

The Hague January 2008

Dear THIMUN 2008 MUN Directors and participants,

Please take careful note of this last THIMUN 2008 mailing, containing information on travel, accommodation, registration and briefings and please share all relevant information with your students participating in THIMUN 2008.

Statement of account

You should have received a statement of account by email, within the last 3 weeks. A final statement of account will be sent to you at the time of this mailing. Be prepared to settle this last account in full at Registration. If you have not been credited for money transferred via the bank or if you are transferring the outstanding money by bank transfer during January just prior to the conference, please bring evidence of payment. Please note that you can no longer settle your outstanding balance by charging a credit card during registration.

Airport Pick-Up Service

Upon arrival at Schiphol Airport you will be met by the THIMUN Airport Pick-up Staff in the Arrival Hall. If for some reason you are not met in that area, please go to the THIMUN Airport Pick-up desk, located in Arrival Hall 3 opposite exit number 3.

The Airport pick-up staff will assist you with any formalities you may have at the airport and then guide your group to the bus taking you to The Hague.

Your departure time will be confirmed to you at the Transportation Desk in the Convention Center. On Thursday you are kindly requested to go to the desk to collect your letter, which will state where and when you will be collected for transfer to Schiphol Airport upon departure. Should you have any further questions, please contact the Transportation/Housing Desk, located immediately to your right when entering the lobby of the Convention Center.

Please note that Airport Pick up and Departure service should have been booked through the THIMUN office before January.

Public Transportation / HTM Conference Tickets.

If you are not using the Airport Pick-up service, there are frequent trains direct from Amsterdam airport to the Hague Station Den Haag Hollands Spoor (HS), tram 1 (direction Scheveningen) takes you to the Crown Plaza Promenade Hotel, which is a few minutes walk from the Convention Centre. From Central Station (CS) tram 10 and 17 (direction Statenkwartier) will take you directly to the Congress Centre. Tram 10 does however only function Monday through Friday.

In cooperation with the HTM tram and bus service of The Hague, the THIMUN 2008 ID badges will serve as a public transport ticket for the The Hague area for MUN directors and Delegates. Please note that Chaperones do not receive these free-travel passes on the reverse side of their badges. The THIMUN ID badge will be valid as a semi permanent ticket for 8 days from Saturday 26 January 2008 up to and including Saturday 2 February 2008. The badge will take you to any tram or bus stop in The Hague, Scheveningen, Voorburg, Leidschendam, Rijswijk, Delft, Kijkduin and Zoetermeer.

For every trip outside these zones, you must either pay the driver for one or more extra zones or use what is called a strippenkaart, which you can buy in train stations and kiosks.

Insurance

Make sure that you and your students are adequately covered for travel, medical and liability costs and that you have the necessary papers with you.

Identification

As of January 2007, everyone in the Netherlands aged 14 and older, both residents as well as tourists, will be required to be able to produce proof of their identity. As a rule, only passports, official identification cards and driver licenses are accepted as official proof. Those not carrying an official piece of identification risk a substantial fine. We advise you to carry your ID at all times. Be careful of pick-pockets though, and carry it in a safe place.

Preparatory meetings and workshops

Preparatory meetings are organized for all committees and commissions **at 09.00 on the Monday morning**. We strongly advice delegates to attend. The location of the meetings will be published in the participants handbook. The area around the assigned rooms can also serve as meeting points for lobbying.

Folders, flag, placards and lunch tickets will not be replaced if lost. Replacement badges cost EUR 30.00 and require a new photograph. Badges will not be re-printed if the names of the delegates on the badges are misspelled.

Tickets for the Friday dance as well as Certificates can be picked up by MUN directors only on the Friday morning at the Info booth.

Opening Ceremonies

Each country delegation will be assigned 3 seats in the General Assembly during Opening Ceremonies, non-member delegations will be assigned two seats. The Opening Ceremonies tickets that you receive at registration are for additional places on the Balcony only. These tickets can be either used by MUN Directors or delegates. The Opening Ceremonies will also be projected on big screens outside the Theater for those delegates and or MUN Directors unable to be present in the Theater.

Opening Speeches

The lists of delegations holding opening speeches in the plenary sessions of the General Assembly, Commissions and the Special Conference on Climate Change have been published on the THIMUN web site. Please check the announcements section.

Conduct in and outside the Convention Center.

Ensure that your students are aware of the codes of conduct (see THIMUN administrative Handbook). Please note that the Convention Center has been completely redecorated. Please inform your students that it is strictly forbidden to stick any pamphlet, poster, picture on the walls, doors etc. Any damage done to the Convention Center will have to be paid by the delegation or delegate causing this damage.

It is also very important that the delegates' behavior outside the Convention Center reflects the serious purpose for which they have come to the Conference. THIMUN cannot afford to be associated with unruly behavior and measures will be taken against schools whose students do not behave in accordance with these basic rules of conduct.

MUN directors are reminded that they are responsible for supervising their students in hotel accommodations.

Dress Code

Please be reminded that you and your students, with the exception of the day of arrival and the Friday Dance, can only wear formal dress during sessions and lobbying. As a serious UN simulation, THIMUN expects personal appearance to be appropriate for a professional setting. Participants should not wear clothing, jewelry, or accessories that are distracting, inappropriate or that may call attention to themselves either individually or as a group.

Inappropriate dress includes, but is not limited to:

- team accessories such as scarves, hats, non THIMUN badges/buttons/pins;
- sport shoes and denim clothes;
- brightly colored and/or spiky hair;
- facial piercing;
- national costume or military attire;
- very short skirts and or too low necklines

Letter to the Heads of Delegation and Ambassadors

Please forward the enclosed letter by the THIMUN 2008 Secretary General to your Head of Delegation/Ambassador.

THIMUN Guidelines for new Delegates

The THIMUN Guidelines for new Delegates have been published on the THIMUN web site. Please check the announcements and download sections.

Essential Materials and Equipment

Delegates should bring with them:

- a sufficient number of draft resolutions for use in the initial lobbying process i.e. before registration of the resolution;
- a sufficient quantity of appropriate official headed delegation notepaper;
- notebooks;
- other necessary equipment, CD's, USB sticks , scissors, correction fluid etc.

THIMUN will not be able to supply any of the above mentioned items and does not take responsibility for loss or damage.

Computers

Some computers will be available in the Computer Room for Delegates and in the Press Room for the MUNITY staff. The computers will be installed with Microsoft Word. The documents should either be in Word or RTF. **No systems or programs disks may be used on the computers provided.**

An Internet Café will be open to all participants throughout the Conference. A small fee will be charged to internet users.

Resolution Registering and Approval Panels.

The completely digitalized Resolution Processing will function as in 2007: the approval panels for all forums except the Security Council and ICJ will be situated in one room and draft resolutions will be read, corrected and approved directly on the computer. Resolutions will be dealt with in order of need. There will be a special training session for Approval Panelists on Monday at 14.00 in Oceania.

Briefing Activities.

- 1. All members of the International Court of Justice** are required to meet in North America on Sunday at 15.00.
- 2. All panelists on the Advisory Panel on the question of Lebanon** are required to meet in Central America on Sunday at 15.00
- 3. All Heads of Delegation of all non-member delegations (NGO's and UNO's)** are required to attend a briefing session in South America on Sunday at 15.00
- 4. All Ambassadors and Heads of Delegation** will meet at 13.00 on Monday in the World Forum Theater to rehearse the flag parade.
- 5. All Student Officers** are required to attend a workshop all day Saturday and Sunday. Separate information has been sent out directly to those students involved.
- 6. All members of the MUNITY Press Team** will meet in Europe 1&2 on Sunday at 15.00.

Disarmament Commission and ECOSOC.

The OPCW which has its headquarters next to the Convention Center has once again been kind enough to let us use their conference room for the sessions of the Disarmament Sub commission 1. Space in that room is restricted however. Therefore **only delegates assigned in the Disarmament Sub-commission 1 (according to their ID badge) and the respective student officers can be admitted.** The assignment as printed on the badge has been based on the information on form II. Changes to it received before the date of this mailing have been taken into account. Any changes after January 12, 2008 cannot be taken into account.

For security reasons THIMUN has to submit a list of names to OPCW security. The list of delegates, student officers and staff eligible to meet in the OPCW conference room, together with further instructions will be available from the President of the Disarmament Commission. **For security reasons no other visitors, e.g. students, teachers (except those assigned to DC sub 1), chaperones or press will have access to the OPCW building.**

Due to restricted space in the Convention Center, **Disarmament Sub-commission 2 will meet in the Belair Hotel** . This Hotel is within walking distance from the Convention Center.

ECOSOC will hold its meeting , Tuesday through Friday, in the aula of the **MUSEON, next to the Belair Hotel**, at a few minutes walk from the Convention Center.

All members of the Disarmament Commission and ECOSOC will meet for lunch at the Convention Center and will also use the approval panel and resolution processing systems and procedures at the Convention Center.

Community Housing

Registration for schools in Community Housing is on Sunday 27 January before 15.00 only. Please register as early as possible and **immediately thereafter** contact the "Accommodation and Transportation desk" for further directions and to pick up your housing lists.

Luggage may be left in the Oceania foyer, which is at the back of the Convention Center.

Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon.

On the **Tuesday evening at 20.00 pm** we will be showing the **diCaprio** movie **THE 11th HOUR in the Theater of the Convention Center**. Entrance is free for all THIMUN 2008 participants. Please bring your THIMUN 2008 badge for identification.

There will be no **mandatory program on the Wednesday afternoon except for members of the ICJ**. Enclosed please find some information regarding the possibilities for excursions.

Excursions for MUN directors only will be organized by THIMUN at no cost to the schools as in previous years. Please check the information in the MUN Directors' supplement.

We are looking forward to welcome you to the XL Anniversary Session of the THE HAGUE INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS. We wish you a safe journey to The Hague.

Irene Crépin
Managing Director
THIMUN Foundation