

PAUL RUSESABAGINA ADDRESSES AMUN

by Darnell Gardner and Wesley Riley

Paul Rusesabagina was just a hotel manager when he sheltered over 1,200 Rwandans in 1994, shielding them from genocide. Despite that, in his keynote speech to the 20th meeting of the American Model United Nations conference, he insisted that he is only "an ordinary man."

Rusesabagina said that many others during the Rwandan genocide used whatever resources they had to save lives and that he was lucky God provided him with the resources he had.

"I had a lot of means to use. I had my words, I had my cellars full of champagne and wine, I had my tools and my phone. I had a lot of weapons that many others did not have," Rusesabagina said. "But on their own personal basis, they (Rwandans) also did what they could."

Rusesabagina said he was tor-

mented by what he saw during the genocide. He found speaking was therapeutic, and decided he should use his voice to heal himself and break an overwhelming silence in the international community. He founded the Hotel Rwanda Rusesabagina Foundation in 2005 to help assist or-



Rusesabagina addresses a group of reporters. Photo by Tauseef Hemayet

phans and widows affected by the genocide, but has been an active humanitarian since 1994.

According to Rusesabagina, the international community

failed to stop the Rwandan genocide, and is still failing to prevent similar tragedies from occurring. He said that many are under the erroneous impression that genocides are transient and occur without warning.

"The international community never understood. And even to-

amount, and urged American youths to use their voices to help resolve problems like the war in Darfur.

"We have been silent," he said. "I would like to tell you that our silence is an agreement. My silence has been exactly the same as yours."

Words should be used wisely according to Rusesabagina.

"Words are the best and the worst weapons in human beings' arsenals," he said. "With words you can save lives, with words you can kill lives."

He said the Rwandan media was guilty of abusing words by encouraging people to participate in the 1994 genocide, and said the Western media is complicit in the perpetration of today's war crimes because it repeatedly allows the subject to fall out of the headlines when there is no monetary reward for reporting on it.

day have never understood the Rwandan problem," he said.

Rusesabagina said if he could do one thing differently, instead of saving 1,200 lives, he would save more than 10 times that

DEBATE CONTINUES IN ECOSOC

by Michelle Kampen

Debate continued this afternoon in ECOSOC, where a new draft resolution has been brought to the floor. Draft resolution II/2, submitted by Representatives of Saudi Arabia, seems to many to be an improvement from the first draft resolution, submitted by Malaysia, but some are concerned with the wording and meaning behind this new resolution.

Representative Ben Katz of

Brazil was particularly opposed to the first resolution, stating that it was "contradictory." However, Brazil strongly opposes the new resolution as well, because he feels that it allows for too many possible loopholes which essentially would accomplish nothing. For now, Brazil will not even consider the possibility that this resolution could be passed. Until the proper changes are made, "we cannot even begin to consider the draft resolution."

AMUN 2009 ICJ Update

Monday:

6:25 pm: Nicaragua v. Colombia Reading of Opinion

7:00 pm: Advisory Opinion: Palestian Wall Oral Argument

Tuesday:

3:10 pm: Advisory Opinion: Palestian Wall Reading of Opinion

START PRACTICING YOUR CHARLESTON...

Join us on the dance floor as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary to the tune of the

ROARING TWENTIES!

10 pm - 2am, Monday, November 23
Northwest Exhibit Hall 5
Don't forget your credentials!



AMUN CHRONICLE

ECA MOVES BEYOND EXCESSIVE CAUCUSING

by Martha Walter

After extensive caucusing and extensions of consultative sessions, the ECA passed Resolution ECA/I/1 with consensus and only one abstention before lunch. This resolution created a guideline for the remaining resolutions that are being discussed and set up common goals for the African states regarding Aid for Trade. Representative Carlos Gurrero of Chad confirmed that an agreement to begin discussion of Millennium Development Goals at 7 pm Sunday has been postponed until tomorrow morning. He also expressed the hope that four draft resolu-

tions will pass in the committee this evening. These draft resolutions address Easy African Trade, infrastructure, aid volatility, and microfinance. Other resolutions were discussed and are in drafting stages. Resolution I/2 regarding African infrastructure was something that all states could not afford. Representative Brenna Conway of Chad expressed the "need to be open to a slightly larger picture, if not by continent, then at least by region." This openness would allow the continent to develop regionally and create an infrastructure environment that allows for easier trade within Africa.

RESOLUTIONS GAIN SUPPORT, APPROVAL

by Tracy Thiel

The morning and early afternoon sessions of the GA Plenary have seen great progress, with three resolutions under discussion. Another resolution is currently in the works, and David Neuman, a Representative of Venezuela, is certain that it will reach the floor soon.

Jossue Hernandez, a Representative of Brazil, explained the basic premise of the bill,

which is rapidly gaining support among the delegations of Latin and Central America. The main goal of the draft resolution is the prevention of loss of life due to natural disasters.

Representative Neuman explained that developing infrastructure was an incredibly important short term goal of the resolution. The sponsors of the resolution are currently seeking support within the GA Plenary.

PROMISING LUNCHEON FOR SECURITY COUNCIL

by Elizabeth Van Dulman

Sunday afternoon, the Representatives of China, France and Vietnam held a press conference to speak on the pending arrival of an Iranian delegate to this afternoon's Security Council and their approach to resolving the issue. The Representatives seemed hopeful that a resolution could be accomplished.

The Security Council voted to allow the Representatives of Iran a question and answer session. In the press conference, the Representatives stated that a delegate luncheon was held

this afternoon in which Japan and the United Kingdom made progress on their opposing stances to resolving the issue with Iran. They expressed hopefulness that bringing Iran into the discussions would help to build mutual trust and allow them to feel part of the international community.

Representative Carolann Sterkenburg of China explained, "The press conference allowed us to voice our ideas of allowing Iran in the talks of resolutions. We openly said that we wanted them on equal ground, not just a third party standing in the room we don't recognize or acknowledge."

GA PLEN PRESS CONFERENCE

by Tracy Thiel

In a press conference on Sunday afternoon Representatives from Cuba, Sudan, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) announced a resolution that was to be brought before the GA Plenary. The resolution specifically denounces western policies that hinder the self-determination of underdeveloped countries. Specifically, the Representatives explained

how economic sanctions make disaster relief and humanitarian efforts more difficult in developing nations.

When questioned about the issue of asset-based versus monetary aid, and the potential corruption and misuse of humanitarian aid, Representative Megan Mercer of the DPRK asserted that any aid is welcomed, but that the nation's government should have the ability to decide how it should be used.

PERSONAL ADS

Teasing, misleading/maybe
cuddle time tonight/Le sigh, roll
pillow.

Paper "Goddess" - You are
nothing but a false idol. There is
only one goddess. No information
for you - Content King

Hey Djibouti,
You're a cutie. I can't wait to
talk biodiversity with you. - Aral
C.

Ichiban,
This one goes out to the one I
love.
-Okikuma

We miss you but we still had
your oranges!

MPH - Thanks for everything.
I wouldn't have made it with-
out you! -C Bates

Sory abot the spelng errors (BB)

Who here - zip -zap - crazy
- you're all on The List.

We have Dunder Mifflin sta-
tionary and Dinosaur stickers
for people who participate in
"hug a Canadian delegate day"
on Monday.

AMUN CHRONICLE

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