

UN YOUTH - NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For the March Meeting of the UNANZ National Executive.

PROGRAMMES

The primary focus of UN Youth throughout February has been running its flagship international trips, all of which have returned safely and have received highly positive feedback:

- **Global Development Tour:** a Tour for 22 secondary school students to New York and then across the UK, Italy, Austria, Germany and France. Its primary objective is to educate Aotearoa youth on the power of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to demonstrate the SDGs in practice.
- **North America Leadership Tour:** a Tour for 12 tertiary students across Canada, the USA and Mexico, with the primary objective of empowering New Zealand youth to grow not just as global citizens, but as active leaders on the international stage.
- **Globalisation Tour:** a Tour for 10 tertiary students across Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Japan, with the goal of aiding New Zealand youth in understanding the power of globalisation, international trade and the relationship between Aotearoa and Asian nations.

We have also been actively preparing for our **Regional Flagship Model UNs** due to take place in late March, and our signature civics event, **Aotearoa Youth Declaration** due to take place in late April. The coronavirus epidemic may pose threats to these events. The National Executive and Board of UN Youth are carefully monitoring the situation and are committed to following Ministry of Health advice moving forward.

GENERAL MATTERS

UN Youth has been greatly honoured by the multiple opportunities offered to us to engage with Under-Secretary General Izumi Nakamitsu during her time in Aotearoa for the 50th Anniversary of the NPT. As National President, I sat on the Youth Panel at the associated Nuclear Disarmament Symposium and shared UN Youth's perspectives on how to best engage youth with critical global issues such as disarmament. Our National Relations Officer, Patrick Hayes, participated in the round table discussion with High Representative Nakamitsu. The lessons learnt by both Patrick and myself throughout this process will be carried onto our event organising committees to utilise throughout the year.