## THE SECRETARY-GENERAL -MESSAGE TO MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The world continues to face the all-encompassing COVID-19 pandemic – a health crisis, economic disaster and human rights emergency rolled into one unprecedented challenge.

We also confront a planetary emergency – including accelerating climate change, growing pollution and collapsing biodiversity – threatening the environment on which everyone's future depends.

And we are witnessing an alarming spread of hatred and discrimination.

In these trying times, I welcome your engagement in the Model United Nations.

Young people today are spearheading movements for climate action, racial justice, gender equality and so much more.

You are connecting on-line and in the streets, showing the power of collective action.

The pandemic has created a moment for change.

Recovery is our chance to shape a better future.

And the Sustainable Development Goals are our roadmap.

The United Nations is committed to being your ally as we push to build a more sustainable and equitable world for people today and for generations to come.

Thank you for your belief in the power of dialogue and cooperation to meet the tests of our time.

I wish you a successful Model United Nations.