NEWS RELEASE

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Record participation for NTU’s Model United Nations Conference

The Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Debating Society is holding the Model United Nations conference for the second year on 3rd and 4th February 2007 in NTU. This one-of-a-kind event simulates the United Nations meetings, and this year, some 150 students from local junior colleges, polytechnics and universities will take part, a 50% increase from last year’s inaugural event.

During the conference, participants will take on the role of foreign diplomats and represent specific countries to debate on global issues which they have researched on for two months.

The participants will each debate on a particular global issue relating to their respective ‘councils’:

- ‘Security Council’, which will discuss the ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon,
- ‘African Union’, which will deliberate on the violent insurgency in Sudan, and
- ‘European Union’, which will assess the potential elimination of the Common Agriculture Policy.

Says NTU School of Computer Engineering third-year student Utkarsh Bahadur, who is Chairperson of the NTU Model United Nations 2007, “The Model United Nations provides a unique opportunity for participants to hone their public speaking skills and develop a broad understanding of global issues and world affairs. In the process, students will learn about international law, diplomacy and foreign policy.

“The interactive model is designed to empower participants in their game strategies, and encourages them to come up with special insights to, and ingenious solutions for, the problems plaguing the international community.”

A special feature this year is the Press Corp, comprising three ‘media firms’, which will report on the proceedings of the day from their unique stand-points. This aims to stimulate debate and instil accountability among the participants.
The conference is supported by NTU's S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore Press Holdings, Morris Allen Study Centres and National Library Board. The event will be opened by NTU RSIS Assistant Professor Tan See Seng.

For more information on the event, please visit: http: www.ntumun.com

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**About Nanyang Technological University**

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university with globally acknowledged strengths in science and engineering. The university is located in a garden campus in western Singapore, tracing its roots back to 1955.

NTU has 4 colleges comprising 12 schools. The College of Engineering comprises six schools focused on technology and innovation. Its research output ranks among the top four in the world. The College of Science pushes the boundaries of Singapore’s life sciences initiatives. The Nanyang Business School (the College of Business) offers one of the world's top 100 MBA programmes. The College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences boasts Singapore's first professional art school offering degree courses in art, design and interactive digital media, the Humanities and Social Science School, and the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, a top journalism and media school in Asia.

The 13th school, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, was inaugurated on 1 January 2007. An important component of this autonomous school is the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, long recognised as a world authority on strategic studies and terrorism.

NTU is also home to the internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, Singapore’s only teacher-training institute.

NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives with established institutions worldwide. Key partners include MIT, Stanford University, Cornell University, Caltech, University of Washington, Georgia Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon University in USA, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Waseda University, Indian Institute of Technology in Asia, Cambridge University, Imperial College and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Europe.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg