

Report of the 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations



Supporting the United Nations for a Fair and Peaceful World

We the Peoples



Buenos Aires, Argentina
6 - 10 November 2006

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The World Federation of United Nations Associations: 38th Plenary Assembly and Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary

Introduction

The Plenary Assembly is the supreme organ of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, responsible for pursuing and achieving the World Federation's objectives as a peoples' movement for the United Nations.

At its 187th meeting in March 2005 in New York, the Executive Committee accepted the offer of the United Nations Association of Argentina, presented by Mr. Ricardo Dominicé, Vice-President of the World Federation, to host the Plenary Assembly in Buenos Aires in November 2006. This was the first time in the organization's 60 year history that a Plenary Assembly had taken place in Latin America. The theme of the Plenary Assembly was "We the peoples supporting the United Nations for a Fair and Peaceful World". An international symposium was held on the first day, on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals – a global challenge.

In the lead up to the Plenary Assembly, the World Federation celebrated its 60th anniversary with a global essay competition on the recommendations of the Commission on Weapons of Mass Destruction, chaired by Dr. Hans Blix. The winner of this competition was brought to the Plenary Assembly to meet Dr Blix.

For the first time, a video about the history and activities of the World Federation was produced. It was shown at the opening of the International Symposium and DVD copies were made available to all delegates.

Highlights of the Plenary Assembly included the election of Dr. Hans Blix as the President of the Federation, adoption of revisions to the Constitution to set up WFUNA-youth, proclamation of The Buenos Aires Declaration: We the peoples supporting the United Nations for a Fair and Peaceful World and adoption by consensus of a wide range of resolutions on development, peace and security, human rights and UN reform.

Funds were raised to cover the travel costs to Argentina of one UNA delegate from 16 developing countries, as well as 15 youth representatives. This was made possible by the generous offer of the Friends of the World Federation to match grants from UNAs up to a total amount of \$50,000. The UNAs of Denmark, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and the United States made grants. A total of 149 delegates from 52 UNAs participated in the Plenary.

We would like to express appreciation for the sponsorship and support of the government of Argentina, the Argentine Foreign Ministry, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, the UNICs of Brazil and Mexico, the Simons Foundation, Fundación Armonia, FINA, the Association of Women Judges of Argetina, La Tribu and AUSA.

Without the tireless efforts of the numerous volunteers and support staff in Buenos Aires, the meetings would not have been possible. We extend a big vote of thanks to them all!

International Symposium

The Plenary Assembly opened on 6 November 2006 in the Blue Room of the Palace of the National Congress of Argentina, with an International Symposium on the theme of UN Millennium Development Goals: A global challenge: the need for innovative partnerships for development.

At the beginning of the symposium, the video about the World Federation was shown, highlighting the 60 year history of the organization and activities of member United Nations Associations around the world.

Mr. Carlos Felipe Martinez, representative of the United Nations Development Program read out the message from UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. He stated: "At a time when, more than ever before, human beings throughout the world form a single society, we cannot afford divisions that threaten the very notion of an international community. That is why associations such as yours are more important than ever." (Full text is at Appendix 3.)

Mrs. Estela Carlotto, Grandmother of the Plaza de Mayo, gave the keynote address, emphasizing the vital importance of governments ensuring full respect for peoples' human rights as an essential prerequisite to the achievement of economic development. Lady Rhyl Jansen, President of the World Federation expressed appreciation to Argentina for hosting the Symposium and Plenary Assembly and Mrs. Lucia Alberti, President of UNA Argentina, welcomed delegates to the conference. Amb. William Luers, President of the UNA-USA concluded the opening formalities with a strong affirmation of the central importance of the United Nations in today's rapidly globalizing world.

Four panel discussions were held. On the first panel, which was moderated by Dr. Beate Wagner, Secretary-General, UNA-Germany, Mr. Daniel Filmus, Minister for Education described how Argentina's educational policies were integral to the development effort and aimed to promote human rights and the equality of opportunity. Ms. Carmen Argibay, Minister of the Supreme Court of Justice and Dr. José Gregori, President of the Sao Paulo Human Rights Commission both talked about the relevance of the human rights legislative framework for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Ms. María del Carmen Feijoo, Representative of UNFPA, highlighted the need to ensure that women's rights were respected. Dr. Jerome Glenn, Director of the Millennium Project, described how some exciting, but as yet not widely known, new technologies, could make a big impact on the alleviation of poverty and hunger in the world. Dr Glenn highlighted the use of seawater agriculture as a potential source of income to poorer regions of the world, the importance of reducing current CO2 levels in the atmosphere, as well as the reduction of emissions in general and the possibility of the use of Orbital Solar Energy Satellites, which would be able to provide energy worldwide without greenhouse gases or nuclear waste.

President of the Senate, The Hon. Daniel Filmus, introduced Dr. Hans Blix, Chairman of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (WMD Commission) who presented an award to Ms. Immaculate Motsi from Zimbabwe, the winner of the World Federation's Global Essay Competition on Peace and Disarmament. The Brazilian member of the WMD Commission joined in the dialogue on Ms Motsi's paper, which was moderated by Ms Loree Semeluk, youth director, UNA-Canada. Dr Alexei Borisov, Secretary-General of UNA-Russia, gave the vote of thanks

On the second panel, the focus was on building partnerships to promote trade and economic development in Latin America. The speakers included Mr. Arthur Navarro, Chair of the Latin Economic Forum, Mr. Alberto Balestrini, President of the Chamber of Deputies, Senator Naidenoff, Mr. Fred Dubee, the UN's Global Compact and Mr. Sergio Flores, Director UNA-Guatemala.

The reform of the United Nations was the topic of the third panel which was moderated by Prof. Kim Dok Hong, UNA-ROK. Mr. Vicente Garcia-Delgado, CIVICUS together with representatives of the UNAs of Spain, Mrs. Angels Mataro, and the Czech Republic, Mrs. Pavla Kortusova, engaged in a lively debate with Senator José Pampuro, Vice President of the Senate, and Ambassador Ricardes, Director of International Organizations at the Foreign Ministry. Dr. Carlos Amat Fores Director ANU Cuba, and former Ambassador to the UN, gave the vote of thanks.

The aim of the MDGs is to lift 50% of people living in extreme poverty out of their situation by 2015. The final panel, moderated by Raquel Olmos Vice-President of AUSA, examined the sensitive question of how to ensure that people who are already marginalized and disadvantaged in society, who may be the most difficult to reach, are not excluded from the effort to achieve the goals. Speakers included Mr Leandro Despouy, Auditor General of Argentina, Professor Lev Voronkov, President of the MDG Commission of the UNA-Russia, Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA USA and Norma Rojas, President, UNA-Venezuela.

At the end of the International Symposium, Mrs. Alberti, President of UNA-Argentina emphasized the invaluable advocacy role of UNAs, working together in partnership with each other and with other civil society groups in holding their governments to account for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The World Federation has a major responsibility to continue to support UNAs in their efforts to bring an end to all extreme forms of poverty and to actively promote the human right to development.

Plenary Assembly

The Plenary Assembly took place at the Senate annex building and was presided over by the President of the World Federation, Lady Rhyl Jansen.

A message from the President of the UN General Assembly, Her Excellency Sheikh Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, advising of her intention to hold a series of thematic debates on the topics of development, gender and dialogue among civilizations, was read by Mr. Samir Daher, Vice-President of the World Federation from UNA-Lebanon. The text of this message is at Appendix 3.

Report of the Credentials Committee

The President called upon the chair of the Credentials Committee, Mrs. Rena Shashua-Hasson to report to the Plenary on the credentials of the UNA representatives present. Mrs. Shashua-Hasson stated that there are 109 members of the World Federation. The necessary quorum was 2/5th of the membership, namely 44 UNAs, which had annually paid their membership dues. As this number had already registered for the Plenary Assembly, there was a quorum and the meeting could therefore exercise its decision-making powers. Please see Appendix 2 for the list of participants.

Adoption of the Agenda

The Acting Secretary-General, Pera Wells, advised that the Executive Committee at its 190th session, which met on 4 November, recommended minor changes to the provisional agenda, concerning the timing of the elections. The Plenary Assembly adopted the revised provisional Agenda. (Appendix 1)

Report of the Membership Committee

The President gave the floor to the Chairman of the Executive Committee who invited Mrs. Rena Shashua-Hasson, Chair of the Membership Committee, to report.

On her recommendation, the Plenary Assembly welcomed the following 8 newly established United Nations Associations to full membership of the World Federation: Albania, Armenia, Burundi, Comoros, Haiti, Macedonia, Mozambique and Syria.

The 37th Plenary Assembly had considered the applications of the UNAs of Benin, Cambodia and South Africa, but did not confirm their membership of the World Federation as the requirement to pay annual dues had not been satisfied. On advice that UNA-South Africa was up-to-date with its dues payments, the Plenary welcomed it to membership of the World Federation. The membership of the UNAs of Cambodia and Benin was accepted, on the condition that they pay their dues for 2006.

At the request of the Executive Committee, letters had been sent by registered mail to 18 inactive UNAs advising that if no response was received by 30 October 2006, the recommendation would be made to disaffiliate them in line with Article 38 of the constitution. No response was received from the following 12 UNAs: Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Central Africa Republic, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Lesotho, Mali, Mongolia, Panama, Senegal and Zimbabwe. The Executive Committee recommended that the Plenary consider their disaffiliation, so that new UNAs may be established in those countries that are member states of the UN.

Several delegations expressed the concern that the World Federation should be seeking to gain more members instead of disaffiliating them. However, it was explained that many attempts had been made to establish contact with the listed UNAs, but no response had been received. Article 38 of the constitution states that if the dues are not paid after 3 years a UNA shall cease to be a member. It was recognized that after disaffiliation it would be possible to set up a new UNA in the country.

The recommendation for the disaffiliation of the 12 UNAs was put to a vote and carried with none against and one abstention.

A group of people, who had recently set up a new UNA in Bolivia, were warmly welcomed to the Plenary Assembly and their credentials to participate as a full member were accepted.

Appointment of officers for the Committees, Commissions and Working Groups

Elections Committee

In accordance with Rule 16 of the By-Laws, the Chairman of the Executive Committee recommended the appointment of the following people to the Elections Committee and advised that they would choose their own chairperson: Pavla Kortusova, (UNA-Czech Republic), Helena Laukko (UNA-Finland), Momojo Ise (UNA-Japan), Jose Sotero Mahban (UNA-Mexico) and Charles D'Awal (UNA-Sudan).

In the absence of Mr. Sotero Mahban, and on the recommendation of Mr. Suresh Srivastava, (IFUNA) Dr. Mohammad Syed Shahed (Vice-President from UNA-Bangladesh) was appointed together with the other four people recommended.

Resolutions Committee

The Chairman of the Executive Committee recommended the appointment of Mr. Larry Finkelstein of UNA-USA to chair the Resolutions Committee, which was open-ended; all members who had drafted resolutions were entitled to take part. The ExCo decided to recommend the following core members to initiate discussion: Chen Shiqiu, UNA-China; Carlos Amat Fores, UNA-Cuba; Ervin Gombos, UNA-Hungary; P.C. Sinha, IFUNA; John Karanya, UNA Kenya; UNA- Lebanon; Kim Dok Hong, UNA-ROK.

Working Group on the Constitution

The Executive Committee recommended the following members for the Working Group on the Constitution: Syed Mohammad Shahed, UNA-Bangladesh (Chair); Zhang Yunfei, UNA-China; Suresh Srivastava, IFUNA; Rena Shashua Hasson, UNA-Israel; Rhyl Jansen, UNA-New Zealand; Edison Dick, UNA-USA; Norma Rojas, UNA-Venezuela; Kimon Haars, WFUNA-youth

Mr Syed Mohammad Shahed requested to be removed from this Working Group as he had accepted a position on the Elections Committee. UNA-Sudan recommended Steve R. Fariyabi of UNA-Afghanistan as the new Chair, and he was approved.

Commission One: Policy issues

The Executive Committee recommended, and it was agreed, that the following members would form the bureau for Commission One: Sam Daws, UNA-UK (Chair); Helen Drayton, UNA-Trinidad and Tobago (Vice-Chair); Harold Herman, UNA-South Africa (Vice-Chair); Julie McKay, UNA-Australia (Rapporteur) Lev Voronkov, UNA-Russia (Rapporteur).

Commission Two: Program of work and budget

The Executive Committee recommended the following members for the bureau of Commission Two: Ervin Gombos, UNA-Hungary (Chair); Joseph Shija, UNA-Tanzania (Vice-Chair); Alexei Borisov, UNA-Russia; Andrew Rice, UNA-USA (Rapporteur); Oswaldo Torres, UNA-Chile (Rapporteur). Mr. Gombos noted that Oswaldo Torres had not yet arrived and asked for someone

else to volunteer to be the Rapporteur. Grace Thalma from UNA-Trinidad and Tobago stepped forward to take on this responsibility.

Election of the Secretary-General

The President observed that the Executive Committee nominates the candidate for the position of Secretary-General. The chairman reported that the Executive Committee had unanimously decided to recommend that the Acting Secretary-general, Ms Pera Wells, serve as Secretary-General for a fixed term, as defined by Article 33 of the constitution, until the end of the 39th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, with the full authority vested by the constitution in that role. This recommendation was adopted by consensus.

Report of the Secretary-General

The newly appointed Secretary-General, Ms. Pera Wells, expressed her gratitude to everyone for their support and looked forward to a very positive and productive period for the World Federation over the next three years.

Ms. Wells reflected on the changes that had been taking place at the United Nations, highlighting the outcomes of the 2005 Summit and the appointment of the new UN Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-moon, and said that the reform process now underway held out both opportunities and challenges for the World Federation.

She summarized the report on the work of the Secretariat and drew attention to the attached database of the activities of the Secretariat from 2003-2006. (See Appendix 4). She had provided a draft three year strategic Plan of Action to guide the program of work for the Secretariat and a draft budget for the period 2007 -2009. She recommended that consideration of the draft Plan of Action take full account of the UNA Activity Reports which had been circulated to delegates, to ensure a high level of convergence between the programs and projects of the Secretariat and the practical interests, capacities and aspirations of UNAs.

In the discussion that followed, delegates expressed their appreciation for the work being done by the Secretariat and welcomed the increased diversity and relevance of the World Federation's programs and activities. Many highlighted the success of the regional Model UN Conferences and emphasized their interest in the continuation of this program.

The representatives of the UNAs of Afghanistan, Egypt, Kenya and South Africa called for a more systematic effort to establish UNAs in countries where they do not yet exist and to develop programs to support those that are struggling to make ends meet, particularly UNAs in Africa. They noted that most of the UNAs that had been disaffiliated were in fact in Africa and urged the Secretariat to give priority to restoring UNAs in those countries. The representative of Lebanon described how, since 1997, he had helped set up UNAs in several Arab countries. He agreed with the view that the World Federation should do much more to support the creation of new UNAs.

The representative of UNA-Spain commented on the helpful role that the Geneva office had played in developing the relationship between European UNAs and the UN's regional Information office in Brussels. Although the closure of the UN Information Centers at the country-level in Europe had been very disappointing to many, UNAs should make the most of the opportunities to pick up some of their promotional activities and work in concert with each other at the regional level.

The representative of UNA-Finland considered that more could be done to improve the management of UNA resources and that a practical training program could benefit many UNAs. Such a program could include information on managing accounts, communication systems and fund-raising. With respect to the policy orientation of the World Federation, it was hoped that the Plenary would define the policy platforms that would be the basis for the articulation of the World Federation's positions on major issues on the UN's agenda.

The representative of UNA-Sudan considered that the Secretary-General's report should have given more attention to conflict situations. He drew attention to the war in Sudan that people have been suffering for more than 20 years and called for the World Federation to give higher priority to working for global peace, particularly in Africa.

The representative of UNA-Dominican Republic said that the Secretary-General's report, together with the data base on the Secretariat's program of work for the last 3 years and the activity reports of UNAs provided a very good picture of what has been happening within the World Federation. He expressed confidence that this solid record of achievement would provide a good basis for fund-raising in the future.

The representative of UNA-Peru explained that their organization is located 1000 km away from the capital of the country and that fund raising has been difficult for them. She welcomed the discussion about increasing support for UNAs and hoped that those in Latin America could be included in any new fundraising program.

The Financial Situation

Since the Treasurer, Mr Ramaz Aptsiauri was unfortunately unable to attend the Plenary Assembly due to last minute complications with his travel, the Chairman of the Executive Committee presented his report (See Appendix 5).

The World Federation had maintained a positively balanced budget during the period under review. The budget figures for the past three years showed steady, but modest growth in the organization's resources: in 2003 the budget was \$517,166, in 2004 it was \$547,849 and in 2005 it was \$583,461.

The payment of membership dues to the World Federation was an important source of income, totaling about a fifth of received revenue. The Friends of the World Federation contributed over \$350,000 to each of the New York and Geneva offices through to end of 2004. As of May 2005, funding for the Geneva office was cut off, pending a restructuring of this office.

Since 2003, the New York office had received financial support from: Asian Development Bank, Goldman Sachs Foundation, North-South Institute, Professor Frey Wouters; Simons Foundation, Swedish government, UNA-Sweden and UNA-USA.

The Geneva office had received funding from the Canton de Genève, Fondation pour Genève, Karl Popper Foundation, Kuwait Industries, Makova Holdings, Mme Monsegur; Serono SA, Serono, Schweiz Service, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DFAE), The Geneva International Academic Network (RUIG-GIAN), UNA-Switzerland, Union Bancaire Privée, Unilever, Ville de Genève.

The accounts had been audited annually, according to US law, by certified accountants. The Executive Committee had adopted the audited accounts for 2003, 2004 and 2005 at its 190th session. The audited accounts for 2003, 2004 and 2005 were formally approved by the Plenary Assembly. They can be found on the World Federation's website - www.wfuna.org.

A provisional budget for the next three years had been prepared. It was later amended and noted by the Plenary Assembly, following the consideration of the reports of the two Commissions. (It is at Appendix 5).

Elections

An Elections Committee was set-up by the Executive Committee to monitor and coordinate the elections process. Members were from the UNAs of Czech Republic, Bangladesh, Finland, Japan, Sudan, and a representative from the Secretariat observed.

All UNAs present at the Plenary Assembly were eligible to vote.

The election for Secretary-General took place on Tuesday, 7 November and for the President and Vice-Presidents on Wednesday, 8 November.

There was only one candidate for President. Dr. Hans Blix was elected as President of the World Federation by acclamation.

There were four candidates for three Vice-President positions. Three candidates obtained a clear majority in the first round of ballots. The Plenary Assembly elected the following as Vice-Presidents of the World Federation:

Dr. Beate Wagner (UNA-Germany)
Prof. Dambar Bir Thapa (UNA-Nepal)
Prof. Harold Herman (UNA-South Africa)

The other three Vice-Presidents, elected at the Barcelona Plenary in 2003, are Mr. Sayed Shahed (UNA-Bangladesh), Ms. Helen Drayton (UNA-Trinidad & Tobago), and Mr. Ricardo Dominicé (UNA-Argentina).

There were no candidates for Treasurer. Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri (UNA-Georgia), the incumbent Treasurer was not present at the Plenary.

Elections for the Executive Committee took place on Friday, 10 November. There were 13 candidates for 10 positions (it should be noted that Ms. Pavla Kortusova, UNA-Czech Republic resigned her position as member of the Executive Committee, opening up an additional seat on the Committee). The first ballot resulted in 5 members being elected by majority. The second round of ballots elected the remaining 5 members by majority.

The Plenary Assembly elected or re-elected the following persons as Members of the Executive Committee of the World Federation:

Ms. Kathryn White (UNA-Canada)
Mr. Pang Sen (UNA-China)
Mr. Cissa Wa Numbe (UNA-Democratic Republic of the Congo)
Mr. Suresh Srivastava (UNA-India)
Amb. Sun Joun-yung (UNA-Republic of Korea)
Ms. Kari Solholm (UNA-Norway)
Mr. Alexei Borisov (UNA-Russia)
Mr. Rodney Fielding (UNA-UK)
Mr. Irving Stolberg (UNA-USA)
Ms. Norma Rojas Nobrega (UNA-Venezuela)

The existing members of the Executive Committee who will be continuing to serve are from the UNAs of Australia, Cuba, Cyprus, Hungary, Israel, Spain, Sudan and Sweden.

The Plenary Assembly conferred the title of Honorary President on former World Federation President Lady Rhyl Jansen (UNA-New Zealand), and former Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Gregory Kovrizhenko (UNA-Russia) by acclamation.

Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the World Federation

The year 2006 marked the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. To commemorate this special event at the Plenary Assembly, distinguished figures from the organization reflected on their experiences, vision, and thoughts about the future of the Federation.

Ms. Wells drew attention to the statement that had been issued on 2 August, 2006, to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the World Federation. Text can be found in Appendix 6.

Prof. Simai, who served two terms as President of the World Federation (from 1976-1981) reflected on the establishment of the organization 60 years ago, and its intricate and fascinating history. Throughout the years, the World Federation's work has reflected the changing global climate, but it has always stayed firm in its mission to support the United Nations. Exceptional and intriguing people have been part of the World Federation throughout the years, and there are many lively stories illustrating the people and events in the organization's history.

Discussing the organization's early years, Professor Simai said, "The World Federation of UN Associations, was a rare exception in the divided world of the Cold War years. It was established as a global peoples' movement for the support of the goals and work of the United Nations, in 1946, by a number of distinguished political figures, such as Eleanor Roosevelt, the widow of the late American president and Jan Masaryk, the former minister of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia. WFUNA was conceived in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations and its constitution reflected this spirit. It was dealing with more or less the same political issues as the UN. The struggle for human rights occupied a central place in the work of the World Federation. It was also a public forum for the dialogue on the social and economic problems of the world. The UN Associations of the different countries could not hang of course their policies and priorities in the cloakroom, but in many ways, the World Federation was similar to the UN, in that there was a simultaneous cooperation and confrontation within the organization. Some even called the World Federation 'The UN of the poor people'. ...".

After the presentation from Professor Simai, Mr. Ricardo Dominicé, Vice-President of the World Federation, took the floor. He talked about how many of the UNAs in Latin America were formed by groups of students who were connected through their association with the former ISMUN, the International Student and Youth Movement for the United Nations.

After reflecting on the achievements of the past, it was time to focus on the future. Dr. Jerome C. Glenn, Director of the Millennium Project, and noted futurist, gave a power point presentation, entitled "Some Civil Society Futures". He called for more collaboration between for-profit corporations and civil society, particularly on issues pertaining to the environment. He indicated that the future will include a significant role for trans-institutions - institutions comprised of equal representation from governments, corporations, NGOs, universities, and UN organizations. He challenged the participants to encourage their governments to enact legislation to enable the establishment of a trans-institution in their country – as yet no government had done this.

World Federation Model UN Program and the Millennium Development Goals

A proposal to expand and enhance the Regional Model UN Program of the World Federation was presented through a power point presentation by Ms. Dania Roepke (WFUNA-youth), Mr. Walter Lotze (UNA-South Africa), and Ms. Fruzsina Molnar (World Federation Secretariat, NY).

Building on the success of the three past regional Model UN conferences held under the auspices of the World Federation and the extensive experience of member UNAs with Model UN, the World Federation is proposing to conduct three regional level Model UN conferences on the Millennium Development Goals each year in Africa, Asia and Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. Through the preparatory, implementation and follow-up phases, the World Federation Model UN program will give students a core set of skills that are fundamental to becoming effective social activists, responsible leaders and creative visionaries. There are several distinguishing features of the World Federation program:

- The selection and preparation of the students is carefully supervised by the UNAs;
- The World Federation facilitates relationships between the students and youth organizations and networks focused on the MDGs (at the local, regional and global levels);

- The students are required to do a follow-up project within a year of the conference, which has a proven multiplier effect, both in terms of implementing the MDGs and bringing Model UN events to new communities;
- The World Federation ensures that the students have opportunities to continue networking with each other, are kept informed of each others' follow-up projects and other MDG activities and are invited to participate in various World Federation and UN related events.

Mr. Lotze gave a power point presentation that showed how the African Regional Model UN held in 2005, had resulted in follow-up projects around the continent that had generated keen interest in having further regional Model UN conferences on the MDGs. Agreement had been reached to have the 2007 African regional conference in Nairobi, at the UNEP conference facilities.

A representative from the UNA-Dominican Republic presented a video about the UNA's annual Model UN conference, and announced their intention to host the 2007 session of the World Federation's Regional Model UN Conference for the Latin American and Caribbean Region.

At the suggestion of the President, the Plenary Assembly endorsed the intention of the World Federation to convene annual regional Model UN conferences on the theme of the Millennium Development Goals and encouraged all UNAs to actively support this program.

World Summit on Information Society – World Federation Task Force Report

In the summer of 2003, at the initiative of UNA-Denmark and with financial support from the organization Danida, representatives from seven UNAs established a task force on the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) under the auspices of the World Federation. The UNAs of China, Denmark, Ecuador, Mozambique, Pakistan, Uganda and Venezuela were joined by the World Federation Secretariat and the World Federalist Movement to constitute the WFUNA Task Force on WSIS. The WSIS Task Force was created to strengthen collaboration between UNAs in different parts of the world both at the international and regional levels, and to streamline new technologies that could aid in furthering better communication between UNAs. The objective of the WFUNA Task Force on WSIS was threefold: first, to create opportunities for UNAs to participate in and influence the official WSIS process; second, to provide each participating UNA with opportunities and capacities to gain experience through international networking; and third, to strengthen the collaboration between UNAs across the world.

Networking at the local, regional, and international levels has been a vital part of the work of the Task Force that has empowered each organization in innovative ways. At the same time the cooperation between the organizations has underlined the potential capacity of UNAs working individually and collaboratively to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals. Successes of the Task Force include enhanced inter-UNA collaboration, recognition, influence, networking, and activity for individual UNAs at all levels. Challenges still include communication, funding, and finding a balance between the traditional approach of UNAs and an active community engagement.

Report on the Work of Commission One – Policy Issues

Commission One presented the Plenary Assembly with The Buenos Aires Declaration (Appendix 8) and a series of resolutions (Appendix 9).

The Chair of the Commission, Sam Daws, UNA-UK, organized the program of work into 4 areas, as follows:

- Millennium Development Goals
 - Millennium Development Goals
 - Global health issues
 - Energy and the environment
 - Migration and development
- Peace and security
 - Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - Responsibility to protect
- Human rights
 - Human rights protection and the role of the World Federation
 - The alliance of civilizations
- UN reform.

Delegates were asked to consider the draft documents prepared for this Commission, which included various draft resolutions and The Buenos Aires Declaration. A Resolutions Committee worked on the specific language of the texts and reported back to the Commission. It played a very helpful role in facilitating consensus on the texts adopted.

Highlights of the discussion

Resolution 1: Millennium Development Goals

Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA-USA introduced this resolution, which had two key aims: to have the Secretariat make MDG partnerships a high priority and to encourage UNAs to work together in projects which directly impact on the Millennium Development Goals.

- The representative of UNA-Kenya considered that the resolution should urge countries, especially developed countries to honor their commitments to transfer 0.7% of GDP to reduce poverty.
- The representative of UNA-Sudan asked for more emphasis on education, which was the key to development.
- Honorary President, Prof. Simai of UNA-Hungary, spoke about the emerging employment crisis facing young people, and called for the World Federation to spend more effort on development issues.

Resolution 2: Global Health Issues

This was introduced by Pavla Kortusova, UNA-Czech Republic, and in the course debate amended to include reference to malaria and HIV/AIDs, and the impact of the environment on health.

Resolution 3: UN Reform

Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA-USA, introduced the resolution on UN Reform which highlighted the need for reform of the Security Council. There was a lively debate about the position that the World Federation should advance with respect to the use of the veto, with some delegates calling for its abolition while others favored a more nuanced position. It was agreed that the focus of reform should be on revitalizing efforts to democratize, expand and improve the Council, and encourage 'progressive movement towards elimination of the single state veto'.

Resolution 4: UN Parliamentary Assembly

Dr. Beate Wagner, UNA-Germany, presented the draft resolution regarding the establishment of a UN Parliamentary Assembly.

Resolution 5: Establishment of a "Mass Destruction Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East"

Amb. Essam El Din Md Howas , UNA-Egypt presented this draft resolution.

Resolution 6: The Middle East

A difficult and divisive debate on the situation in the Middle East, prompted by the recent war in Lebanon, brought to light the determination of UNA representatives to work with each other in a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect. Two separate draft resolutions on the Middle East went through a series of amendments, moving from language of condemnation to cooperation, and were merged into one text, which called for the UN Security Council to convene urgently a Middle East Peace Conference. In addition, the UNA-Spain offered to host a meeting of UNAs from the Middle East and other interested UNAs to explore practical areas of cooperation that could serve to contribute to greater understanding and lasting and durable peace.

Resolution 7: Iraq

Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA-USA, proposed the draft resolution on Iraq. Comments were offered by the representatives of the UNAs of Egypt, Sweden, Canada, India, New Zealand, Spain, Cuba and Sudan. Various amendments were accepted to the text, which states that the invasion of Iraq was illegal, calls for the timely withdrawal of foreign forces and for future decisions about the destiny of Iraq to be made by the people of Iraq.

Resolution 8: Torture and Execution

Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA USA, introduced this resolution which generated a dialogue among the representatives of the UNAs of Israel, Egypt, and Lebanon on the appropriateness of naming terrorist organizations. In the event it was decided to cast the resolution in terms of principles and

appeal to all states, peoples and movements to abide by the UN and Geneva Conventions on Torture.

Resolution 9: Alliance of Civilizations

In introducing this resolution, Ms Angels Mataro, UNA-Spain, explained that the intention was for the World Federation to set up a Task Force to help implement the plan of action of the Alliance of Civilizations, with a strong focus on peace education. She was working in close collaboration with UNA-Turkey. The delegate from IFUNA welcomed the resolution, noting that people coming from different cultural and economic groups should live together in peace and harmony. The delegates from UNA-Sweden and UNA-Hungary offered suggestions for the text which was amended.

Resolution 10: Creating a Harmonious World.

The representative of UNA-China, Mr. Pang Sen, introduced this resolution which was clear and concise. The aim was to encourage all UNAs to include in their work programs the subject of creating a more harmonious, prosperous and just world. The UNAs of Sweden and New Zealand joined as sponsors.

Resolution 11: Responsibility to Protect

Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, UNA-Sweden, considered that it was important for the World Federation to get involved in this newly enunciated principle of international relations and to encourage the UN to find new ways to advance and implement it.

Resolution 12: Restriction on the Transfer of Arms

This resolution, which calls for the establishment of an international arms trade treaty, was proposed by UNA-UK, and supported by UNAs of New Zealand, Egypt, Russia and UNA-USA.

Resolution 13: United States – Cuba Relations

Mr. Dick Eddison, UNA-USA proposed this resolution which had been jointly drafted by the UNAs of Cuba and USA. The General Assembly had just adopted a similar resolution. Representatives of the UNAs of New Zealand, Ireland, Ghana and Russia expressed their support.

Resolution 14: Migration issues and the wall between Mexico and USA

This resolution was drafted by a group of UNAs, after a discussion had taken place in the Commission on the question of migration. Key points that had been made included:

- UNA-Sudan: there are 3 types of migration in Sudan – civil war, droughts and the nomadic nature of people in Sudan.
- UNA-USA: it was important to reaffirm the human rights of migrants and the basic concept of the freedom of movement.

- UNA-Hungary: a key issue is pressure on people from poor developing countries to migrate, which results in educated people leaving and then living in terrible conditions in developed nations.
- UNA-Germany recommended that the World Federation not use the term illegal migrants – as it has negative connotations. Instead it was agreed that any resolution or briefing would use the term ‘migrants without papers’.
- UNA-Venezuela affirmed the human rights of migrants, asserted that physical barriers which inhibit the exercise of these rights should not be allowed; undocumented migrants should not be criminalized. The building of walls is not a productive way of dealing with the migration issue.
- UNA-Chile noted that indigenous populations are affected by migration.

The Buenos Aires Declaration

Delegates welcomed the draft of The Buenos Aires Declaration that had been provided by the Secretariat and engaged in a discussion on the following points:

IFUNA suggested that in the spirit of the resolution on the Alliance of Civilizations, the Declaration should condemn “international terrorism”. Several UNAs discouraged any reference to terrorism in the text. In the event a sentence was added in the section on Peace and Security to ‘condemn all terrorism worldwide’.

At the suggestion of UNA-Sweden a new first sentence was added to the section on Peace and Security: “As a peoples’ movement we fully support and we work for the shift from state sovereignty to human security”.

At the suggestion of UNA-Russia, the language on development was strengthened to “declare the achievement of the MDGs as the primary priority for WFUNA and its members”.

On the recommendation of UNA-South Africa the title of the draft was changed to delete the word “globalization” (because of its negative connotations) and replace it with “world”: the title read - We the Peoples supporting the United Nations for a Fair and Peaceful World.

Julie McKay from UNA-Australia, who served as the Rapporteur for Commission One, read out a section of The Buenos Aires Declaration at the Plenary Assembly, which subsequently adopted the Declaration by acclamation.

The 14 draft resolutions were presented as a package to the Plenary Assembly and adopted by consensus.

Report on the Work of Commission Two - Work Program and Budget for the Secretariat

The Chair and Rapporteurs of Commission Two produced the following report on the deliberations which was read out to the Plenary Assembly.

Objectives:

The purpose of Commission Two was to review the work of the organization and to advise the Executive Committee and the Secretariat on issues concerning the World Federation and its member UNAs.

The Chairmanship of this Commission ensured full participation of all delegates and there was lively, constructive and collaborative discussions focused on the important issues raised in the agenda.

The Commission commended the work done by the Secretariat during the last three years, although it has been faced with many challenges.

The following were the proposals from Commission Two:

1. Considering the wide range of activities from UNAs around the world there is need to improve the communication between the Secretariat and UNAs, as well as communication between UNAs. This communication should be strengthened by the use of the information technology e.g. websites. Information should not only be in English but in Spanish and other UN languages. The Secretariat should provide the space on its website for exchanging information on UNA activities.
2. It is the responsibility of all UNAs to send in their reports at least three months before the Plenary Assembly as stated in the Constitution. These reports should be placed on the website. A common format for these reports should be established.
3. Regional co-operation between UNAs should be encouraged within and across Regions. The role and function of Regional offices needs to be clarified by the Executive Committee and finally by the Plenary and where necessary these offices should be strengthened.
4. The Secretariat should make the strengthening of UNAs its top priority. In particular, attention should be given to the question of developing UNAs in the regions where there are few UNAs. International Associate Membership deserves more study at a later date.
5. The Commission recognizes the excellent co-operation between UNAs and the UN organizations, in particular, the work being done by the European UNAs following the closure of the UN Information Centers in Western Europe. However, in situations where there was little co-operation at the country level between the UNA and the UN representation, the Secretariat should encourage the development of these relationships.
6. The Commission recognizes the tremendous challenge facing the Secretariat as it relates to fundraising. While it was understood that, generally speaking, additional funding from UNAs in support of the World Federation of the United Nations Association was not to be expected, UNAs might be able to provide human resources (such as interns) to the Secretariat or work with it on fundraising strategies. The World Federation should facilitate the sharing of these successful fundraising strategies with other UNAs across the world. Quarterly reports from the Secretariat to all UNAs would include this information as well as other information needed by UNAs.

7. The World Federation of the United Nations Association should encourage partnerships among UNAs, particularly on interests of common concern among several UNAs.
8. Given the wide range of possible activities, it is necessary to assign priorities in developing the program of work for the World Federation.
9. The Commission has noted the 3 year budget for the World Federation of the United Nations Associations.
10. The Commission recommends to this Plenary that time should be given here at this Plenary to show UNAs present how to access the World Federation's of Website.

Commission Two proposed 2 resolutions that were both adopted by the Plenary Assembly:

PA38/Com2/Res 1

It is recommended that the Plenary Assembly takes note of the need for active and effective regional coordination mechanisms and requests that the Executive Committee gives priority to encouraging the establishment of such mechanisms on a cooperative basis.

The representatives of the UN Information Centers in Argentina, Maria Costa Pinto, and in Mexico, Juan Miguel Diez, participated actively in the discussions about regional arrangements.

PA38/Com2/Res 2

The Plenary Assembly encourages all UNAs to contribute to the programs and projects of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, in particular to the activities related to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

WFUNA-Youth, Young Professionals Program, and Related Issues

Youth Meeting

A Youth Meeting was held parallel to the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly. After the meeting held in Barcelona at the 37th Plenary Assembly, and the experience that three years of hard work have provided, this meeting was the opportunity for the youth to come up with a final structure for WFUNA-youth. The meeting saw the participation of 42 youth delegates representing 26 countries.

The youth meeting started with opening statements made by all the represented delegations. The opening statements enabled all the delegates to give their national organizations insights about WFUNA-youth's structure and future.

The debate of the youth continued with the discussions on the structure of WFUNA-youth and its relationship with WFUNA. This discussion was launched through the internet even before the conference began using discussion forums. This debate had two parts. The first part was the discussion and amending of the original proposed amendment to the WFUNA Constitution submitted by UNA-Germany, UNA-Russia, UNA-South Africa and UNA-Spain, which appealed

for the inclusion of WFUNA-youth as an integral part of WFUNA. The second part was the amendment of the draft Rules of Procedure for WFUNA-youth. These rules will guide the work of the organization.

The youth discussed the coordination of the efforts and the work of WFUNA-youth. In this regard it was agreed that the youth did not want to have a board of directors but instead, a group of young people who were willing to commit to coordinate the daily work of the new organization until the next Plenary Assembly takes place. According to this decision, 9 representatives from 9 countries of the different regions were elected to be the members of the so-called Coordinating Committee. A document outlining the working instructions for the Coordinating Committee was approved by the youth meeting.

The members of the Coordinating Committee are:

Marco Chacon, UNA-Venezuela
Pol Fontanet, UNA-Spain
Natasha Gent, YPIC of UNA-USA
Walter Lotze, UNA-South Africa
Maya Verónica Marquez Roman, UNA-Guatemala
Ben McKay, UNYA-Australia
Reginald Munisi, Youth of UNA-Tanzania
Dania Röpke, UNYA-Germany
Vinayak Srivastava, IFUNA

Part of the meeting was dedicated to discussions about project ideas for WFUNA-youth. Many ideas had already been submitted on the online-forum, and additional ideas came up during the Youth Meeting. The feasibility of each suggestion was discussed. The accepted projects will be coordinated by Project Coordinators. On Thursday evening, participants of the Youth Meeting formed small working groups on two of the WFUNA-youth projects: a Wiki on organizing Model UN conferences, and the follow-up projects to WFUNA Regional Model UN conferences.

Finally, the youth took some time to exchange best practices. In this session the youth shared their different experiences on the projects and activities that their UNA's youth sections or UNYA's had carried out. Through these exchanges the youth benefited from each other's experiences, thus enhancing the possibility of successfully carrying out new projects.

The outcomes of the debate were presented to the Plenary session on Friday the 10th by Kimon Haars, the chairman of the Youth Meeting. The final version of the amendment on WFUNA-youth was passed by acclamation in the Plenary.

Young Professionals Program

The idea for a Global Young Professionals Program was first formed in April 2006 at UNA-USA Members' Day at the United Nations, which was attended by leaders of UNA-USA's Young Professionals for International Cooperation program (YPIC). Seeing young professionals' work on a national scale, many realized the potential benefits of cooperating on a global scale. At the DPI/NGO conference in September, members of YPIC met other young professionals from the World Federation's network of UNAs, and began to share ideas for working together to create the

global program. A UNA-Global Young Professionals (GYP) Task Force was set-up to work on a proposal and a presentation for the Plenary Assembly.

The Global Young professionals initiative was able to grow rapidly in the following few months by building on the experiences of the existing Young Professionals programs in the USA and the UK, and the enthusiasm and creative contributions of members of WFUNA-youth and UNAs in several countries.

The UNA-GYP Task Force presented to both the WFUNA-youth Meeting and the WFUNA Plenary Assembly on how to develop young professional programs nationally and then cooperate globally. A program targeting young professionals can be instrumental in successfully transitioning youth members into continued engagement with UNAs and the UN, after they are no longer students and their previous opportunities for participation, such as Model UN, are no longer available.

By the time of the Plenary Assembly, the UNA-GYP Task Force included members from the UNAs of the UK, the Netherlands, Brazil, Tanzania, the Dominican Republic, the US, and Germany. Liubov Gretchen, a representative from the UNA-USA YPIC program in New York spoke to the Plenary about their program's structure, membership, and activities. Tim Jarman, Chair of UNA-UK's Young Professionals Network discussed his experiences with their program that was launched a year before, and Wilhemina Aerbts from UNA-Netherlands described the YPIC they just created. Reginald Munisi of UNA-Tanzania talked about the opportunities he saw for a young professionals program in his country and in Africa in general, and Thiago Fernandes from UNA-Brazil discussed the program's potential in Latin America.

The presentations to both WFUNA-youth and the main Plenary Assembly were received with interest and enthusiasm, and resulted in the creation of a sound base for a UNA-GYP program.

Amendments to the Constitution

The Working Group on the Constitution met to examine the proposed amendments to the constitution to ensure that they met the necessary technical and legislative requirements. The Working Group recommended to the Plenary Assembly the adoption of the amendment proposed by the UNAs of Czech Republic, Germany, Netherlands, Russia, South Africa and Spain concerning the creation of WFUNA-youth. The text was carefully considered and various changes were proposed, notably by IFUNA. The final text, as adopted, is at Appendix 7.

Several technical changes to the constitution were proposed by the Working Group in the interest of logical consistency.

The proposal for an amendment made by UNA-Ireland was withdrawn. The proposal by UNA-Cuba to amend Article 2, on Membership, was forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration at its next session.

Date and Place of the 39th Plenary Assembly

The Chairman of the Executive Committee advised that the Committee had received an offer from the UNA-ROK to host the 39th Plenary Assembly in Seoul in 2009. The chairman commended this offer to the Plenary Assembly, which accepted it by acclamation.

Closing Session

An announcement was made about the leadership of the Executive Committee (see Appendix 10). Mr. Sen Pang was unanimously elected Chairman, the two Vice Chairs were Ms Kathryn White and Dr. Alexei Borisov. The Chair of the Finance Committee was Mr. Irving Stolberg and Ms. Kari Soholm was Vice-Chair. Mrs. Rena Shashua-Hasson continued as the Chair of the Membership Committee. The Chairman of the Executive Committee requested authority to appoint a Treasurer, which was agreed.

A special representative of UNA-China, Ms Annie Wu, who had flown to Buenos Aires to attend the Plenary Assembly for one day, spoke to delegates about her activities as an entrepreneur and offered creative suggestions for strengthening support for the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

Lady Rhyl Jansen made a personal statement at the closing session, expressing her profound sense of the privilege it had been to be President of the World Federation, and reflected on how far she had come from her indigenous Maori origins in New Zealand. She hoped that her story would be an inspiration to all the young people at the conference who aspired to make a difference in the world.

Many delegates expressed their appreciation to UNA-Argentina for hosting the Plenary Assembly, to Lady Rhyl Jansen for her work during her tenure as President of the organization, and to the Secretariat for assisting in the coordination and logistical support for the event.

All the volunteers and support staff who had worked behind the scenes to make a success of the Plenary Assembly were invited to come forward and received a memento of the occasion, to great applause.

APPENDIX 1 - Program

Program

190th Session of the Executive Committee

*International Symposium: The Millennium Development Goals: A Global Challenge.
The Need for Innovative Partnerships for Development*

38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Youth Assembly

191st Executive Committee meeting

**Buenos Aires, Argentina
4-10 November 2006**

Saturday, 4 November – Bauen Hotel, Corrientes Avenue

10.00 – 18.00 190th Executive Committee meeting

Sunday, 5 November – Bauen Hotel, Corrientes Avenue

15.00-18.00 Executive Committee meeting resumed
18.00-19.00 Meeting of the Heads of Delegations
19.00-20.00 Executive Committee meeting final session
20.00-21.00 Informal get together for youth delegates

Monday, 6 November – Palace of the Congress, Salón de los Pasos Perdidos

9.00-10.00 Registration
10.00-12.00 Opening session of the International Symposium
12.00-13.00 Panels 1 and 2
Dr. Hans Blix presents award to Ms. Immaculate Motsi
13.00-14.00 Luncheon in honor of Dr. Blix
14.00-17.00 Panels 3 and 4
17.00-18.00 Closing ceremony

Tuesday, 7 November - Senate annex building

8.30-9.30 Registration
9.30-10.00 Meeting of the Credentials Committee
10.00-11.00 **Plenary Session 1**

- Adoption of the Report of the Credentials Committee
- Adoption of the Agenda

- Membership
 - Nomination of committees, commissions, and working group on constitution
- Youth Meeting**
- 11.30.-13.00 **Plenary Session 2**
- Election of Secretary-General
 - Report on the Work of the Secretariat 2003-2006
 - Report of the Finance Committee
- Youth Meeting**
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-16.00 **Plenary Session 3**
- WSIS Task Force Report
 - Nominations for President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurer
- Youth Meeting**
- 16.30-18.00 **Commission 1** – first session
Commission 2 – first session
- Youth Meeting**
- 18.00-19.00 **Elections Committee**

Wednesday, 8 November - Senate annex building

- 9.30-11.00 **Plenary Session 4**
- Commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the World Federation
 - Election of President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer
- Youth Meeting**
- 11.00-13.00 **Commission 1** – second session
Commission 2 – second session
- Youth Meeting**
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-16.00 **Regional Group Meetings**
- Youth Meeting**
- 16.30-18.00 **Plenary Session 5**
- Report of the World Federation's Model UN program and the Millennium Development Goals
- Youth Meeting**
- 18.00-19.00 **Working Group on the Constitution**
- 19.00-22.00 Reception at the Argentinean Foreign Ministry

Thursday, 9 November - Senate annex building

- 9.30-11.30 **Commission 1** – third session
Commission 2 – third session
- Youth Meeting**
- 11.30-13.00 **Plenary Session 6**
- Reports from meetings of regional groups

- Report of the Youth Meeting and presentation of the UNA Task Force on the Joint International UNA Young Professionals Program

Resolutions Committee

Youth Meeting

13.00-14.30

Lunch

14.30-16.00

Commission 1 – fourth session

Commission 2 – fourth session

Youth Meeting

16.30-18.00

Plenary Session 7

- Adoption of the work programme 2006-2009
- Adoption of the budget for 2006-2009
- Executive Committee elections

Youth Meeting

15.30-17.00

World Federation 191st Executive Committee meeting

Informal reception in Senate building

Friday, 10 November - Senate annex building

9.30-11.00

Plenary Session 8

- Report from Working Group on Constitution, Committees, and Commissions

Youth Meeting

11.30-13.0

Plenary Session 9

- Reports Continued

Youth Meeting

13.00-14.00

Lunch

14.00-15.00

Plenary Session 10

- Initiatives for distinctions – Honorary Presidents
- Initiatives by members and other business
- Date and Place of the 39th Plenary Assembly
- Closure of the meeting

15.30-17.00

World Federation 191st Executive Committee meeting

Informal reception in Senate building

APPENDIX 2 - List of World Federation member participants

UNA	Prefix	First name	Last Name	Title
Afghanistan	Mr.	Steve R.	Faryabi	Delegate
Argentina	Ms.	Lucia	Alberti	Delegate
	Mr.	Ricardo	Dominice	Delegate
	Mr.	Gastón	Hirsch	Youth
	Mr.	Martín	Olmos	Youth
	Ms.	Martina	Guarnaschelli	Youth
Armenia	Mr.	Karen	Asatryan	Delegate
	Mr.	Vladimir	Karmirshalyan	Delegate
Australia	Ms	Julie	McKay	Delegate
	Mr.	Ben	McKay	Youth
Austria	Mr.	Dominik	Zotti	Youth
	Mr.	Josef	Mantl	Youth
Bangladesh	Prof	Syed Mohammad	Shahed	Delegate
Brazil	Ms	Ana Paula	Junqueira	Delegate
	Mr.	Thiago	Fernandes	Delegate
Burundi	Mr.	Fabien	Nkurunziza	Delegate
	Mr.	Constantin	Ruberintore	Delegate
	Ms.	Jean Maire	Ndihokubwayo	Delegate
	Mr.	Edouard	Ngabo	Delegate
	Ms.	Celine	Kirombo	Youth
Canada	Ms	Loree	Semeluk	Delegate
Chile	Mr.	Oswaldo	Torres	Delegate

China	Amb.	Shiqiu	Chen	Delegate
	Ms	Annie	S.C. Wu	Delegate
	Mr.	Sen	Pang	Delegate
	Ms	Yunfei	Zhang	Delegate
	Mr.	Hui	Pan	Youth
Cuba	Dr	Carlos	Amat Fores	Delegate
	Dr	Manual	Pardinas Ajeno	Delegate
	Ms	Yessie	Coto Morales	Youth
Czech Republic	Ms	Pavla	Kortusova	Delegate
Denmark	Mr.	Torleif	Jonasson	Delegate
	Ms.	Anni	Herfort Andersen	Delegate
	Ms.	Jane	Johnsen	Delegate
Dominican Republic	Mr.	Nathanael	Concepcion	Delegate
	Mr.	Rafael	Pinto	Delegate
DRC	Mr.	Cissa	Wa Numbe	Delegate
	Ms.	Julie Malanga	Moseka	Youth
Egypt	HE	Essam El Din	Hawas	Delegate
	Dr.	Mossad Saied	Ewies	Delegate
Finland	Ms.	Sirpa	Pietikainen	Delegate
	Ms.	Helena	Laukko	Delegate
	Ms.	Inka	Leisma	Delegate
Germany	Dr	Beate	Wagner	Delegate
	Mr.	Kimon	Haars	Youth
	Mr.	Dania	Roepke	Youth
Ghana	Mr.	E.N.	Amuasekyi- Amoah	Delegate
Guatemala	Mr.	Danilo	A. Roca Barilla	Delegate

	Mr.	Sergio	Alejandro Flores	Delegate
	Ms.	Milvia	Yesenia Barco Gonzalez	Delegate
	Mr.	Carlos	Gabriel Flores Murphy	Delegate
	Ms.	Maya Veronica	Marquez Gonzalez	Youth
Haiti	Ms.	Magalie	Hoochong Massiah	Delegate
	Ms.	Anam	Grandchamps	Delegate
Hungary	Prof	Mihaly	Simai	Delegate
	Prof	Ervin	Gombos	Delegate
	Mr.	Gabor	Varhelyi	Youth
	Ms	Aniko	Kovacs	Youth
Indian Federation of UNAs (IFUNA)	Mr.	P.C	Sinha	Delegate
	Mr.	Suresh	Srivastava	Delegate
	Mr.	Bharat	Babbar	Delegate
	Mr.	Velayudhan	Nair	Delegate
	Mr.	Vinayak	Srivastava	Delegate
Ireland	Mr.	John	Connor	Delegate
Israel	Mrs.	Rena	Shashua-Hasson	Delegate
	Mr.	Eli	Shashua	Delegate
Italy	Mr.	Leonardo	Rossi	Delegate
Jamaica	Dr.	Lucille	Buchanan	Delegate
	Ms	Allison	Christie-Binger	Delegate
	Ms	Adenike	Stephenson	Youth
Japan	Ms.	Momoyo	Ise	Delegate
Kenya	Mr.	John	Mbiyu Karanja	Delegate
Lebanon	Mr.	Samir Michel	El- Daher	Delegate
	Mrs.	Raja	Hamadeh	Delegate

Luxembourg	Mr.	Jose	Pereira	Delegate
Mexico	Mr.	Jose Sotelo	Marban	Delegate
Nepal	Mr.	Dambar	Bir Thapa	Delegate
Netherlands	Ms	Wilhelmina	Aerbts	Delegate
New Zealand	Lady	Rhyl	Jansen	Delegate
	Sir	Ross	Jansen	Delegate
Norway	Ms.	Esther	Kostel	Delegate
	Ms.	Kari	Solholm	Delegate
Peru	Lic.	Rina	Flores de Drabbe	Delegate
	Mr.	Jimmy Alegria	Moreano	Youth
	Ms.	Rosa Amalia	Pari Quenta	Youth
	Mr.	Augusto Zegarra	Ramos	Youth
	Mr.	José Luis	Ayala Arevalo	Youth
Republic of Korea	Mr.	Joun-yung	Sun	Delegate
	Mr.	Kyu-dok	Hong	Delegate
Russia	Mr.	Alexei	Borisov	Delegate
	Mr.	Lev	Voronkov	Delegate
	Ms	Yulia	Taranova	Youth
	Mr.	Leonid	Isaev	Youth
South Africa	Mr.	Harold	Herman	Delegate
	Mr.	Walter	Lotze	Youth
Spain	Ms.	Angels	Mataro Pau	Delegate
	Mr.	Xavier	Guerro Fernandez	Delegate
	Mr.	Raul	Jimenez Jimenez	Youth

Sudan	Prof	Abdalla A.	Abdalla	Delegate
	HE	Theresa	Iro	Delegate
	Amb.	Omer	Bridou	Delegate
	Amb.	Charles	D'Awal	Delegate
	Mr.	Mumin	Mukhayer	Delegate
Sweden	Mr.	Bonian	Golmohammadi	Delegate
	Ms	Linda	Thorslund	Delegate
	Mr.	Magnus	Nordahl	Delegate
Tanzania	Mrs.	Gillian	Teggisa	Delegate
	Mr.	Joseph	Shija	Delegate
	Ms	Sheila	Teggisa	Delegate
	Mr.	Reginald	Munisi	Youth
Trinidad & Tobago	Ms.	Grace	Talma	Delegate
	Ms.	Helen	Drayton	Delegate
Turkey	Mr.	Rahmi	Kumas	Delegate
	Mr.	Recep	Guvelioglu	Delegate
	Ms.	Yildiz	Kumas	Delegate
	Ms.	Mine	Guvelioglu	Delegate
	Ms.	Gizem	Kumas	Youth
Uganda	Mr.	Albert	Juna	Youth
United Kingdom	Mr.	Sam	Daws	Delegate
	Mr.	Tim	Jarman	Delegate
USA	H.E.	William	Luers	Delegate
	Hon.	Irving	Stolberg	Delegate
	Mr.	Andrew	Rice	Delegate
	Mr.	Kurt	Krause	Delegate
	Mr.	Edison	Dick	Delegate
	Mr.	Bill	Miller	Alternate
	Mr.	Larry	Finkelstein	Alternate

	Ms.	Cherie	Settle	Alternate
	Mr.	Richard	Griffis	Alternate
	Ms.	Chanelle	Bowdry	Alternate
	Ms.	Latha	Neru	Youth
	Mr.	Hector	Javier	Youth
	Ms.	Natasha	Rodrigues	Youth
	Ms.	Sultana	Ali	Youth
	Mr.	Sameer	Said	Youth
	Ms.	Andrea	Satter	Youth
	Mr.	Liubov	Grenchen	Youth
Venezuela	Mr.	Luis	Boggiero	Delegate
	Ms	Norma	Rojas	Delegate
	Mr.	Efrain	Mogollon	Delegate
	Mr.	Luis	Vivas	Delegate
	Ms	Beatriz	Aristegui	Delegate
	Mr.	Marcos	Chacon	Youth
	Mr.	Manuel	Escobar	Youth
International Associate Member	Mr.	Hiro	Sakurai	Soka Gakkai
<u>New UNA</u>				
Bolivia	Mr.	Gary Suarez	Bazadre	Delegate
	Ms	Teresa Duran	De Ruiz	Delegate
	Mr.	Mustafa Ortiz	Havivi	Delegate
	Ms.	Chao	Zhen In	Delegate
	Ms.	Tania Parada	Mendia	Youth

APPENDIX 3 – Messages

Messages from UNSG Kofi Annan and GA President Al Khalifa

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Message from Secretary-General Kofi Annan to the 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, Buenos Aires, 6 November 2006

Delivered by Mr. Carlos-Felipe Martínez, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Argentina

I am delighted to send warm greetings to this Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. You are all invaluable allies and partners of the United Nations. We see proof of that support through your consistent engagement in a wide range of issues of importance to the Organization. Above all, we see it in your ongoing efforts for education, outreach and awareness-building about the ideals and work of United Nations.

When I took office 10 years ago, I felt that humanity faced three main challenges. One was to ensure that globalization would benefit all the world's people. Another was to heal the disorder of the post-cold-war world. Third was to protect the rights and dignity of individuals.

We have made important gains in each of these quests. Advances on aid and debt relief are helping to render the world economy less unjust. The world is finally scaling up its response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. There are fewer inter-State conflicts than there used to be, and many civil wars have ended. More Governments are elected by, and are accountable to, those whom they govern. And the international community has recognized a responsibility to protect people from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Still, much more needs to be done. The Millennium Development Goals are unlikely to be achieved everywhere by 2015. People still face brutal conflicts, especially in the developing world. We face a possible cascade in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Terrorism continues to create a climate of fear and suspicion. And every day, reports reach us of new laws broken; and of new bestial crimes inflicted on individuals and minority groups.

Let us also recognize that people differ in their perceptions of what constitutes a threat. Someone who lives in a small-island state is likely to cite global warming as the main risk to life and livelihood. Someone who lives in New York, having first-hand experience of the attacks of 11 September 2001, might say terrorism is far more urgent. Others could well cite AIDS, poverty, small arms or crime. We need to be concerned about all of these threats – and crucially, we must be concerned about the threats faced by others if we want them to be concerned about those that we ourselves consider most urgent.

That understanding is the essence of the international cooperation for which the United Nations exists. At a time when, more than ever before, human beings throughout the world form a single society, we cannot afford divisions that threaten the very notion of an international community. That is why associations such as yours are more important than ever. In that spirit, please accept my

best wishes for a productive session, as well as my gratitude for your support of the United Nations in the 10 years I have served as Secretary-General. I wish you every success in your mission in the years ahead.



Message by H.E. Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa
The President of the United Nations General Assembly

On the Occasion of the 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations, 30 October 2006

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My warmest greetings to you all on the occasion of the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, entitled: “We the Peoples: Supporting the United Nations for Fair and Peaceful Globalization”.

The World Federation of United Nations Associations is an invaluable partner to the United Nations. Your presence in over 100 States strengthens global awareness of the work of the United Nations and inspires commitment to the UN’s goals.

I am pleased to see that the program of your Plenary Assembly reflects many of the pressing issues on the agenda of the United Nations and I look forward to the outcomes of your deliberations.

During my tenure as President of the General Assembly, I shall hold a series of thematic debates on the topics of development, gender and dialogue among civilizations. These debates shall provide opportunities for constructive interaction between Member States and all other relevant stakeholders, including the UN system, civil society and the private sector as a means to advancing our common objectives.

It is my firm belief that today’s urgent challenges require the support and collaboration of civil society. We must therefore work together to preserve and strengthen the ties between civil society and the United Nations.

I would also like to applaud you for simultaneously holding a Youth Conference. For the United Nations to continue to play its indispensable role in the future, we must ensure that the voices of today’s youth are clearly and loudly heard.

I wish you a very successful Plenary Assembly.
Thank

you.

APPENDIX 4 - Report on the Secretariat

Report on the work of the Secretariat and database of Secretariat Activities, 2003-2006

Report of the A/g Secretary General, Ms Pera Wells

**To the 190th Executive Committee meeting
and
To the 38th Plenary Assembly, November 2006**

Review of World Federation of United Nations Associations: 2003 – 2006.

“The World Federation is working to make the United Nations more present, more relevant, more responsive and valuable in the lives of the people it exists to serve. Thank you for that enduring commitment.” -- UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, 2003

The period 2003 - 2006 has been a challenging time for the United Nations. Many friends of the United Nations have been called upon to defend its relevance in the aftermath of the invasion of Iraq, the lack of an effective response to systemic human rights violations in various conflict situations or to threats to our environment resulting from climate change.

In 2004 the UN Secretary-General said that the United Nations was facing a “fork in the road” : was the international community of nation states committed to a multilateral decision-making process on critical issues of collective security or not? The answer has been resoundingly positive. Through the Resolution adopted at the 2005 World Summit - the largest ever meeting of heads of state and government - the United Nations is now being revitalized, and reorganized on the basis of the interdependence of the 3 ‘foundation pillars’: peace and security, development and human rights. Changes are being made to the intergovernmental machinery: the discredited Human Rights Commission has been replaced with a Human Rights Council, new bodies, such as the Peacebuilding Commission and Democracy Fund have been set up, and the General Assembly has taken up the complex question of the relationship between migration and development for the first time. In the last few months, major powers have actively engaged the United Nations on sensitive security issues in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

At the same time efforts are underway to reform the UN’s management practices and to review the many thousands of mandates that determine the UN’s program of work.

During this same period, the World Federation has made considerable progress, but it too has been faced with unexpected difficulties and divisiveness. Searching questions have been asked about the purpose and governance of the organization. Just as the United Nations is undergoing a far-reaching process of reform, it is now essential that this Plenary Assembly takes some fundamental decisions about the future of the World Federation.

Mandate of the World Federation in the 21st Century

In his acceptance speech, the incoming UN Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon said: “The UN is needed now more than ever before. The UN's core mission in the previous century was to keep countries from fighting each other. In the new century, the defining mandate is to strengthen the inter-state system so that humanity may be better served amidst new challenges”. He aspires to bring the “UN closer to the people”.

This report to the Plenary Assembly invites delegates to reflect on Mr. Ban’s acceptance speech and consider the implications for the World Federation in the 21st century.

The report is in 3 sections:

1. A brief report on the Secretariat’s program of work over the last 3 years.
2. Questions relating to the functions and structure of the World Federation.
3. Proposed draft outcome documents for this Plenary Assembly: draft of “The Buenos Aires Declaration” and a draft strategic Plan of Action for 2007 – 2009.

Review of the Secretariat’s program of work 2003 - 6

In line with the constitution, meetings of the Executive Committee have taken place twice yearly, been well attended and fully serviced by the Secretariat. Annual Human Rights Seminars have been held in Geneva, regional meetings for UNAs were held in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

The membership of the Federation increased during the period under review, with 8 new UNAs completing the formalities for membership. Another 12 UNAs are in the process of being formed.

The Secretariat extended its outreach capacities with the upgrade of the website, increased circulation of the widely appreciated newsletter, “*UN Connections*”, convened a formal UN press conference on the occasion of the World Federation’s 60th anniversary, and produced the first video which highlights the diverse activities of UNAs.

New programs have been launched, notably the regional Model UN Conference Program. Conferences on the theme of the Millennium Development Goals were hosted by UNAs in China, South Africa and India attracting the participation of hundreds of university students, accompanied by UNA representatives. Building on the success of this program, funding is now being sought to conduct annual regional Model UN conferences in Africa, Asia and Latin America for the next 3 years.

The Secretariat facilitated the participation of UNAs in major UN events, including the World Summit on Information Society and the Civil Society Hearings preparatory to the World Summit in 2005. We have taken a close interest in the reform of the UN, reporting regularly on developments, particularly on Management Reform issues.

A concerted effort is now being made to restore a positive sense that the United Nations is the place to reaffirm “our common humanity”. The World Federation has been invited by the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development to sponsor a major event on this theme on 29 November 2006, which will be dedicated to UN SG Kofi Annan.

A highlight of the last 3 years has been the growing interest of young people in the UN and the World Federation. The Interim Authority of WFUNA-Youth, which was set up at the 37th Plenary Assembly in Barcelona, has benefited from the establishment of a Youth Coordinator position in the NY office. The Youth Coordinators, in consultation with the Interim-Authority, have been successful in strengthening networking among young people and integrating the World Federation into the ever expanding youth-related activities at the UN. They finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Youth Action Network, issued quarterly newsletters, and actively supported the 2006 UN Youth Summit on the Millennium Development Goals.

To engage young people with the issues of peace and disarmament, the World Federation's 60th anniversary was commemorated with the launch of a global essay competition in honor of Dr Hans Blix. The NGO Committee on Disarmament recommended a short list of finalists to a panel of international judges, chaired by Honorary President, Mr. Douglas Roche, who selected the winner. Certificates of merit are to be given to twenty of the essayists. There is great potential for continuing this program into the future.

An individual member of the Indian Federation of United Nations Associations is planning to set up a Youth Foundation for the World Federation.

A new initiative, sponsored by a group of young professionals at UNA-USA, is to promote the development of a global network of Young Professionals for International Cooperation.

A summary of the events, reports and programs is attached.

The Treasurer's report covers the finances of the World Federation for this period.

Structure and Functions of the World Federation

A review of the Secretariat's program of work over the past three years, has given rise to several questions relating to the structure and functioning of the World Federation.

1. Role of the Secretariat

The Secretariat is composed of offices in New York and Geneva, each with 3 paid members of staff, supplemented by interns and volunteers. Ambassador Donald Blinken was the Secretary-General from October 2000 to April 2004, and Mr. James B. Sitrick was Secretary-General from May 2004 until April 2005. Following the resignation of Mr. Sitrick, an extraordinary meeting of the ExCo in May 2005 elected the Deputy Secretary-General to be Acting Secretary-General, with responsibilities for the New York office. On the understanding that the Geneva office had sufficient funds to cover its operating costs, the Director was made accountable to the Chairman of the Ex Co and the Treasurer. Following the March 2006 ExCo meeting the Acting Secretary was given full powers of the position. However, the Director of the Geneva office, and Deputy Secretary-General, remained responsible for covering the operating costs of the office and continued to function separately from the New York office.

The two offices sent monthly reports on their activities to participants in the ExCo meetings, which are available on the website.

The split between the two offices has not been good for the World Federation and needs to be resolved. In considering the future of the organization, various options should be discussed concerning the kind and size of Secretariat that is needed, whether it is necessary to have equal sized offices in both Geneva and New York, what Secretariat functions are essential to the continuing health and vitality of the Federation, and what functions could be undertaken, depending on the success of fund-raising.

2. Regional coordination of UNAs

It is clear that the United Nations is moving in the direction of giving increasing autonomy to its regional mechanisms and it is time for the World Federation to take some long-term strategic decisions on the role and responsibilities of UNA regional coordinators. While it is up to each region to decide what coordination arrangements best suit its member UNAs, issues for consideration include whether the role of coordinator should rotate among member UNAs, whether this position should be funded from membership dues, what kind of functions should be performed and how the coordinators should relate to the Secretariat.

3. Relationship between the World Federation and the UN

The World Federation has Category One Consultative Status with ECOSOC, is affiliated with the Department of Public Information (DPI), is a partner organization with the NGO initiative of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) to promote regional level networking among NGOs, and is a participating NGO in the UN's Global Compact. The World Federation has partnerships with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Department of Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations University and collaborates with UNDP, ILO, FAO, IAEA, UNRIC, UNAIDS and UNEP.

The World Federation was represented on the Civil Society Task Force set up by the President of the General Assembly in 2005 to prepare for the Hearings before the World Summit.

The whole question of the relationship between the UN and civil society is under close scrutiny and the World Federation has been actively engaged in dialogues with governments, NGOs and the UN organization. It is time for the World Federation to develop a strategic vision of how this relationship could develop.

4. Relationship between UNAs and the UN at the country level.

The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, names the World Federation explicitly in his 2003 report to the UNGA 58 on Questions Relating to Information. The Report, (A/58/175, paragraph 35), states: "Regarding its partnership with civil society organizations, the Department plans to discuss with the World Federation of United Nations Associations how those Associations will assume some of the functions currently carried out by the information centers at the national level."

Following the closure of nine UN Information Centers (UNICs) in European countries and their replacement with a regional office in Brussels, the World Federation and DPI agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding on the extent to which national UNAs could pick up some of the UNIC functions and activities. The relationship between European UNAs and the Regional UN

Information Centre in Brussels is now developing. Consideration needs to be given to the relationship between UNAs and UNICs in other parts of the world, including the likelihood that the long-term trend is for the UNICs at the national level to be closed.

On occasion, there are misunderstandings and difficulties between UNAs and the UNDP's resident representatives. Should the World Federation have a role in shaping this relationship?

5. Partnerships between UNAs

There have been some very positive partnerships developed between UNA members of the World Federation over the past few years, including in support of the Millennium Development Goals. Some of these have been initiated and sustained without the direct involvement of the Secretariat. However, there is a growing expectation that the Secretariat should be pro-active in promoting partnerships between UNAs. Beyond simply circulating information and promoting awareness of opportunities, are there any other ways in which the Secretariat could add value, such as maintaining an accessible data base of UNAs' projects, or monitoring compliance with the terms and conditions of partnership agreements in support of the Millennium Development Goals? It is considered that it is not appropriate for the Secretariat to raise funds to support bilateral partnership programs between UNAs; any funds raised should be for the benefit of the World Federation's programs.

6. Capacity building

A highlight of the last two years was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the World Federation and UNA-USA, which led to productive cooperation for the benefit of all UNAs. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the UN, the World Federation and UNA-USA co-hosted a meeting for UNAs in conjunction with the UNA-USA biennial convention. UNA-USA funded regional capacity building workshops for UNAs in Africa, Asia and Latin America in 2005/6. How can other strong UNAs help the World Federation build on such initiatives to strengthen the capacities of UNAs?

7. Responsibility of UNAs for the UN

The 2004 Report of the Cardoso Panel on the UN's relations with civil society, "We the Peoples: Civil Society, the United Nations and Global Governance", discusses UNAs in relation to building policy and operational partnerships with all constituencies (paragraph 93). The question arises - what should the World Federation be doing to support the role of UNAs in "building policy and operational partnerships with all constituencies"?

8. Internships

Interns have come to work for the Secretariat, sponsored by UNAs in Uganda, Canada and Spain. Is it possible to set up a UNA based internship program for the Secretariat and possibly for exchanges among UNAs? Could some UNAs work together to raise funds for internship positions in the NY and Geneva offices?

9. Youth and the World Federation

Early indications are that instead of creating a new and autonomous organization, young people

would prefer to have a distinctive status within the World Federation's constitution.

Looking to the future

There will be two Commissions at the 38th Plenary Assembly – one on policy issues and the other on the program of work for the Secretariat.

We have drafted, for the consideration first of the Executive Committee and then of Commission One, a draft declaration on the theme of the Plenary Assembly – We the Peoples supporting the United Nations for fair and peaceful globalization. It is envisaged as “The Buenos Aires Declaration”.

For Commission Two, we have drafted a three year strategic Plan of Action to guide the program of work for the Secretariat. A draft budget for the period 2007 -2009 will be presented, but may need to be modified in light of the discussions. It is recommended that consideration of the Plan of Action take full account of the UNA activity reports to ensure a high level of convergence between the programs and projects of the Secretariat and the practical interests, capacities and aspirations of UNAs.

Work Program of the Secretariat: 2003 – 2006
Database of Main Supporting Services and Programs

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Conference and Event Management

Follow up of the 37th Plenary Assembly

Production of final report, translation into French, and distribution to all UNAs; preparation of report on UNA activities and programs; revision and reprinting of the World Federation's Constitution, translation into Russian. Implementation of the PA resolutions.
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Executive Committee meetings

184th ExCo met 5-6 September 2003 in New York 185th ExCo met 26-27 March 2004 in Geneva 186th ExCo 7-8 September 2004 in New York 187th ExCo met 3-4 March 2005 in New York Extraordinary Session of the ExCo met on 28 May 2005 in Geneva 188th ExCo met 3 – 4 November 2005 in Geneva 189th ExCo met 25-26 March 2006 in New York

Meetings for United Nations Associations

Annual Meetings for UNAs attending the DPI/NGO conference in New York Three Regional Capacity Building Workshops: South Africa 2005, Venezuela 2005, and India 2006 World Federation/ UNA-USA conference on “The UN at 60: Time for Renewal”, 2005 Symposium of European UNAs, March 2006
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Communications

Website

Major website upgrade in 2003. The website is continuously being updated with new information and features. Maintenance is performed regularly.

Newsletter- <i>UN Connections</i>
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Issues 25-66 of UN Connections published, and distributed via email, web, and hardcopy.

Media

Public statements distributed, UN Day messages sent, and press releases issued. To celebrate the World Federation's 60th anniversary in 2006, a press conference was held at UN Headquarters in New York. It was webcast live on the UN website.

E-groups, and other Communications Initiatives

Daily messages are sent out on the e-groups on civil society issues, updates about UN events, media releases, toolkits for special days, and information about UNA activities. A promotional video about the World Federation was created in 2006.

Membership

New Members

Since 2003: Albania, Armenia, Burundi, Comores, Haiti, Macedonia, Mozambique, Syria

Dues payments

Secretariat sends out invoices for membership dues, collects, and organizes dues.

Other Member Services

The Secretariat welcomes UNA representatives from around the world, and helps arrange meetings with UN staff, Missions, and civil society representatives as well as organize passes and provide access to computers and other materials and resources.

UNA Partnerships

Partnerships between Latin American and Caribbean UNAs and UNA/USA Chapters undertaken as a project. Supported UNA partnership projects around the world.

Finance and Fundraising

Separate reports are provided for finances, and fundraising efforts and strategies.

PROGRAMS

Education

Model UN Conferences

Asia/Pacific Regional hosted by UNA China in August 2004, 20 UNA delegations Africa Regional hosted by UNA-South Africa in September 2005, 21 UNA delegations Asia/ Pacific Regional hosted by IFUNA in February 2006, 15 UNA delegations

Annual Seminar on the Human Rights Commission/ Council

21-25 July 2003, Geneva – more than 60 participants (3 UNAs) 19-23 July 2004, Geneva – 250 participants (13 UNAs) 19-21 July 2005, Geneva – over 200 participants (10 UNAs) 26-28 July 2006, Geneva – over 170 participants (11 UNAs)
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Seminar on the International Criminal Court
--

Held in cooperation with the UN Legal Office and the Office of the ICC Prosecutor, in April 2005
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Global Essay Competition on Weapons of Mass Destruction
--

Launch of Global Essay Competition in honor of Dr. Hans Blix on the recommendations of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission report, in August 2006. Partners included

the UN Departments of Disarmament Affairs and Public Information, the United Nations University, the NGO Committee on Disarmament and the Simons Foundation

Youth Program

WFUNA-youth

Establishment of “Youth Program Coordinator” internship position at NY Office in 2005.
Continuous coordination between Secretariat and WFUNA-youth Interim Authority

Youth and Communications

Development of *WFUNA-youth* website and emails (2004), Published 9 issues of the quarterly *WFUNA-youth Newsletter*, creation of free interactive on-line forums and project pages for Model UN conferences and *WFUNA-youth* activities.

Youth Delegates at the UN

With the goal of increasing youth participation at the UN, the Secretariat had strategy sessions and meetings annually with UN Youth Delegates to the General Assembly, and distributed a guide on how to lobby governments for inclusion in official delegations.

Relationships with Youth Organizations and Events

Memorandum of Understanding with *Global Youth Action Network* (2004). Other collaboration and partnerships with: *World Ecotourism Conference* (2004), *TakingItGlobal* (2005), *UN Youth Assembly* (2005), *ATHGO International* (2005).
The Secretariat has been working on enabling the *Young Professionals for International Cooperation* network of UNA-USA to link up with the *WFUNA-youth* network and together launch a global program for young professionals.

Millennium Development Goals

Annual Report

“We the Peoples – A Call to Action for the Millennium Declaration” civil society report published in 2003, 2004, and 2005 in collaboration with the *North-South Institute*.

Round Table Dialogues on the MDGs

“Mainstreaming Gender into the MDGs” - June 2003, NY
“Implementing the MDGs: Mobilizing Resources for the MDGs” – September 2003, NY
“Campaigning for the MDGs in the US: Challenges, Opportunities, and the NetAid approach” — October 2003, NY
“The Nexus Between the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Meeting the MDGs” – October 2003, NY
“Achieving the MDGs for Health – Progress and Prospects” – January 2004, NY
“Achieving the MDGs in the LDCs: Challenges and Choices” – February 2004, NY
“Do the MDGs signal an end to the era of International Development Cooperation?” – April 2004, NY

UN Reform

UN Reform – General

Initiated Millennium+5 network in 2005
“UN Reform Blog” launched in 2006

UN-Civil Society Relations

Engagement with Cardoso panel report, including facilitating dialogues and writing briefing paper. Worked to generate support for resolution on UN’s relations with NGOs. Active engagement in the UN General Assembly Hearings with CSOs in June 2005, including seminar on “The UN and Democracy” in partnership with UNA-Sweden.

Management Reform

The World Federation and UNA-USA worked together to create a joint mechanism to facilitate civil society engagement with UN Management Reform. A Global Civil Society Committee and Network on UN Management Reform was set-up in Spring 2006.

World Summit on Information Society

The World Federation Task Force on WSIS, which participated in both phases of WSIS was established in 2003. Members include representatives from the UNAs of: China, Denmark, Ecuador, Mozambique, Pakistan, Uganda, Venezuela and the World Federation’s Geneva Secretariat. The Secretariat was represented at conferences, participated in regular on-line cooperation meetings, ran a booth at Palexpo, and disseminated information about the WSIS process.

COLLABORATION WITH THE UN AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Partnerships with UN Agencies

World Federation Partners include: Global Compact, DPI, NGO Section of DESA, ILO, FAO, OHCHR, UNRIC, UNAIDS, NGLS

Representation at UN Meetings

Representatives of the Secretariat frequently attend and sometimes speak at UN meetings, and report on them to UNAs. The Secretariat facilitates the participation of UNAs in UN processes and events.

UN Department of Public Information and the UN Information Centers

Meetings of European UNAs regarding European UN Information Centers (2003, 2004, 2006). Memorandum of Understanding signed between DPI and WFUNA, December 2003.

UN's 60th Anniversary

Banner competition for UNAs for UN60 launched, March 2006

Participation in civil society 60th anniversary celebration and video in NY, October 2005

Conference and dinner "The UN and the Future" at the Palais des Nations, October 2005.
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Partnerships with Civil Society
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Partners include: CIVICUS, OneWorld, Global Millennium Campaign, NGO Coalition for UN Reform, North-South Institute, NY Council of Organizations, Baha'i International, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, World Economic Forum, International Project Aid, GCAP, Carnegie Council, Foreign Policy Association, and youth organizations. The World Federation is on the Boards of CONGO and the Center for UN Reform Education.
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APPENDIX 5 - Financial Information

Report of the Treasurer, Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri, to the 38th Plenary Assembly

This report covers the period 30 June 2003 – 30 September 2006.

Overview

The World Federation of United Nations Associations has maintained a positively balanced budget during the period under review.

The accounts for both the New York and Geneva offices are audited annually and submitted to the Finance Committee of the Executive Committee. These audited accounts will be available for inspection at the Plenary Assembly, and can be found on the website – www.wfuna.org. The accounts for the first three quarters of 2006 have not been audited, but have been prepared in close consultation with the New York accountant. As of 30 September, 2006, there was a total of \$80,795.00 in the combined bank accounts of the World Federation.

Patterns of Expenditure

The actual separate and combined budgets for the New York and Geneva offices during this period are as follows:

2003	NY \$264,383	Gva \$252,782	Total\$ 517,166
2004	NY \$319,205	Gva \$228,643	Total \$547,849
2005	NY \$302,568	Gva \$280,892	Total \$583,461
Jan – Sept 2006	NY \$259,611	Gva \$125,188	Total \$384,800

Sources of income

Membership dues

The total amount raised over the period was \$320,610.44

2003	\$91,223.75
2004	\$80,222.00
2005	\$67,415.00
2006	\$81,749.69

Please note that revisions made to the dues schedule at the Barcelona Plenary in 2003, came into effect in 2004. Since 2005, the dues have been split equally between the NY and Geneva offices. Due to the fact that the New York office tends to receive the bulk of the dues payment each year, this office sent to the Geneva office dues reimbursements as follows:

- \$5534.70 was sent on 22 April 2005;
- \$5000.00 was sent on 12 December 2005;
- \$5035.56 was sent on 27 March 2006 to cover the end of 2005;
- \$7673.73 was sent on 1 July 2006 to cover the first installment of 2006.

There is a request from the UNA-Japan and the UNA-Mauritius to review the dues schedule, with the aim of further reducing the dues for these two UNAs and others. In particular, UNA-Mauritius proposes to cut the annual minimum dues payment to the World Federation from \$250.00 to \$100.00. As 81 UNAs are listed to pay \$250.00 per annum, the consequence of accepting this reduction would be to cut the income to the World Federation from \$20,250 to \$8,100.

The Friends of the World Federation: This Foundation was set up by Mr. Arthur Ross in 2001, to support the World Federation. The Friends of the World Federation hosted fund-raising luncheons at the UN Delegates Dining Room, paying tribute to Amb. Robin Duke and Mr. Louis Perlmutter in 2003 and to Mr. John Whitehead in 2004.

A high proportion of the Friends of the World Federation funds have been dedicated to the travel and accommodation costs of people from UNAs in developing countries, enabling them to participate in World Federation events, including the 2004/5/6 Regional Model UN conferences, World Federation/UNA-USA celebration of the UN in 2005 and for the 38th Plenary Assembly.

The Friends of the World Federation contributed over \$350,000 to each of the New York and Geneva offices through to end of 2004.

Other sources of income

Since 2003, the New York office has received financial support from: Asian Development Bank, Goldman Sachs Foundation, North-South Institute, Professor Frey Wouters; Simons Foundation, Swedish government, UNA-Sweden, UNA-USA.

The kiosk at the UN Headquarters has been stocked with new items for sale and is now generating average sales of about \$1,000 a month.

The Geneva office has advised that they have received funding from the following sources: Canton de Genève, Fondation pour Genève, Karl Popper Foundation, Kuwait Industries, Makova Holdings, Mme Monsegur; Serono SA, Serono, Schweiz Service, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DFAE), The Geneva International Academic Network (RUIG-GIAN), UNA-Switzerland, Union Bancaire Privée, Unilever, Ville de Genève.

Professional fund-raising support

This year, for the first time, a professional fund-raising consultant has been employed to support the fund-raising efforts of the World Federation. A matrix of foundations has been agreed and project proposals have been prepared for submission. The challenge is to secure the future financial sustainability of the organization on the basis of broadly based, diverse and reputable sources of funding support.

Preliminary Budget for the World Federation 2007, 2008, 2009

	Calendar 2007	Calendar 2008	Calendar 2009	Total 2007-2009
INCOME				
Dues	100.000,00	100.000,00	100.000,00	300.000,00
FOW	300.000,00	300.000,00	300.000,00	900.000,00
Interest	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
Kiosk Sales	40.000,00	40.000,00	40.000,00	120.000,00
Registration Fees	0,00	0,00	5.000,00	5.000,00
TOTAL INCOME	440.000,00	440.000,00	445.000,00	1.325.000,00
EXPENSES				
Bank Service Charge	1.500,00	1.500,00	1.500,00	4.500,00
Dues and Subscriptions	500,00	500,00	500,00	1.500,00
Equipment	1.000,00	1.000,00	1.000,00	3.000,00
Insurance	15.000,00	15.000,00	15.000,00	45.000,00
Internet Access Fees	8.500,00	8.500,00	8.500,00	25.500,00
Meeting Expenses	15.000,00	15.000,00	15.000,00	45.000,00
Office Expenses	5.000,00	5.000,00	5.000,00	15.000,00
Payroll	250.000,00	250.000,00	250.000,00	750.000,00
Payroll Taxes	20.000,00	20.000,00	20.000,00	60.000,00
Plenary Assembly	0,00	0,00	60.000,00	60.000,00
Postage and Delivery	300,00	300,00	300,00	900,00
Printing and Reproduction	8.000,00	8.000,00	8.000,00	24.000,00
Professional Fees	12.000,00	12.000,00	12.000,00	36.000,00
Repairs	500,00	500,00	500,00	1.500,00
Telephone	1.000,00	1.000,00	1.000,00	3.000,00
Travel/Participation Costs	10.000,00	10.000,00	10.000,00	30.000,00
Staff Travel	5.000,00	5.000,00	5.000,00	15.000,00
UNA Participants Costs	50.000,00	50.000,00	0,00	100.000,00
TOTAL EXPENSES	403.300,00	403.300,00	413.000,00	1.219.900,00
Balance	36.700,00	36.700,00	31.700,00	105.100,00

APPENDIX 6 - 60th Anniversary Statement

60th Anniversary, 2 August 2006

Arthur Ross, Honorary President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Amb William vanden Heuvel, Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of United Nations Associations and President of the Friends of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

John Whitehead, Member of the Board Directors of the Friends of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Today, August 2, 2006, is the day the World Federation of United Nations Associations celebrates its 60th anniversary.

We represent tens of thousands of people around the world, with diverse political views, different religious beliefs and cultural values. We share the conviction that the United Nations is the most valuable legacy of the 20th century and is now shaping the course of global politics for the 21st century.

Under the enlightened leadership of the United States, the United Nations was set up in 1945. Ever since, the United Nations has been at the forefront of creating a world in which member states together decide upon the principles, laws and values that guide the conduct of their relations with each other.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, proclaimed in 1948, has become an increasingly powerful source of influence for the United Nations. One of its key concepts, the right of peoples to self-determination, has changed the world. It inspired and entitled people in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean to assert their independence from imperial rule and to create over 140 new member states of the United Nations.

Today, there are no empires. There is a global organization that gives voice and a vote to all its member states.

At the World Summit held at the United Nations in 2005, governments endorsed new principles to guide their relations with each other. They accepted that the sovereignty of each member state is no longer an unqualified entitlement, but is contingent on the responsibility of governments to protect their citizens from genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity; and they recognized that peace and security, development and human rights are interdependent and the basis of international cooperation.

The break-down of empires and the qualification of national sovereignty facilitated by the United Nations have shaped the political context of globalization in the 21st century. Government policies are increasingly determined by forces and events that transcend their borders and which demand engagement with a wide variety of non-state actors. The United Nations is in a continuous process of reform and renewal to adjust to these changing realities.

The people of the world need the United Nations and the United Nations needs their support.

With changing times and circumstances, through good and prosperous times or difficult and threatening times, the World Federation of United Nations Associations has been faithful to the ideals of the United Nations. We remain committed to supporting the United Nations as the most essential instrument for shaping a fair and peaceful world in the 21st century.

APPENDIX 7 - Amendments to the Constitution

Article 5 paragraph c...add the word her, after him ...it will read

Each member shall forward to the Secretary-General a report on its activities since the previous session of the Plenary Assembly, as well as keep him/her regularly informed of its work.

Article 38, paragraph b...delete this paragraph as its inclusion was an error. Paragraph d in the same article expresses the same idea better. Article 38 will now have 3 sub paragraphs...a, b and c.

In the By Laws, **Rule 21, paragraph (b)** referring to the recruitment of a Secretary General, should be amended in the second sentence to change the verb may to shall...it will now read “The vacancy shall also be publicized outside the Federation”.

Amendments relating to the inclusion of WFUNA-youth into the Constitution

Article 42

World Federation of United Nations Associations - Youth

- (a) WFUNA shall have a youth section known as World Federation of United Nations Associations - youth abbreviated as WFUNA-youth. WFUNA-youth shall facilitate communication and networking between the United Nations Youth Associations of Member United Nations Associations of WFUNA and Youth Sections or Youth Programmes of the Member United Nations Associations of WFUNA and shall promote their activities.
- (b) WFUNA-youth shall be an integral part of WFUNA. It shall take its decisions on project and budgetary matters autonomously, but in consultation with the WFUNA Executive Committee and within the overall WFUNA budget, and subject to WFUNA’s general financial rules and regulations.
- (c) The WFUNA-youth Rules of Procedure shall be adopted and amended by decision of the WFUNA-youth Plenary Meeting and subsequent approval by the WFUNA Executive Committee.
- (d) The WFUNA Constitution shall take precedence over the WFUNA-youth Rules of Procedure.
- (e) WFUNA-youth shall work in accordance with this Constitution and the WFUNA-youth Rules of Procedure.
- (f) A WFUNA-youth Plenary Meeting shall be held parallel to each ordinary WFUNA Plenary Assembly. Additional WFUNA-youth Plenary Meetings can be held in accordance with the WFUNA-youth Rules of Procedure.
- (g) The WFUNA-youth Plenary Meeting shall elect the WFUNA-youth Coordinating Committee.

- (h) WFUNA-youth shall have the right to representation and to one vote in the WFUNA Executive Committee and the WFUNA Plenary Assembly. The representative of WFUNA-youth in the WFUNA Executive committee and the delegation of WFUNA-youth to the WFUNA Plenary Assembly shall be appointed by the WFUNA-youth Coordinating Committee.
- (i) The WFUNA Executive Committee shall appoint a representative to participate in the meetings, with the right to a voice and a vote, of the WFUNA-youth Coordinating Committee and the WFUNA-youth Plenary Meetings.
- (j) WFUNA shall provide administrative assistance to the WFUNA-youth activities.
- (k) WFUNA-youth shall submit an annual report of activities to the WFUNA Executive Committee.

Article 7

- (a) The Plenary Assembly shall consist of the delegations appointed by Members, by the World Federation of United Nations Associations - youth (hereinafter referred to as WFUNA-youth), by the representatives of International Associates and of Individual Associates, each in their capacity set forth in this constitution.
- (b) Each Member, as well as WFUNA-youth, shall be represented in the Assembly by no more than five delegates and five alternates.

Article 15

- (a) Only Members and WFUNA-youth shall have the right to vote, and each Member and WFUNA-youth shall have one vote at the Plenary Assembly.

Article 17

- (a) The Executive Committee shall consist of eighteen individuals, each from a different Member and in addition one representative of WFUNA-youth...

Article 26

- (a) Each member of the Executive Committee, the President and the representative of WFUNA-youth shall have one vote in the Executive Committee.

Article 44

- (a) Any proposal from a Member or WFUNA-youth to amend this Constitution shall be received in writing by the Secretary-General not less than six months before an ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly. Such proposal, together with the comments of the Executive Committee, or any proposal to amend this Constitution from the Executive

Committee, shall be circulated to Members and to WFUNA-youth not less than three months before an ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly.

Amendments to the By-Laws:

Rule 3

- (c) Members and WFUNA-youth shall be invited to submit to the Secretary-General, not later than ten weeks before the opening of an ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly, their comments on the preliminary agenda....

Rule 4

- (a) Reports from Members and WFUNA-youth on their activities since the previous session of the Plenary Assembly shall be forwarded to the Secretary-General in either English or French ...
- (b) Members and WFUNA-youth invited to prepare basic documents for the Plenary Assembly shall be required to submit them to the Secretary-General at least three months prior to the opening of the Plenary Assembly. Basic documents shall be circulated to Members and WFUNA-youth at least four weeks before the opening of the Plenary Assembly.

Rule 5

- (a) Each Member as well as International Associate and WFUNA-youth shall furnish the Secretary-General with a list of its delegates signed by a responsible Officer....

Rule 15

- (b) For the purpose of the Constitution of the Federation and these By-Laws, the expression "those present and voting" shall mean the delegations of Members and WFUNA-youth casting an affirmative or a negative vote. Delegations which abstain from voting shall be considered as not voting.

Rule 19

- (b) Those taking part in the meeting shall be:
 1. The heads of delegations of Members or WFUNA-youth,.....

Rule 25

- (c) The Executive Committee shall consider the draft annual budget and the Finance Committee's comments and send them, with any further observations, to all Members and WFUNA-youth for consideration, not later than four weeks before the session of the Plenary Assembly which is to adopt them.

- (d) On the day before the session of the Executive Committee which precedes a session of the Plenary Assembly, the Finance Committee shall review the draft annual budget in the light of any comments received from Members, or WFUNA-youth and of any developments, and forward it with a report to the Executive Committee.

APPENDIX 8 - Buenos Aires Declaration

The Buenos Aires Declaration: We the Peoples Supporting the United Nations for a Fair and Peaceful World

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) and its member associations represented at the 38th Plenary Assembly, 6-10 November, 2006, in Argentina, adopt this Buenos Aires Declaration and commend it to the Membership of the United Nations and to the peoples of the world.

We express appreciation for Kofi Annan's leadership of the United Nations and thank him for his dedicated service to the peoples around the world. His leadership has been a great credit to the continent of Africa.

We welcome the appointment of Ban Ki-moon as the 8th Secretary-General and assure him of our support and our engagement alongside him in his efforts to further strengthen the United Nations in the service of humanity.

Mandate

We recall and reaffirm that the purpose of the World Federation is "to be a peoples' movement for the United Nations" and declare our commitment to bring the UN closer to people in the 21st century.

Main principles and instruments

As a peoples' movement for the United Nations we are for dialogue.

We support a continuing process of strengthening for an effective UN that is relevant to the lives of people everywhere and efficient in the sustenance of the planet as a whole.

We believe in a UN that supports democracy and that is itself democratic.

We support constructive dialogue leading to harmonious relations between states as a means of preventing and resolving conflicts.

We support the UN's emphasis on human security, which means realizing the basic human rights of every person and protecting people from critical and pervasive threats.

We hearten young people to support the United Nations and to use our organization to participate in shaping the future of the world.

Main Challenges

We welcome the incoming Secretary-General's commitment to peace, development, and human rights and his vision that the mandate of the UN in the coming period "is to strengthen the interstate system so that humanity can be better served amidst new challenges." We welcome his

commitment to the responsibility to protect and to preventive strategies, politically, economically, and socially.

Peace and Security

As a peoples' movement, we fully support and will work for the shift in focus from state sovereignty to human security.

We call for vigorous efforts to encourage arms reduction and to teach and seek peaceful conflict resolution. The World Federation will work to bring this critical issue to the people, as it is their security.

Together with other civil society actors we will work on practical steps that can be taken to mobilize people in support of the Test Ban Treaty, the Treaty on Non-Proliferation, the Conventions on Biological and Chemical Weapons, as well as the one on land mines, and the UN Program of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

We support the efforts to create an Arms Trade Treaty. We will advocate the advancement of nuclear-free zones and the destruction of stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons as well as landmines.

We condemn all terrorism worldwide.

We shall energetically promote the Peacebuilding Fund. We shall lobby in support of United Nations peacekeeping and for fair burden-sharing among nations. We shall lobby for a corps of United Nations observers who can be deployed to situations of concern at short notice.

We shall lobby in support of a UN rapid reaction peacekeeping capacity.

We shall support the further development of preventive diplomacy by the United Nations Secretary-General and the Security Council. We shall advocate in support of strategies for the prevention of gross violations of human rights.

We support the promotion of a "culture of peace" and peace education in order to further the goals of the United Nations.

Millennium Development Goals

We declare the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be the priority program of the Federation and its members, and support the further enhancement of the "Global Partnership for Development" as a tool for realizing the MDGs. We shall continue to give the Millennium Development Campaign our full support. We shall continue to mobilize civil society to engage in partnerships, to help in realizing the MDGs, placing particular emphasis on the importance of education in the realization of all eight MDGs.

We shall support the people-oriented focus of the Human Development Reports and their emphasis on empowering and advancing the basic human rights of each individual.

We encourage the introduction, nationally, regionally, and internationally, of the concept of preventable poverty. This concept means that every country should monitor itself to detect parts of the population not having access to the available means of development resources. This effort should be supported regionally and internationally. In this way, available resources can be marshaled for the relief of people in distress. Governments should increase their funding to NGOs as a means of realizing the MDGs.

We shall support and encourage dialogue about new financing mechanisms for development, and at the same time urge all countries to immediately raise their development assistance to 0.7 percent of GNP, if they have not already reached this target.

We shall continue to work for the protection of the global environment and for renewable sources of energy.

We shall continue to highlight the plight of people afflicted by pandemics such as HIV/AIDS and call for urgent relief and support programs.

Human Rights

We support the concept of the responsibility to protect in its entirety, including the three aspects of the responsibility to prevent, the responsibility to react and the responsibility to rebuild. We will work towards its development, strengthening and proper application.

We strongly urge that in all countries human rights be taught as a basic course in primary and secondary schools and in universities and other higher institutions of learning. We shall wage a world campaign in favor of human rights education.

We call on the human rights movement to help ensure that judges and legal personnel in all countries are supplied with the basic international human rights norms and jurisprudence in local language so that they can benefit from them in their daily work.

We support the shared international responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. We shall work with other NGOs to enhance the effectiveness of the new Human Rights Council and the International Criminal Court.

We will campaign for the adoption of a Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and for early ratification of the Convention of the Rights of Peoples with Disabilities.

We shall support the implementation of the human rights treaties and call for the allocation of more support from the United Nations budget for this effort.

We shall particularly emphasize the rights of women because they are the ones who bear a major part of the burden of poverty, war, and environmental degradation. We call for the establishment of a UN Department for the Advancement of Women, headed by a UN Under-Secretary-General, to energize this process.

We shall continue to oppose violence against women and children. We shall contribute to campaigns against human trafficking.

We urge all states to sign, ratify and implement the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementary Protocols, as well as the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

We shall continue to promote the values expressed by the “Alliance of Civilizations”, and seek to integrate those values into our work.

International Cooperation

We call for renewed attention to ways and means of strengthening international cooperation.

We shall contribute to this process by organizing expert panels on topical subjects and make their report available to the United Nations, As part of this process we shall organize in 2007 an Expert Panel on the implementation of international human rights treaties. We shall continue this process on other topics in succeeding years on topics such as the strengthening of the role of international law. We also reaffirm our strong support for comprehensive UN reform.

We shall continue to support the Democracy Fund. We shall promote inter-cultural dialogue and focus on common actions that may create positive energy and a sense of connection needed to overcome the difficult and sensitive problems.

We are proud of the achievement of this 38th Plenary Assembly in deciding not to pursue conflictual paths in considering issues of acute contemporary conflict. Instead we focused on searching for agreement. We affirm that conflict is not the path to harmony and peace.

We pledge ourselves to support dynamic international cooperation in support of the vision of the United Nations Charter, which remains as valid today as it was on the day of its adoption. We call upon the Peoples of the United Nations to rally in support of their United Nations.

APPENDIX 9 - Resolutions

PA38/RES 1: Millennium Development Goals

Believing that the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals is of paramount importance;

Noting that the World Federation has begun to adopt a policy of facilitating UNA Partnerships to further the MDGs;

Reaffirming our strong support for this effort;

The 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation encourages that the Secretariat make this a priority program;

And further encourages all UNAs to pursue partnerships focusing on specific MDG projects which are selected by the recipient area.

PA38/RES 2: Global Health Issues

Reflecting the values of the UN Millennium Declaration and having considered the World Health Organization's (WHO) report on the achievement of the health related Millennium Development Goals;

Having considered the Report of the UN Secretary General - "In Larger Freedom, towards development, security and human rights", and priority areas of the WHO Global Health Agenda;

Considering that health is increasingly seen as a key aspect of human security;

Recognizing the importance of using applicable human rights instruments in an effort to achieve health-related development goals, including those in the Millennium Declaration;

Recognizing that health-related development goals are complementary and synergistic and cannot be achieved in isolation, as health is central to achievements of non-health goals, and their attainment will affect health targets;

Requests the World Federation and UNAs to:

- Generate and sustain action across sectors to improve the behavioral, social, economic and environmental influences on health.
- Improve health by health-promotion and disease prevention. Lacking adequate information, life skills, and health services and support, people are exposed to HIV/AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases, malaria, tobacco-related diseases, harmful use of alcohol, substance abuse, road traffic injuries and other health problems related to individual behavior.
- Provide a clearer understanding of health equity and health-related human rights, with specific attention to reproductive health, including health related goals in the MDGs.

- Encourage attention to health-related development issues including health-related goals in the MDGs in the development planning on the state level, but also on the national, regional and municipal levels.
- Support the creation of affordable and accessible health services for all with special emphasis on vulnerable groups and undeveloped areas.
- Strengthen the World Federation's partnership mechanism with all relevant sectors of society, including non-governmental organizations, the broader community, religious organizations, academic institutions, but also to include the private sector, state governing bodies and the specialized UN agencies, especially WHO, with the aim to strengthen global health security by an integrated approach to a society-wide response to emerging threats to health.

PA38/RES 3: UN Reform

Conscious that UN reform is a comprehensive, complicated and time-consuming process;
Commending the efforts made and progress achieved in the reform of the UN, including the establishment of the UN Peace Building Commission and the creation of a UN Human Rights Council;

Regretting the failure of the 2005 General Assembly Summit to advance reform of the Security Council despite the urging of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and so many others;

Welcoming the determination expressed by the incoming Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-moon, to continue the UN reform process;

The 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation advocates the revival of efforts to democratize, expand and improve the Security Council, urges vigorous efforts to be launched now to examine ways to achieve these goals, including volunteered pledges by the 'permanent five' to resort to the veto only in those situations of exigent threat to global security, and progressive movement towards elimination of the single state veto.

PA38/RES 4: UN Parliamentary Assembly

Globalization is marked by an increasing interdependence of economic and political decisions and developments on all levels of governance: local, national, regional and global. Whereas all citizens should have the possibility and right to participate in political decisions affecting their lives and their communities, citizens' representation and inclusion is a necessary objective on all these levels. Taking up the ideas and initiatives of the people is particularly important at the international level where the governments' joint efforts to cope with the challenges of our time are decided upon and coordinated. The Millennium Development Goals as decisive milestones to improve the life of the world's less privileged population, for example, cannot be achieved effectively by government action alone.

Convinced that the United Nations is more important than ever as a central pillar of international co-operation, peace and security;

Whereas stronger participation of citizens in the activities of the United Nations would improve the world organization's legitimacy, acceptance and support among the people;

Convinced that democratic representation is the best means available on the international level to make the voice of the people heard in a legitimate and systematic way;

Considering the lack of parliamentary representation in the United Nations' structure;

Drawing upon the examples of the European Parliament, the Pan-African Parliament and the variety of regional parliamentary assemblies all over the world;

The World Federation of United Nations Associations

- Supports the establishment of a United Nations parliamentary Assembly as a consultative body within the United Nations system as a voice of the citizens;
- Calls upon the governments of the United Nations member states, parliamentarians and civil society representatives to jointly examine possible steps and options to create a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.
- The World Federation Secretary-General is requested to transmit this resolution to the UN Secretary-General and the President of the UN General Assembly.

PA38/RES 5: Establishment of a "Mass Destruction Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East"

The Plenary Assembly of the World Federation,

Recalling the several resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly since Resolution 3263 (xxix) of December 1974 until its Resolution No 60/52 of 8 December 2005 on the establishment of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the region of the Middle East;

Bearing in mind that such resolutions if implemented would pave the way for the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons;

Noting with concern the lack of steps taken to implement UN resolutions on that concern:

1. Calls upon all countries directly concerned to take steps required for establishing a Weapons of Mass Destructions-free zone in the Middle East;
2. Urges all countries of the region that have not done so to agree, as a main step, to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;
3. Invites the nuclear weapons states and all other states to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the UN resolutions;
4. Requests the UN Secretary-General to continue his efforts including consultations with the states of the region on agreeing to implement the resolution;
5. Requests also the Secretary-General of the World Federation to follow-up the implementation of this resolution and report to all its members.

PA38/RES 6: The Middle East

Recalling the preamble to the World Federation of United Nations Associations Constitution;

We, the representatives of the United Nations Associations in our respective countries;

Believing that since wars begin in the minds of people, it is in the minds of people that the defenses of peace must be constructed;

Recognizing the depth of the tragedy which pervades the conflict in the Middle East;

Deploring the terrible costs, human and other, of the continuing conflict in the Middle East;

Respectfully requests the United Nations Security Council to convene urgently a Middle East Peace Conference and invite all governments, representatives of civil society and others (to include all the actors) to participate towards the removal of obstacles to peace and security and the establishment of peaceful co-existence and cooperation among the nations of the Middle East;

The World Federation welcomes the offer of UNA Spain to host a meeting of UNAs from the Middle East and other interested UNAs to discuss and agree on areas of cooperation on a practical level in the region, which could serve to contribute to a cessation of violence in the region, greater understanding, and a lasting and durable peace;

Consistent with the World Federation resolutions adopted by the 38th Plenary Assembly on promoting harmony and dialogue among civilizations, such a meeting, with an approach of humility, would seek to focus on constructive dialogue among individuals, communities and UNAs, on joint projects on which agreement can be found.

PA38/RES 7: Iraq

Noting that the invasion of Iraq was illegal and contrary to the principles of international law, especially Article 2 (4) of the UN Charter, as affirmed in the World Federation Barcelona Declaration of 2003;

Recognizing, in addition, that the invasion was based on inaccurate information and claims;
Believing that it has been a factor in the destabilization of the Middle East region;

Convinced that it has increased the threats of terrorism and anarchy;

Deeply troubled about the daily loss of innocent lives and infrastructure in Iraq;

And concerned that the social and political fabric of Iraqi society has been so disrupted;

Convinced that the use of force without UN authority cannot make peace and that the longer foreign troops have remained in Iraq, the worse the situation has become in the area;

Mindful that polls of the Iraqi people indicate that a clear majority desire the withdrawal of foreign troops;

The 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation calls for the timely withdrawal of foreign forces, and for future decisions about the destiny of Iraq to be made by the people of Iraq.

PA38/RES 8: Torture and Execution

Dismayed by the use of torture, kidnapping, and execution by some nation states and other actors;

Recognizing that torture is clearly a violation of international law as indicated in the Convention on Torture and Inhumane Treatment and the Geneva Convention among other standards of international conduct;

The 38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation calls upon all states, peoples and movements to abide by civilized standards and adhere to the letter and spirit of the above instruments;

And further points out that those who violate the bans against torture, kidnapping and inhumane treatment should be called to account before appropriate tribunals.

PA38/RES 9: Alliance of Civilizations

Recalling the proposal by the governments of Spain and Turkey regarding the creation of an Alliance of Civilizations, in order to promote an open and culturally diverse dialogue between different peoples, and with the aim of eradicating hatred and international terrorism;

Noting its resolutions 52/15 of 20 November 1997, by which it proclaimed the year 2000 as the "International Year for the Culture of Peace", 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations" and its resolution 56/6 of November 2001 entitled "Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations" as well as all other resolutions concerning culture and peace;

Commending the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on promoting education including respect for cultural and linguistic diversity;

Recognizing the need to replace ignorance, intolerance, and misunderstanding of the "other" which causes fear of the unknown, with knowledge, acceptance and tolerance of the other;

Welcoming the United Nations system continuing to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and formulate ways and means to promote such dialogue including the activities of the United Nations in various fields;

The World Federation of United Nations Association

1. Pledges to support the process of the Alliance of Civilizations and its further development;
2. Will create a Task-Force on this issue in order to implement the coming plan of action of the High-level group of the Alliance;
3. Will inform all UNA's of the concepts and work of the Alliance and create a platform for dialogue and cooperation for UNA's, involving youth, teachers, academics, NGOs and civil society.

PA38/RES 10: Creating a Harmonious World

Recalling the principles on respecting the rights of equality, peace and self-determination of all peoples stipulated in the UN Charter;

Noting the UN is facing a series of challenges and opportunities;

Reaffirming the importance to create a more harmonious, prosperous and just world;

Noticing that realization of peace, development and human rights is a prerequisite to creating a harmonious world;

The World Federation of United Nations Associations

1. Appeals all the member states of the United Nations to make joint efforts to promote a harmonious coexistence of all nations;
2. Urges the UN and other related organizations to take effective measures to ensure the harmonious development of the global economy;
3. Requests all nations to make joint efforts to realize the harmonious coexistence, tolerance and solidarity of all civilizations and religions;
4. Suggests that the World Federation and its member UNAs include the subject of creating a harmonious world into their work-plans.

PA38/RES 11: Responsibility to Protect

Deeply concerned at the inability of the international community and the United Nations to prevent or react to large-scale loss of life of civilians;

Nothing that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has urged the international community to address this issue urgently;

Acknowledging that the Independent Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS), the UN High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, as well as Kofi Annan himself in his report 'In Larger Freedom', proposed the concept of the Responsibility to Protect as a means to begin to deal with the issue of large-scale loss of life including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes;

Pleased that the concept was established in the outcome document of the UN Summit 2005 and that it was decided to be further discussed and developed;

The World Federation of United Nations Associations

1. Pledges its full support for the concept of the Responsibility to Protect in its entirety, including the three aspects of the responsibility to prevent, the responsibility to react and the responsibility to rebuild;
2. Will actively work, in collaboration with individual UNAs involved in this work, to raise awareness on the concept among UNAs as well as other civil society organizations;
3. Will seek to help strengthen this emerging norm by promoting references to it in UN texts and resolutions.

PA38/RES 12: Restriction on the Transfer of Arms

Recognizing that the unrestricted and/or unrecorded transfer of arms undermines the prospects for achieving international peace and security and the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals;

Acknowledging that the existing international provisions governing arms transfers by states and other actors are inadequate, ineffective and are frequently flouted; and

Taking into consideration that 139 UN member states, including all members of the EU, have through the First Committee of the General Assembly voted in favor of a draft resolution proposing that negotiations be opened towards a treaty governing the global arms trade;

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

1. Praises the work of the UN disarmament bodies in Geneva;
2. Pledges its full support for the establishment of an effective international arms trade treaty;
3. Urges the United Nations General assembly during its present session to open negotiations for such a treaty; and
4. Calls upon all UN member states to support the prompt establishment at the United Nations of a legally-binding arms trade treaty.

PA38/RES 13: United States - Cuba relations

Recognizing the blockade of Cuba by the government of the United States causes manifold hardships on the people of Cuba;

Noting the United Nations General Assembly has overwhelmingly called for an end to the blockade;

Aware of the fact that normal diplomatic relations between the two states have not existed for more than 40 years;

Calling attention to the exceptional nature of the barrier to the friendly relations of the people of these two nations;

The 38th Plenary Assembly calls for an immediate end to the blockade; and
Further encourages both sides to enter into talks as equals, with mutual respect, to strengthen relations and to create a positive atmosphere for cooperation, commercial and financial trade and cultural exchange;

We look forward to the early opening of channels for the reestablishment of friendly relations between these two people.

PA38/RES 14: Mexico and US on the wall being built on their borders

Believing that all physical and psychological walls constructed between people are destructive by nature;

Recognizing that each country has the inalienable and legal right to develop and implement its individual migration policy, while observing the human rights of its immigrants;

Declaring that many physical, legal and institutional barriers that curtail interactions between people should not be utilized;

Recognizing that migrants normally wish to improve their quality of life and be productive members of a society, and undocumented migrants should not be criminalized;

Stating that international human rights law should be observed by all countries;

Feeling that walls are not constructive methods of dealing with migration issues;

Stressing that the World Federation promotes stronger links, communication and better understanding among the people of the world;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the 38th World Federation of United Nation Associations Convention strongly;

1. Recommends that no wall be constructed between Mexico and the USA;
2. Suggests that the USA and Latin America Governments immediately engage in constructive efforts to resolve this complex issue of migration; and which also affects the indigenous people;
3. Urges that all Governments develop joint, long-term projects to alleviate migration problems among countries and to guarantee the rights and responsibilities of all affected.

APPENDIX 10 - Leadership of the World Federation

President

Dr. Hans Blix

Secretary-General

Ms. Pera Wells

Executive Committee

Chairperson

Mr. Pang Sen, UNA-China

Vice-Chairs

Dr. Alexei Borisov, UNA-Russia

Ms. Kathryn White, UNA-Canada

Members

Ms. Margaret Reynolds, UNA-Australia

Mr. Cissa Wa Numbe, UNA-DRC

Dr. Carlos Amat Forés, UNA-Cuba

Dr. Christos Theodolou, UNA-Cyprus

Prof. Ervin Gömbös, UNA-Hungary

Mr. Suresh Srivastava, IFUNA - India

Mrs. Rena Shashua-Hasson, UNA-Israel

Amb. Sun John-Yung, UNA- ROK

Ms. Kari Solholm, UNA-Norway

Ms. Angels Mataro, UNA-Spain

Prof. Abdalla A. Abdalla, UNA- Sudan

Mr. Aleksander Gabelic , UNA-Sweden

Mr. Rodney John Fielding, UNA-UK

Mr. Irving Stolberg, UNA-USA

Ms. Norma R. Nobrega, UNA-Venezuela

Treasurer

Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri, UNA-Georgia

Vice-Presidents

Mr. Ricardo Dominicé – Argentina

Dr. Beate Wagner – Germany

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