enhanced allocation of resources where money does not become a hindrance towards achieving our targets and objectives.

The Executive Board concluded the first day’s proceedings, which were filled with intriguing moments, heightening our anticipation for an even more exciting day of intense discussions and green solutions ahead.

