

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE TO  
BABCOCK INTERNATIONAL MODEL UN (BIMUN)**

**17-22 July 2022  
Ogun State, Nigeria**

Thank you for taking part in this Model United Nations conference and for believing in the power of global cooperation to solve global problems. Our world needs your engagement and ideas more than ever.

We face the greatest cascade of crises in our lifetimes.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed a world of fragilities and injustice. It must be an inflection point for bold and transformative action.

For the first time in a generation, poverty and hunger are on the rise. Inequalities are increasing. A surge of mistrust and misinformation is polarizing people and paralyzing societies. Geopolitical divisions disrupt international cooperation. Human rights are under assault. And we continue to careen toward climate catastrophe.

But we can turn things around.

We have the blueprints: the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Humanity has shown time and again that we are capable of great things when we work together – beyond governments and across geographies and generations.

To do so, we need a more inclusive and networked multilateralism. That is why the United Nations has launched a new initiative: *Our Common Agenda*. It includes more than 90 recommendations and proposals, based on a 360-degree analysis of the state of our world.

A central element is ensuring young people fully participate in designing our shared future and have a much stronger influence in the United Nations itself.

The world needs your energy, courage and commitment. I draw hope from seeing your generation challenge the status quo and call for transformative change.

The United Nations is your steadfast ally as we strive to build a sustainable, inclusive and resilient world for all.

I wish you every success.

Thank you.