

At YISMUN, we endeavour to refine the capabilities of every individual who volunteers their voices to a better future. We strongly believe in creating future leaders built on the foundations of diligence, commitment, intuition and prudence.



YISMUN VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 5TH-6TH, 2020



The Sage Communiqué

THE THIRD EDITION | OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

YOURS SINCERELY, THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The efforts shown by today's youths in combating world problems makes me so proud, International press gives an amazing platform to future journalists and those interested in the United Nations, I am so happy to be working with such an amazing team of editors, journalists and caricaturists.

Temiloluwa Omoniyi
Editor-in-Chief

Even with the pandemic causing havoc around the world, it is incredible to see the uniting of so many passionate, intellectual, and hardworking young people. I am grateful that we are able to display these weavings in this newsletter

Maggie Naylor
Deputy Editor-in-chief

This conference has been a great experience for me. The youths active involvement in the affairs of the world is thrilling. This shows that the future of the world depends on the youth. The press team has worked diligently to come up with this intellectual work. I am glad to have served in this conference.

Amusan Esther
Editor

YOURS SINCERELY, THE EDITORIAL BOARD

I feel international press is a vital body that is able to decipher the real meanings from statements that the public feels was set for some other purpose. It is set to voice out genuine concerns of the public in the most convenient manner, further enhancing the responsibilities attached to this committee.

Kirandeesh Kaur
Editor

In this very delicate time, it's amazing to see that distance, diverse cultural backgrounds, among other barricades were beaten down by these amazing young people, because of their passion for a better world. I'm deeply honoured to have been part of the team that spins this treasure to life.

Rahmat Suenu
Editor

The editors alongside me have done an outstanding job from day - it's not easy to be able to keep up with so many articles and journalists, but they're all extremely dedicated and amazing people! I love the community here at YISMUN, and I'm so glad to be a part of it!

Maliha Mujahid
Editor

It was absolutely amazing to see the entire press team work spiritedly in creating a newsletter that cleverly discusses global issues.

Adebayo Adebisola
Editor

Despite the Pandemic, seeing Journalists and Caricaturists coming up with intellectual works has amazed me. This conference as a whole has been a great experience for me. I believe that seeing the youth passionate about international crises is a source of inspiration for all.

Salami Oluwatoyin
Editor

IN THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S SECTORAL

Honorable delegates, respected chairs, and esteemed Secretariat,

This conference began several months ago as a simple idea: just like many of you, I was a student stuck at home, bored with quarantine, emptied of motivation to do my online assignments, missing my friends. I attended a few regional Model UN meetings online, and it made me realize that not only am I learning through virtual platforms, students all over the world are. When the world's education shifts to online, then suddenly former barriers for a conference like this begin to disappear. The expenses, the travel, the logistics once necessary for an international event? Gone. So this got me thinking: why not plan a virtual Model UN conference open to delegates from anywhere in the world? After weeks of outreach, research, and organization, it's truly rewarding to see our hard work turn an idea into a reality.

If we recognize the power in actively listening to others and validating their life experiences, it can go a long way. Climate change could be slowed if lawmakers, diplomats, and corporate executives acknowledge climate science and activism over the profits of business status quo. The heated tensions over racism may be cooled if those who find themselves privileged acknowledge the history and the humanity of those who are oppressed.

Open-minded communication can unite diverse groups of people to brighten our future, just as we have done here at YISMUN. Model UN is so much more than a school club because it encourages political discourse open to all points of view. Imagine what the world would be if we carry this mindset through our universities and careers and future successes-- let us continue to debate, to dissent, to openly listen, human rights and global cooperation is no longer a hope, but a reality.

Sending my best wishes for the conference,

Taryn M. Riddle

YISMUN 2020 Secretary General



United Nations Security Council

Agenda: Growing Territorial Disputes and Increased Militarization of South China Sea

BY HEIDI APPIAH-NKWANTABISA

China has been known to claim the South China Sea on history, which dated back to records from the Xia and Han dynasties. It delineated its claims by the nine-dash line, which Chiang Kai Shek advanced in 1947. During China's republican era, China surveyed, mapped and named 291 islands and reefs in the region.

The United States contends that the South China Sea is international water, and sovereignty in the area should be determined by the United Nations Convention on Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS). UNCLOS states that countries can't claim sovereignty over any landmasses that are submerged at high tide, or that were previously submerged but have been raised above high tide level by construction. The South China Sea would allow China to dominate a major trade route through which most of its imported oil flows. It would also allow China to disrupt, or threaten to disrupt, trade shipments to all countries in East and Southeast Asia — as well as deny access to foreign military forces, particularly the United States. The floor of the South China Sea may contain massive oil and natural gas reserves. Sovereignty over the region could give China a level of energy security and independence far beyond what it currently possesses. China has come late to the island building game, but its efforts have been on a scale never before seen in the region. In the last 18 months, China has reportedly constructed more new island surface than all other nations have constructed throughout history. And unlike other claimants, China has, at least briefly, placed military equipment on one of its artificial islands, and officials have said that the government plans to do so again. More importantly, only China possesses enough modern military vessels to protect its claims

China has come late to the island building game, but its efforts have been on a scale never before seen in the region. In the last 18 months, The U.S. Navy has operated continuously in the region since World War Two and, according to Defense Secretary Ash Carter, has every intention of continuing to do so. Beyond freedom of navigation missions, the United States is focused on strengthening regional allies. To do so, it will help boost its allies' intelligence gathering and surveillance capabilities, and provide them with updated military hardware to counter China's technical advantages in both quantity and quality. The dispute between the United States and China is likely to escalate to some degree. U.S. Pacific Command planners are preparing to sail and fly within 12 nautical miles of areas that China claims as sovereign territory. The USS Fort Worth and a P-8 surveillance aircraft have already operated close by, and while China objected, it did not take hostile action. However, China has stated that it will defend what it considers its territorial limit. If the Chinese government blinks, it could suffer domestically due to the loss of face for the Communist Party. If the United States wavers, it will risk perpetuating the impression, among U.S. partners and allies, that it lacks resolve in light of its policy in the Middle East, Iraq and Ukraine. The stakes are high for both sides, as is the risk of a miscalculation. The United States is marshaling major allies in the region to take a role, in the hope that the combined weight of U.S., Japanese and Australian forces will give China pause.

United Nations Women

Agenda: Protecting Womens' Reproductive Rights Through the Legalization of Abortion

BY ISRAEL MOYINOLUWA

“Many of us were the unplanned children of talented, creative women whose lives had been changed by unplanned and unwanted pregnancies. We witnessed their bitterness, their rage, their disappointment with their lot in life and we were clear that there could be no genuine sexual liberation for women and men without the right to a safe, legal abortion,” by Bell Hooks. The Center for Reproductive Rights welcomes and firmly supports the United Nations Human Rights Committee’s General Comment on the Right to Life. The language of the comment affirms that abortion is a human right, that preventable maternal deaths are a violation of the right to life, and that the right to life begins at birth. The removal of a fetus to protect the life of the mother is commonly acceptable and legalized around the globe apart from a few countries, that is, a situation where childbirth can pose a threat to the life of the carrier, abortion is the best option. On the other hand, a decision made to abort a fetus on the basis of unwanted or unplanned pregnancy is seen as highly controversial.

Thus, abortion is banned in most countries based on moral, religious, ethical and cultural grounds. However, abortion is still common in many ways even if it is done illegally which unsafe often times. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “abortion rates are similar in countries where the procedure is legal and in counties where it is not, due to unavailability of modern contraceptives in areas where abortion is illegal”. Notwithstanding the moralist opinion concerning abortion in many countries of the world, abortion is still done whether it be legal or illegal. Protecting of Womens' reproductive rights through the legalization of abortion is essential. Instead of women having to abort fetuses illegally which are often times unsafe and highly detrimental to lives, abortion should be legalized and recognized by the law. There should be procedures and precautions in having a safe process of abortion

World Health Organisation

Agenda: Euthanasia: Determining the Ethical Governance of "Suicide Tourism"

PAIN AND STING
BY OLUKAYODE TEMITAYO

My hands and feet were cold. I had decided that this was the end of my journey, going to a far away land where no one knows my name, my journey and how I had lived. It was a decision I had solely made to move to a new land where hopes could be reborn and if wishes were horses I would love to go to Zanzibar to hasten this journey to the point of no return where my suffering will be gone forever.

The decision to put an abrupt end to my journey was as a result of the incessant pain that has surfaced on my way in the land of the living. I had fought against odds that were higher than Mount Everest; I've walked on land, of endless thorns I've been on the chase even while my toes bleed. Ever since I was born I've been in chains and shackles rusted but have refused to break loose. To top it, Not everyone has the capacity to bear a pain that the end, no one knows of.

Therefore, I've decided to put an end to my pain in Zanzibar. At the House of wonders where I would be welcomed with pomp and circumstance during the day. I would eat my favorite Dishes such as Ugali and Mishkaki (traditional dishes). I would dance with the Zanzibaris and travel around the country. I will say to myself, "there's one last thing to do at midnight".

At midnight, the pain is gone, because the sting has captured the tourist who has decided to put an end to the pain at all cost and has transited into the land of no return.

United Nations Economic and Social Council

*Agenda: Promoting Internet Universality and Open
Internet for All*

PEN AND PAPER BY BALOGUN HAFEEDOH

Small waves blanket my bare feet as I look ahead from the shore into the nothingness and fog the ocean entertained me with. I am stuck and sinking deeper into my reality, I had been on the run for 3 months now. I was only supposed to be here for a month, that was the plan, but here I am waltzing around locals who have not even the slightest clue how much danger they were in just breathing the same air as me. I was a wanted criminal charged with murder, I did what I was paid to do. Ralph, my boss had a big time client that wanted to get the job done as quietly as possible. Still at the beach I rumbled the letter Ralph had sent back to me, I was going to be on this god forsaken island indefinitely until the government and my client reached a resolve. I feel my rage raising as I threw the rumbled white envelope down into the abyss before me.

The operation had gone south and now here I am on an island with locals who loved the idea of me but don't know how dangerous I was. I don't blame them, they literally were disconnected from the outside world, very poor network connectivity that even Ralph had to resort to the old pen pal ways to communicate with me in this hell hole. I couldn't live like this anymore, it was supposed to be my last job before my resignation. Here I am, sustaining my sanity by being disconnected from the world, with no means of communication except a pen and paper.



United Nations Economic and Social Council

*Agenda: Promoting Internet Universality and Open
Internet for All*

PROMOTING INTERNET UNIVERSALITY AND OPEN INTERNET FOR ALL BY ANIKE YUSUF

It is no longer news that the world has some inequalities. Among them which is gender inequality, the acknowledgement that men and women are not equal and that gender affects an individual's lived experience. This, though, is usually as a result of the background, religion, political, social and cultural mind-set the person has. Thus, baffling, to know that it happens online. Despite the fact that gender equality is the 5th sustainable development goal and a fundamental human right, achieving it now extends to the internet. According to the statistics of the International Telecommunication Union, in 2019, 33.8% of African internet users were women with 22.6% to be men. Europe has 84.9% as males and 80.3% as females, America has 77.6% to be male and 76.8% as females, Arab states has 58.5% to be male and 44.2% as females, Asia Pacific has 54.6% to be male and 41.3% as females. China is also a victim of gender inequality online as in 2019, the percentage of male internet users to female was 56.4% to 43.6% while in 2020 it reduced to 51.9% to 48.1% (an increment in the percentage of females).

This inequality online is negatively affecting the development of the countries and the achievement of UNESCO's goal to provide internet universality. In a not-so-general sense, the reason for the low rate of female internet users is the online abuse faced. Online abuse, which is a part of gender based violence, like dissemination of reputation harming lies, sabotage in the form of spam. It could also be trolling and the publicizing of intimate pictures; one which consent was not given to either take or distribute. All these activities majorly have females as victims. As a matter of fact, research has it that techno-phobia is usually suffered by females mostly. This is negatively affecting the development of the countries and the achievement of UNESCO's goal of internet universality. This is so as the information (including reproductive health) acquired online is, then, limited to the male gender. Tim Berners lee, the inventor of World Wide Web, said in an interview that, "The internet is not working for women and girls". And until web creators and designers work towards achieving a balance of gender online, internet universality seems like a world apart.



Economic and Social Council

*Agenda: Moving Forward from the COVID - 19 Pandemic:
Repairing the Existing economy vs. Building a New Economy*

BY ALO FOLAKEMI.

The Coronavirus pandemic no doubt has altered the lives of people around the world. Companies and individuals have been forced into accommodating the “new normal” system into their itinerary. As uncertainty looms, countries struggle to figure out the right steps to be taken-whether repairing the existing economy would yield the results which have been mapped out or building a new economy which may take years to build and maintain. All delegates agreed that mitigating the effects of Covid 19 should come first. They proposed various strategies and procedures such as: diversification of the economy, public benefits being prioritized over private benefits, new economic policies aimed towards unification of countries, international cooperation among states around the world, unemployment benefits to both full time and gig workers who had lost their jobs due to the pandemic and technological advancements. Most of the delegates agreed that building a new economy would be more desirable than repairing the old one. Going back to the previous economy would not be suitable as investing millions of dollars into that would result in “trying to recover spilled milk.”

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Agenda: Combating the Ongoing Worldwide Opioid Crisis

PILLS AND POTIONS **BY ALO FOLAKEMI**

“The mirror goes foggy as she stepped out of the bathroom, eyes hollow and lips quivering. Her reflection stared back at her with each swipe of her palm at the mist. The woman in the mirror looked lost, soulless and depressed, the future looking as bleak as her skin. It was just what the doctor ordered, nothing more- one a day to relieve the pain. But one became two and two became ten until she was unstoppable. The high was euphoric and mercurial, something she had never experienced before. Moreso, the pain was gone and her body felt rejuvenated. Things were never meant to go this far, at least that’s what she’d been telling herself for the past 12 months. She had desperately tried to convince her mind that she wasn’t an addict, but who was she kidding? The signs were glaring- the headaches, the nausea, the weight loss, the dependency- and everyone could see it. Everyone but her. As the bottle lay in her shaky hands, she contemplated getting the help she knew she desperately needed but was too ashamed to admit it. “The first step in the right direction is admittance,” her friend, Sadie had once said. Take it one step at a time.

UN Council for Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Issues (SOCHUM)

*Agenda: Countering Islamophobia and its Impacts in Politics,
Society, and Education*

POEM: WHEN A FUTURE IS BEING DESTROYED BY SA'EED MUHAMMED LAWAN

Life changes, like an ice exposed to the sun's warmth, it melts
Just as water changes to nothingness when heated up
Like a Jacob after Joseph, I am longing for you, Beloved.
I send rhymes to the wind, hoping it will reach the tent of your heart
None is the response that I received daily from my companion.
I shed an ocean of tears, with bitterness like venom
I wound myself with tattoos till the Earths turn red with blood
The world has become a prison, guarding the secrets of you, beloved
Wandering I am, like a wingless bird crossing lonely mountains alone
Tears and longing have bent my back
Unclearly I see my fate as black as the heart of a faithless sinner
Losing you is a folktale that I wish not, to sit under the moon to read
Earth consumed you like clouds, leaving no trace of spring
To be the wind I pray; to not walk on soil I hope
I am ashamed to walk on Earth, to step on the soil which your body rest beneath it
I have not only lost you; I no longer know myself,
beloved. Who am I? I keep turning upon myself,
asking What is your name? Are you in love?
With whom ? Or are you loved? By whom?
...I still argue with the wind;
whether the Earth received what belonged to her
or she was jealous of your beauty
&seized you from me.
From the womb, they cried but no one listened.
They keep stripping your soul layer by layer
until you fell like tree,beloved
As I close the book of life; changing empty pages to story of our past,
with ink I shed my last rain of tears
Skipping the pages empty,
with no one single story of our child
For they have forced him out and until both of you in unwillingly bid a goodbye to wind

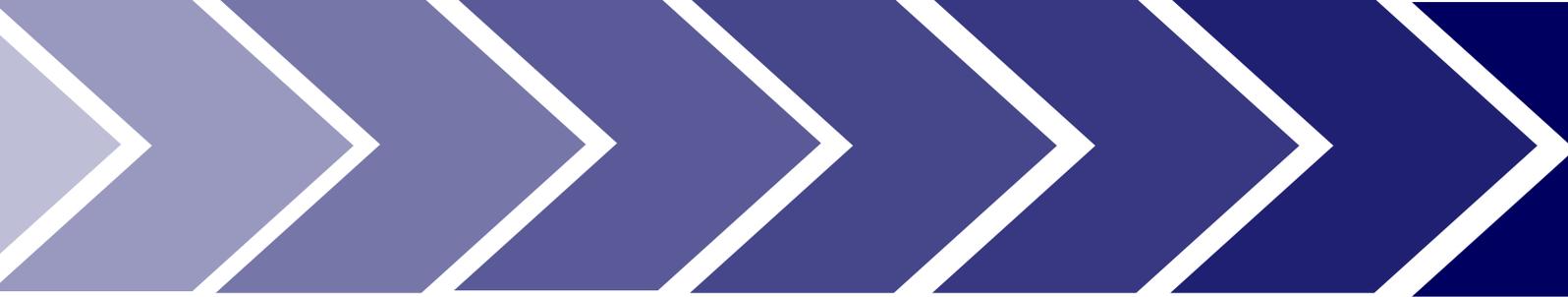
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Agenda: Improving Living Conditions and Services in Refugee Camps

BY NOSA INWE PETER

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is a United Nations agency dedicated to safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of those individuals and families who have been forced to flee their homes. Founded in 1950, UNHCR has helped millions of refugees, stateless people, the internally displaced and asylum-seekers find safety and restart their lives after their displacement. A lot of criticism arose following a perceived delay in the release of a public statement by the U.N. Refugee Agency in response to the administration's new asylum policy. The statement was issued more than 12 hours after other organizations had spoken out strongly on the new U.S. policy and didn't assuage fears about what refugee and migrants' advocates say has become an alarming trend of muted UNHCR responses. President Donald Trump, who focused on immigration policy during his presidential campaign announced that the U.S. would no longer allow people to claim asylum unless they presented themselves at official ports of entry. This move is seen to be detrimental to the goals of the UNHCR. The international community must do far more to share responsibility for millions of refugees worldwide through "bold and concrete" pledges, the UN Secretary-General today told a global gathering to transform the response to refugee situations at a time of record displacement.





United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Agenda: Responding to Effects of Climate Change on Indigenous People

BY OMOTESHO IBUKUN

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) was established to deal with indigenous issues coming up with solutions which will lead to a gradual, methodical progress on crucial issues. However, the effects of climate change on the indigenous community has continuously increased over the years subjecting indigenous people to bear the brunt of the catastrophe. There has been an increase in the fire outbreaks in tropical rainforests, high rise in the sea level due to an increase in global temperature which has a devastating impact on human life intensifying threats to food security and forced eviction of communities from their traditional territories, increasing cultural survival and undermining of human, It increased the difficulties already faced by indigenous communities by affecting the environment, natural resources, cultural identities and also making the SDG led goals almost impossible to achieve leaving them with minimal resources to deal with these changes even though the indigenous community contribute less to the green house emissions.

As a result of the dreadful impact of climate change international conferences, global discourses and regulations has been held to this effect taking into considerations the views and interest of the indigenous people. Over the years key issues of relevance has been contributed so as to respond positively and provide innovative ways on how the indigenous community can better adapt to climate change. Currently, The UNDRIP was established to establish a 'universal framework of minimum standards for survival, dignity and wellbeing of indigenous fundamental freedom...' However, the UNDRIP has been questioned by some states who adopted it due to its ambiguity making it have no legal effect and this has led the neglectation of the human rights increasing marginalization among indigenous people. This overly outlines the lack of recognition of promotion o human rights which will prevent them from coping with climate change and also the solutions proposed to minimize the effects of climate change.

As a result of the dreadful impact of climate change international conferences, global discourses and regulations has been held to this effect taking into considerations the views and interest of the indigenous people. Over the years key issues of relevance has been contributed so as to respond positively and provide innovative ways on how the indigenous community can better adapt to climate change. The IPBES was established and has worked to strengthen their knowledge on how to cater and support indigenous people to develop mechanism on how to cope, adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change and also engaged in innovative solutions which help against climate change . Majority of the delegates are of the opinion that to ensure binding commitments addressing the effects of climate change legal as well as institutional barriers should be addressed and there is a need for both national and international government to advocate new climate initiative tackling this ravaging crisis.

UN Regional Committee: Community of Latin American and Caribbean States

*Agenda: Eliminating Barriers Against Free Press and Journalism in
Latin America*

A STORY OF HEROISM IN THE FACE OF DEATH.

BY OMOTESHO IBUKUN

Death took my brother away a few years ago but he was a hero. First went his camera then his head. My brother was no hulk but wielded the camera with a superhuman strength beyond comprehension as he looked at the world through the lens of his camera capturing the red-blood shot eyes of refugees, the dim light that screamed hope in the eyes of malnourished children, the darkest day before the dawn that is yet to come and the smiles of men in high places wanting to see the world burn. My brother was a healer when he held his pen the voice of the marginalized population became the loudest voice the world heard. If heroes were stars he was a bold full-stop who gradually wanted to bring an end to the ravaging crisis of this world. The men in high places feared the lens and punctuations. First, they requested for his camera then his head. In a world filled with hulks and supermen he was a journalist who used punctuations and camera lenses. Now, in a sky filled with stars he is a bold full stop still shining boldly creating a path for the heroes after him.

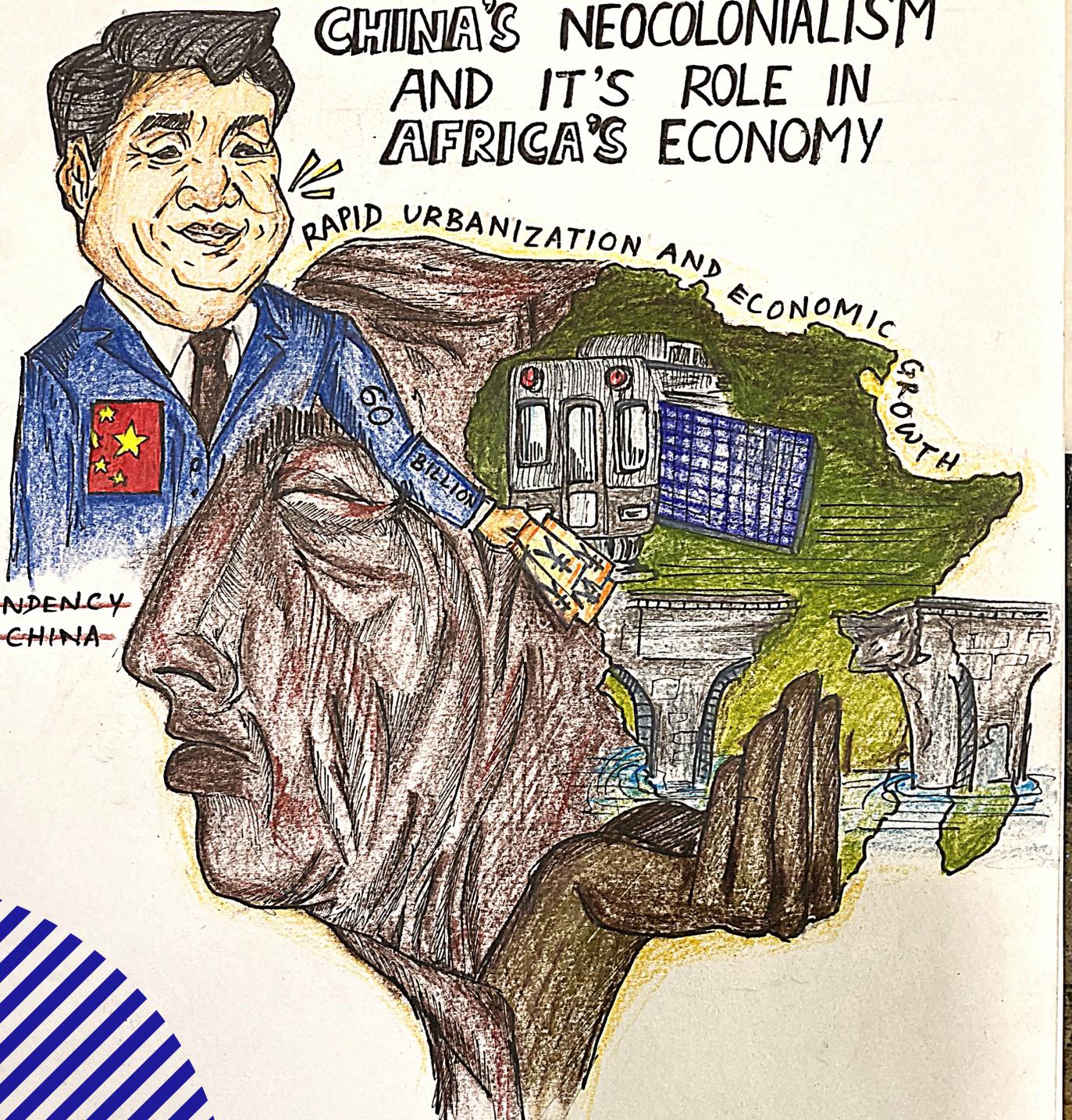
THE MEN IN HIGH
PLACES FEARED
THE LENS AND
PUNCTUATIONS.

CATALOGUE OF THE CONNOISSEURS

CHINA'S NEOCOLONIALISM AND ITS ROLE IN AFRICA'S ECONOMY

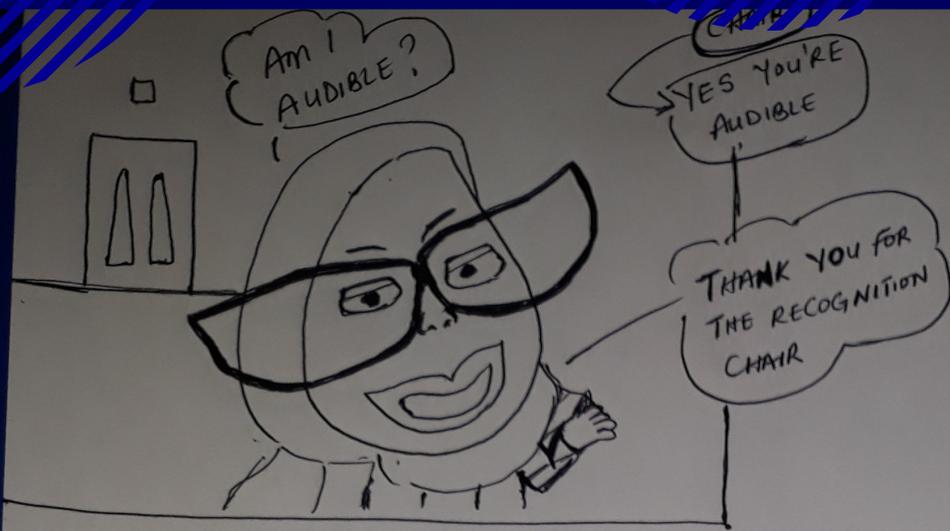
RAPID URBANIZATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

~~DEPENDENCY ON CHINA~~



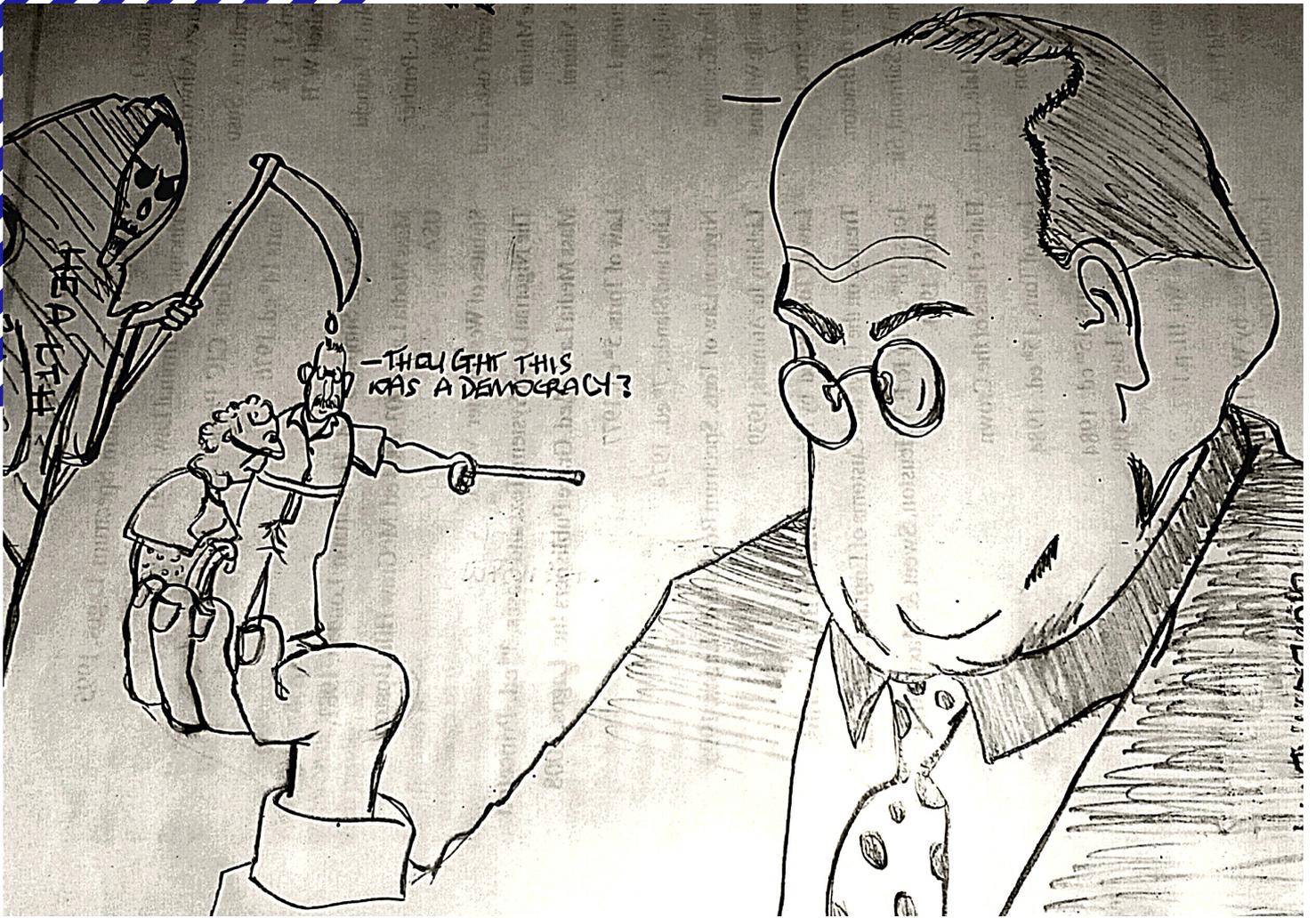
By Gracy Gupta

by Jessica
Ogechi
Harrison



SOCHUM-POLAND-HIBAH

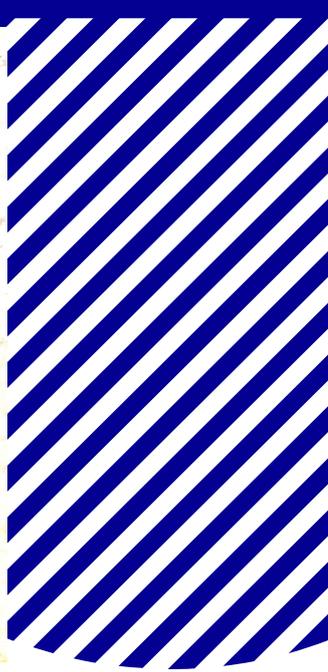
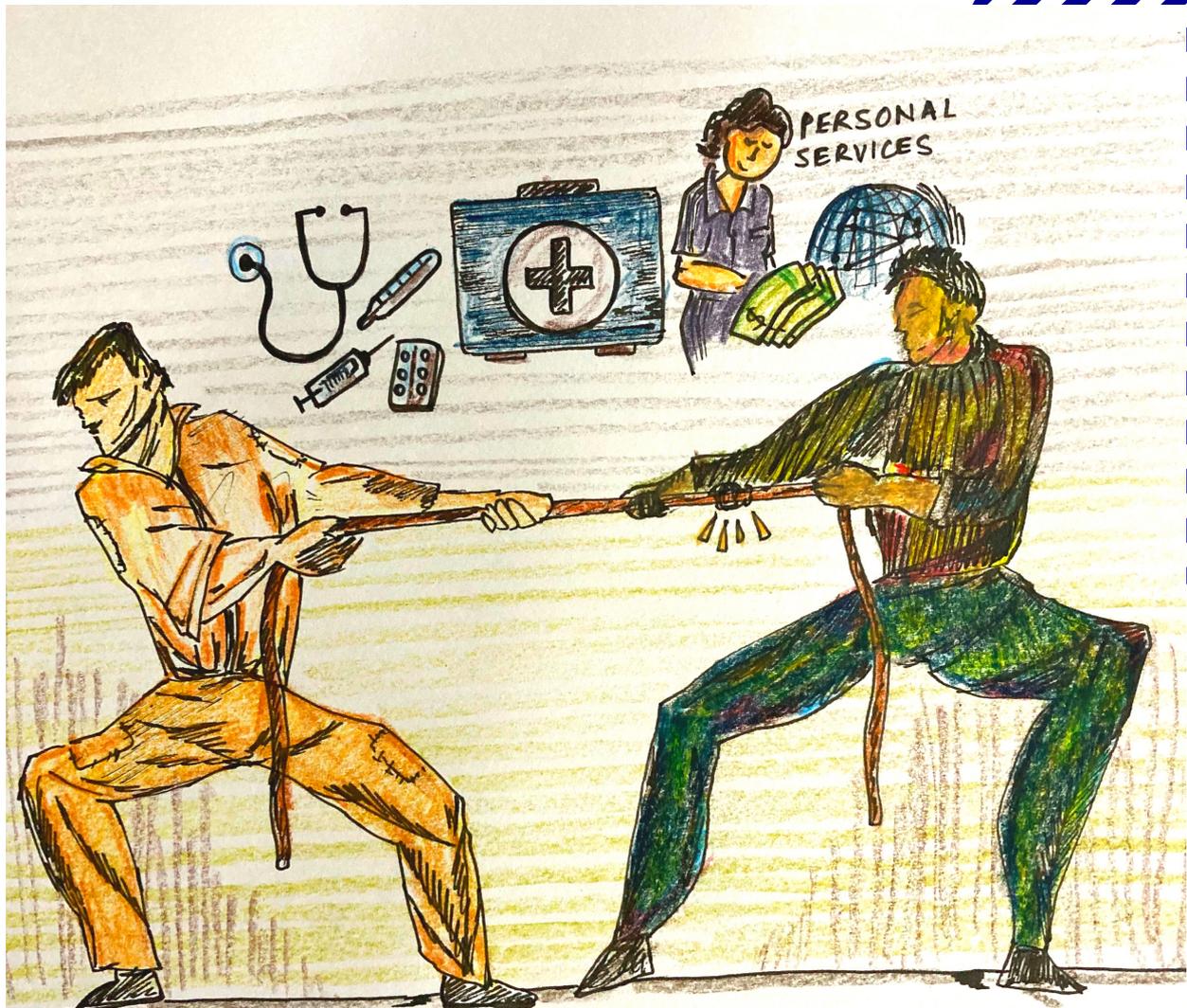




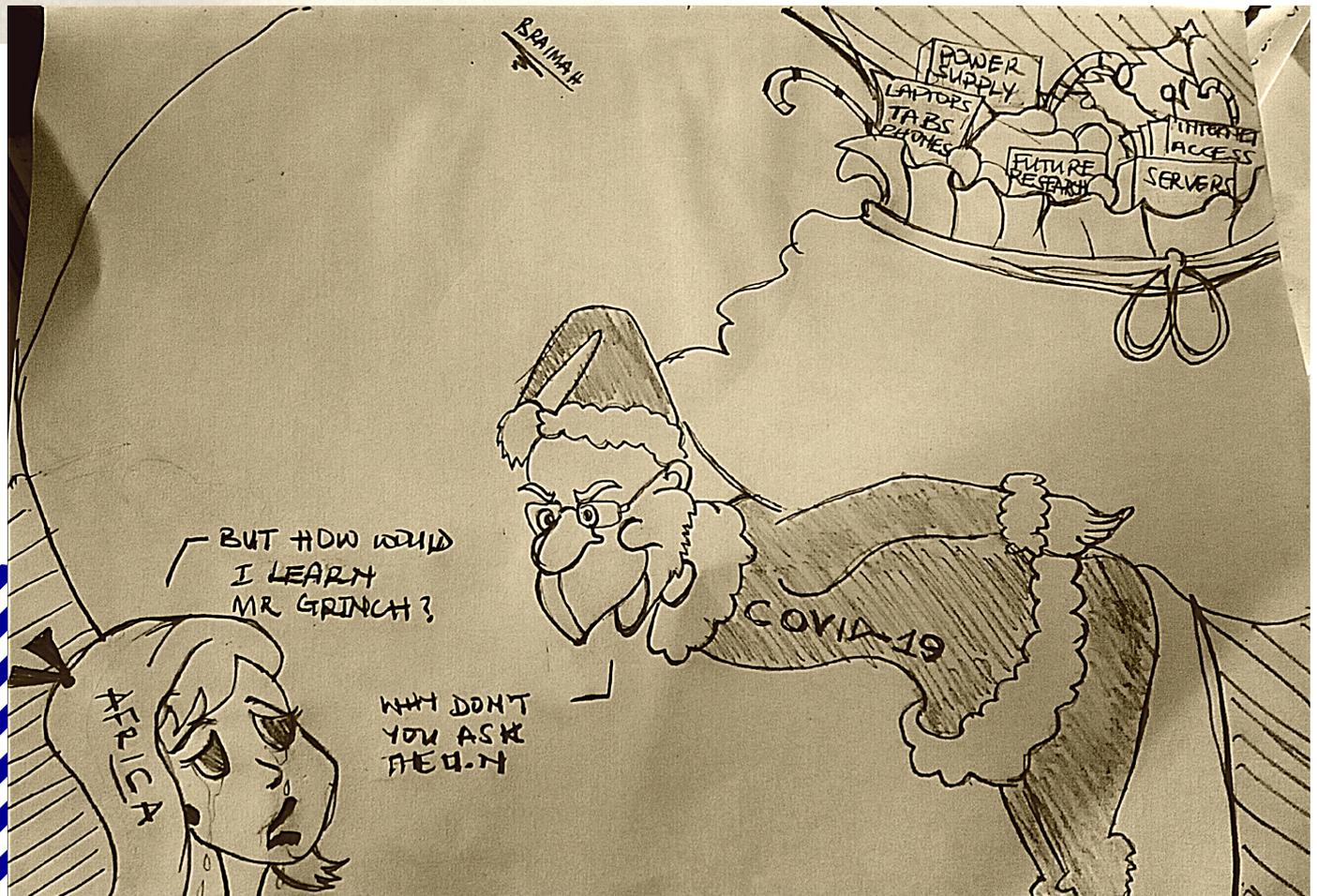
By Toritseju Braimah



By Shivanshi



RIGHT OR PRIVILEGE By Gracy Gupta



By Toritseju Braimah

THE CANDID NETWORK INC.

Submitted by the Organising Committee, Secretariat, Executive Board, International Press team and the Delegation. Basically, everyone who made this conference possible.

The Accent of the Delegate of UK is the best thing that happened to me in 2020! :Delegate of UAE. - SOCHUM

"To be perfectly candid, the entire committee could hear and respect other delegates opinion. -Arya Saputra Ramadani WHO

"The best Committee I could ever get!" - Sarit Ghosh CELAC

The delegate of Ghana is a sight to behold- ANON UNW

"To be perfectly candid, Hong Kong are you a spy, James Bond or just a messenger? Cause you keep bouncing in and out of every room -Everybody in the breakout room with Vietnam