

The Pursuit of Energy: A Catalyst for Conflict

NOVEMBER 2007

PRESS RELEASE:

2008 UNIS-UN Conference "The Pursuit of Energy: A Catalyst for Conflict"

The theme of the 32nd annual UNIS-UN Conference (United Nations International School – United Nations) is *The Pursuit of Energy: A Catalyst for Conflict*. The conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, March 6th and 7th, 2008, in the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations.

Recently, there have been many problems concerning the availability of energy around the globe. Our reliance on energy and our need to find alternative sources have caused a great deal of worry amongst the scientific community. This ongoing crisis has scientists and people across the globe searching for possible methods of obtaining energy. From solar and hydro power to the importance of energy sustainability, the global pursuit of energy promises to shape the modern world.

This year's UNIS-UN conference will address the numerous energy problems that the world faces today and our hopes for the future regarding its effect on the political, environmental and social aspects of our lives. Energy dependency, its sustainability and the debatable alternate energy sources are the fundamental topics that will be discussed throughout the two days of the conference. Through close examination of this energy crisis, we hope that the attendees will gain insight into this pressing issue, as well as draw their own conclusions based on the available evidence.

The UNIS-UN Conference is organized and run by UNIS students in the Upper School (Tutorial House). The UNIS-UN Committee begins preparations for the conference nearly a year in advance, finding and researching a topic of global relevance, drawing up a list of speakers, inviting several hundred students from schools all over the world, managing UNIS Tutorial House debates, and compiling a Working Paper of articles, written and edited by members of the UNIS-UN Committee, pertaining to the topic.

The structure of the UNIS-UN Conference is designed to provide students with expert knowledge through the experience of provocative guest speakers. The conference also endeavors to give students a platform to express and debate their own opinions and views in arguably the most internationally significant gathering place on earth. More than six hundred students hailing from six continents will attend the conference. By outlining some of the issues that dominate the discussion of the energy crisis, the UNIS-UN Committee hopes that this year's conference will foster awareness of the problem with energy in today's world, a subject of great challenge in the twenty first century. The conference will be web cast on both days.

Sincerely,

The UNIS-UN Student Organizing Committee