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Introduction



The Plenary Assembly is the supreme organ of the Federation, responsible for pursuing and achieving WFUNA's objectives as a peoples' movement for the United Nations. The WFUNA Executive Committee gave careful consideration to where the 37th session of the Plenary should be held, taking into account growing tensions in the world associated with the war against terrorism.

At its meeting in December 2002, the Executive Committee accepted the offer of the United Nations Association of Spain to host the Plenary Assembly in Barcelona. It was agreed that the UNA-Spain would preside over a one day public conference on the theme: The United Nations: Our Hope, Our Future. Following consultations with the WFUNA President, the dates were set from 8-11 May 2003.

The UNA-Spain was a very dynamic and engaged host, contributing in countless ways to the success of the many events and activities that took place over the four days.

Over 200 delegates from 57 UNAs came to Barcelona, providing the necessary quorum for the Plenary. The heads of delegations of 21 UNAs received funding; this was made possible by the offer of the Friends of WFUNA to match grants from UNAs up to a total amount of \$50,000. The UNAs of Spain, the United States, Denmark and Sweden made grants.



Due to the outbreak of SARS, significant leaders of WFUNA were absent, notably President Halim and the Indian delegation, Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee, Chen Pingchu and the Chinese delegation, Honorary President Arthur Ross and Vice-President Lucille Buchanan and the delegation from Jamaica.

It was only after the World Health Organization advised that it would be safe to hold the Plenary Assembly in Barcelona that the meeting went ahead as planned.

Tragically, Ambassador Yury Reshetov, the head of the Russian delegation, died of a heart attack shortly after arriving in Barcelona. Ambassador Reshetov's work has made an important contribution to international law, in particular human rights, during his long career as a diplomat, at the UN and as an academic.

The UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, expressed his support in a special message to the Plenary Assembly. He thanked WFUNA for its vital and enduring contribution to the work of the United Nations and commended in particular WFUNA's efforts in attracting young people to this cause.

Among the UN personalities who participated in the Conference that preceded the Plenary Assembly were H.E. Jan Kavan, President of the General Assembly, who delivered the keynote address, Mrs Eveline Herfkens, UN Secretary-General's Executive Co-coordinator for the MDG Campaign; Dr. Michael Doyle, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General and Mr. Guy-Olivier Segond, Special Ambassador for the World Summit of Information Society.

The Plenary Assembly took place during the 10 – 11 May. Highlights included the election of officers of the Federation, adoption of revisions to the Constitution, other resolutions and a Memorandum of Understanding which will serve as the basis for defining WFUNA's relationship with the new youth organization, WFUNA-Youth. Some forty representatives of 27 youth organizations held meetings over four days parallel to the Conference and the Plenary to create WFUNA-Youth.

Hospitality was generously provided by the City of Barcelona and the Generalitat de Catalunya. There were two fine receptions: luncheon on Friday and dinner on Sunday night. The Friends of WFUNA hosted two receptions – one on Wednesday evening for the youth participants and on Thursday evening for members of the Executive Committee and Heads of Delegations.



Soka Gakkai International, an International Associate of WFUNA's, participated actively in the conference with an exhibition "Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World."

The Secretariat expresses the gratitude of WFUNA to the following sponsors: the World Trade Center Barcelona, Port de Barcelona, Generalitat de Catalunya, Diputació de Barcelona, Escuela de Criminología de Cataluña, Fòrum 2004, Coca Cola, the Friends of WFUNA and UNA-USA, UNA-Denmark, UNA-Sweden.

Without the tireless efforts of the numerous volunteers and support staff in Barcelona, Geneva and New York the meetings would not have been possible – to all who gave so much of their time and energy, a very big thank you!



The WFUNA Conference: The United Nations: Our Hope, Our Future



The one day conference was on the theme of “The United Nations: Our Hope, Our Future”. Participants included Spanish and Catalan dignitaries, high level representatives of the United Nations, members of United Nations Associations (UNAs), academics, NGO activists and interested citizens.

The conference was opened by representatives of the Spanish and Catalan authorities: Mr. Joan Rigol, President of the Catalan Parliament, Mr Jordi Pujol, President of the Generalitat of Barcelona and Mr. Joan Clos, Mayor of Barcelona. They provided a warm welcome to participants and encouraged everyone to enjoy being in Barcelona. The President of the UNA Spain, Ms. Marina Bru thanked them and welcomed the participants in the name of the UNA, who was delighted to be hosting a WFUNA Plenary Assembly for the third time in its history.



The UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, expressed his support for WFUNA in a special message to the Conference. Noting that ‘the feeling of global insecurity has seldom, if ever, been greater than it is today’, Mr Annan reaffirmed the role of the United Nations, both as an embodiment of shared beliefs and an instrument for addressing common concerns of humankind. He thanked WFUNA for its vital and enduring contribution to the United Nations, by making its work ‘more present, relevant, responsive and valuable to the lives of the peoples it serves to exist’.



H.E. Mr. Jan Kavan, President of the UN General Assembly gave the keynote address, commending WFUNA’s work in support of the United Nations and in particular its efforts in the promotion of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). “If we are successful [in the implementation of the MDGs] the world will be that much safer, saner and peaceful.” The declaration of the member states to involve NGOs more efficiently in the UN’s work at the Millennium Summit was the culmination of a progressive increase in UN – civil society interaction over the past ten years. This cooperation had been further strengthened by the Secretary General’s “Agenda for Further Change”, which led to the inclusion of civil society representatives on panels reviewing the implementation process. The UN remains crucial as an instrument for managing and overcoming global insecurity and even though it is in need of reform we should not forget that it is the only organization that has this capacity.

The first panel consisted of Mrs. Eveline Herfkens, the UN Secretary-General’s Executive Coordinator for the Millennium Development Goals Campaign and Dr. Michael Doyle, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General, speaking on the Global Millennium Campaign and Global Governance.

Mrs. Herfkens reiterated the importance of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the need for decisive steps to implement them. With international attention turned to the security consequences of global interdependencies, we should remember that the underlying causes of this insecurity are poverty and inequality. The MDGs provide an opportunity to tackle these root causes. However to achieve this a clear



division of labor between the North and the South needs to be fulfilled. The developing countries need to set the right policies and budget priorities to foster goals 1-7, while the OECD countries must improve their commitment to goal 8, reviewing their aid, debt relief and trade policies. While aid has increased since the Millennium Development Declaration was made, it is still far off its declared mark of 0.7% of GDP and it does not tend to be sufficiently targeted. Debt relief has been shown to have great beneficial effects on development. The debt relief that has been granted in the context of the HIPC initiative has returned excellent results, with benefiting countries investing the freed resources in the health and education sectors. Finally trade remains one of the areas with both the biggest potential and obstacles in terms of development. A 1% increase in the developing countries' share of world exports would lift 128 million people out of poverty, however developing countries exports are severely hampered by the discriminatory trade policies of the developed countries. To achieve a "safer, saner and peaceful world" all countries need to work together and show a concrete commitment towards the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Dr. Doyle explained the significance of the Millennium Development Goals as a global commitment agreed upon by all the member states of the United Nations, reflecting a people-centered vision of the UN agenda. The Goals are unique in their comprehensive content and pioneering implementation mechanisms, which require the cooperation all parts of society - governments, UN agencies, civil society and the private sector – and which come as a package: no one goal can be achieved unless all the goals are implemented. He referred to the Global Compact which provided a normative framework to mobilize the private sector. Embodying two complementary objectives of making nine universal principles of human rights, labor rights and environmental protection an integral part of business around the world and catalyzing business activities in support of the goals of the UN, it is becoming a major element in dispersing and multiplying the beneficial development aspects of business.

Mr. Guy-Olivier Segond, Special Ambassador for the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), Ms. Louise Lasonde, Coordinator of the Civil Society Division and Mr. Roberto Savio of the Society for International Development, gave an introduction to the World Summit. The WSIS is the first of a new generation of UN Summits: civil society and the private sector are intensively involved in the entire Summit process from the very beginning and it promotes South-South cooperation in tackling the digital divide, rather than relying on the traditional North-South assistance model. The International Secretariat is currently coordinating the preparatory process, which consists of PrepComs, Inter-sessional meetings and Regional conferences, leading up to the first phase of the Summit in Geneva in December, 2003. The WSIS will focus on some of the major issues related to sharing the benefits of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), including the jurisdictional framework,

infrastructure and access, cultural diversity and local knowledge, specific roles of women and youth and the participation of civil society in a good governance framework. In dealing with these issues the WSIS will face four major political challenges: how to bridge the digital divide, mobilize financial resources, overcome disparities in the flow of information and create a treaty setting out the basic rules applicable to cyberspace. The WSIS is an ambitious project, complementary with the objectives of the United Nations and in particular of the Millennium Declaration.

The third panel of the day consisted of Dr. Necla Tschirgi of the International Peace Academy with a response from Sirpa Pietikäinen, Chair of the WFUNA Executive Committee. Dr. Tschirgi spoke of the need to integrate human development into the security agenda. After the end of the cold war, as the security discussion moved towards human security, the development agenda shifted towards human development. These parallel shifts led to a greater awareness of the interrelation of the security and the development agendas. At the same time, the state centric approach to international relations shifted towards a global view. The realities of recent conflicts have made it clear that security cannot be assured without development. The UN has taken first steps to deal with these changed realities and to translate this understanding into an integrated approach to development and security. Civil society was one of the main actors in bringing about this change and will continue to play an important role in pushing this integrated agenda and ensuring its satisfactory implementation. The recent impasse provoked by the crisis in Iraq provided a new challenge to civil society. It demonstrated that power politics could paralyze the functioning of the UN, rather than serving states, the UN should promote the peoples' goals. Civil society is in a unique position to bring about such institutional changes, by upholding the "moral architecture" of international relations, keeping the focus on the issues of human development and human security and forming alliances and partnerships across issue areas and national boundaries.

The final discussion, to which Dr. Josep Xercavins, of UBUNTU and WFUNA's honorary president, Prof. Mihaly Simai contributed, focused on the issue of institutional reform of the United Nations.

Mr. Xercavins questioned whether the UN remains a useful tool for facing the challenges of a globalized society in a world where the USA has predominant military power. Taking the example of the war in Iraq, he stated that the UN had played an important role during the crisis in Iraq: as never before world public opinion expressed their opposition against a war, because of the lack of a necessary authorization from the UN. This was one of the essential reasons for the strong reactions from citizens worldwide. These are the events that can strengthen the UN after this crisis, through new synergies with this world citizenship.

This new world citizenship is convinced another world is possible, but it can only be achieved by truly making the UN the organization of "we the peoples", turning it into a real system of global democratic governance. If the United Nations could harness the energies of this world civil society movement, it would create a new political impetus for fundamental institutional reforms. Why do we want these reforms in the first place? What is it that is to be resolved or improved?

Humanity faces some very serious problems and challenges, like poverty, environmental degradation and social injustice. The process of globalization increases the interdependence and complexity of these problems. The UN summits in the 1990s and the Millennium Summit identified the problems but have not been able to resolve them. War, violence and international terrorism continue to trouble us.

A thorough reform of the system of international institutions towards a real system of global democratic governance is badly needed. More than just a reform of the UN, a reform of the entire system of international institutions, of its architecture and aims, is needed. Globalization should be controlled and regulated democratically, putting human beings at the core of international institutions priorities, instead of economic and trade interests. Accordingly human rights should take priority over the rest of the international law. Sustainable human development, which includes the elimination of poverty and the promotion of solidarity, respectful of cultural, natural and gender diversity, has to be achieved if world peace and security based on justice and freedom, is to be attained.

He envisaged the United Nations being at the center of a democratic, coherent, responsible and efficient system of international institutions. The General Assembly needs to be strengthened by giving it effective and democratic control over all the UN bodies and agencies and other multilateral organizations (IMF, WB, WTO), to create, consequently, a kind of economic, social and environmental Security Council, which will provide the system with the necessary means to undertake its functions. The composition and voting of UN bodies has to be democratized, there needs to be a more multilateral Security Council, endorsed by a universal system of international justice. Additionally to achieve true democratization, mechanisms of direct representation and participation of world citizens in global decision making processes will have to be put into practice. To complement these reforms a revision of the underlying concepts, such as unlimited state sovereignty, will have to take place.



In his reply Prof. Simai confirmed that the United Nations needed to adjust to the new geopolitical realities, while preserving the values reflected in the fundamental principles of the Charter. The UN remains the nucleus of the system of international governance and needs to be preserved to be able to fulfill its vital role. However radical improvements need to be made to the way the UN functions for it to be able to live up to its goals. Like the UN, civil society faces great challenges. Given the proliferation of civil society organizations in recent years and the increased participation of civil society in the UN processes, we needed to reflect upon its nature and purpose. One of its most fundamental attributes is of course its diversity – while we speak of a growing global civil society there is a growing number of civil society organizations opposed to globalization. Integrating this complex collection of interest groups will be a formidable yet necessary challenge in the process of reforming the UN.

The ideas and debates at the Conference provided food for thought for the Plenary Assembly that opened the following day. Many were recalled and integrated into the Plenary discussions and decisions.

The 37th WFUNA Plenary Assembly



Opening

In the absence of the WFUNA President, Mr. Halim Hashim, the Executive Committee recommended that Vice President Aleksander Gabelic preside over the 37th Plenary Assembly. In accordance with Article 31 (b) of the WFUNA constitution the Plenary Assembly accepted this recommendation and appointed Mr. Aleksander Gabelic to preside over the Plenary Assembly.

The Acting President formally opened the Plenary Assembly. Upon advice from the Secretary-General, Ambassador Donald Blinken, that the meeting had been convened in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, he ruled that the Plenary Assembly had the necessary legal status.

Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair of the Executive Committee, Sirpa Pietikäinen, advised the Plenary Assembly of the changes to the provisional agenda that had been recommended by the Executive Committee at its 182nd session, specifically to set up a third commission on Sunday morning to focus on the WFUNA Plan of Action and Budget for 2003. The Plenary Assembly adopted the provisional Agenda with the proposed change.

Messages

Mr. Halim Hashim, WFUNA President, was unfortunately unable to attend the Plenary meeting, due to the outbreak of the SARS epidemic. He sent a message that was read out by Dr. Syed Shahed, UNA-Bangladesh. He recounted how he saw the Federation rise out of the deep crisis it was in when he started his term, thanks to the support and dedicated effort of people such as Mr Arthur Ross and Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, as well as the members of the Federation and its Secretariat staff. He reflected upon the vast achievements of the United Nations and his pleasure at serving the UN through WFUNA.

Honorary President Mr. Arthur Ross, absent due to the SARS epidemic, congratulated everyone on the great work done since the Calcutta Plenary in 2000, which now enabled WFUNA to be “a well organized global association poised... to play an active role in supporting and shaping the UN agenda.” Striking a more solemn note he reminded the members, that the WFUNA financial situation remains uncertain, as the dues do not cover the running expenses and the Federation can not expect the private financial support it has been enjoying to continue indefinitely. WFUNA needs to devise new programs and sources of income and he suggested that members organize on a regional level to coordinate their efforts.

Mr. Horace Perera, Honorary President and former Secretary-General of WFUNA was absent from a WFUNA Plenary Assembly for the first time in 43 years due to ill health. He drew attention to the great political successes of the UN over that period. It had prevented many a regional conflict from turning into a global war and today's world without the UN's work would be in a decisively worse state. WFUNA's work is essential to the work of the UN, it carries the responsibility of mobilizing the world's people in the cause of peace and security.

The message from UNA-China noted that WFUNA would elect a new President, Chairperson and Secretary-General at its 37th Plenary Assembly and the first session of the new Executive Committee to be held in May in Barcelona. This election is very important to WFUNA and its member UNAs. UNA-China sincerely hoped that a strong leadership will be elected and the present renewal momentum will be kept to lead WFUNA to new and greater achievements. UNA-China holds that a fundamental principle in the election is an equitable geographic distribution and balanced representation between developing and developed countries. In some cases, it is realistic to be flexible.

The full texts of all messages can be found in Appendix V.

Report of the Credentials Committee

The Acting President called upon the chair of the Credentials Committee, Mr. Mikael Bjerrum of the UNA – Denmark, to report to the Plenary on the credentials of the UNA representatives present. Mr. Bjerrum reported that of the 105 current members, 57 were present, thus the quorum of 2/5th (42) of the members was reached and the Plenary Assembly could exercise its decision-making powers. Mr. Dominicé, member of the Credentials Committee, reported that the committee further recommended allowing UNAs in dues arrears to make a down payment of \$ 100 towards their 2002 dues payment, and thus obtain voting rights at the Plenary Assembly. The Plenary Assembly adopted the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.

Appointment of Committees and Commissions

Elections Committee

In accordance with Rule 16 of the By Laws, the Executive Committee recommended Dr. Cemil Ozgul (UNA-Turkey), Sheela Mohunparsad (UNA-Mauritius), Jon Reinholdt (UNA-Norway), Kyu-Taik-Kim (UNA-Korea) and Mr. José Sotelo Marban (UNA-Mexico) as members of the Elections Committee. The Plenary Assembly accepted the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Mr. José Sotelo Marban disqualified as a member of the Elections Committee, as he was himself standing for election, and was replaced by Mr. Irving Stolberg of UNA-USA.

Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Plenary Assembly appointed:

- Rod Fielding as chair of the Resolutions Committee.

- Rena Shashua-Hasson as chair of the Commission on Membership, Dues and Regional Offices.
- Bill vanden Heuvel as chair of the Commission on Amendments to the Constitution.
- Malcolm Harper as chair of the Commission on the WFUNA Plan of Action and Budget for 2003.

Further members of these Commissions and Committees were asked to sign their name on the lists outside the assembly hall.

Report of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General, Ambassador Donald Blinken, expressed his gratitude to the UNA-Spain for hosting the Plenary Assembly. He was appreciative of the great support they had given to WFUNA and the benefit of having the Plenary take place in the Barcelona World Trade Center. He emphasized that it is the people who belong to United Nations Associations who give WFUNA its capacity to fulfill its mission as a peoples' movement in support of the United Nations.

In his introduction to the Report on the work of the Secretariat since the last Plenary Assembly, he highlighted the priority that had been given to improving communications between WFUNA and UNAs. Much had been done. The bi-monthly newsletter "UN Connections" now reached over 5000 people online in English, Spanish and French - he encouraged all UNAs to contribute to it. Regular messages were sent out through the WFUNA E-group and the Website had been continually upgraded. As well, the innovation of having an annual meeting for UNAs in the context of the DPI/NGO conference held in New York had proved a good way of developing dialogue with UNAs.

Increasingly the Secretariat was moving to a project-based approach to its work. He believed that there was great potential for WFUNA to develop projects in closer collaboration with UNAs and in so doing, to combine fund-raising efforts. This serves to promote the real purpose of WFUNA, which is above all to add value to the work of the UNAs. The now annual WFUNA report on the role of civil society in implementing the Millennium Declaration, particularly the Development Goals, is one example of such collaboration. As we all know, the Millennium Development Goals come from the UN Summit Declaration endorsed by governments at the highest levels. One of the best ways for UNAs and WFUNA to support the work of the UN is by focusing on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

Since he had joined WFUNA, there had been four well-attended Executive Committee meetings, under the leadership of Sirpa Pietikäinen. He considered that the essential purpose of the Plenary Assembly was to find answers to the following questions "What should WFUNA be doing", "How can it add value to your UNA activities?" and "How can we make this organization sustainable?" He asked UNAs to provide continuous feedback to the Secretariat, to tell the Secretariat if WFUNA is not adding value to their work, so that it can improve to serve the UNAs better.

Speaking about the UNAs activity reports, the Secretary-General commended the excellent report by UNA-Georgia, which details its sponsors on the back. He requested the participants to take a look at this particular report and to think about who our sponsors are and who they can be. He welcomed suggestions of potential sponsors that could be approached by the Secretariat to support WFUNA.

Moving on to the current financial situation he presented the audited financial reports for 2001 and 2002, as well as the proposed budget for 2003. The current core-operating budget for the WFUNA offices was \$400,000. Progress had been made within the organization of the Secretariat: once again there are two functional offices both in New York and Geneva. He recommended that the Plenary read the proposed budget for 2003 carefully before approving it.

Additional projects would have to be financed independently from project related resources. He asked the Plenary for guidance regarding the question of which areas WFUNA should be focusing its projects on, and how these projects could be made sustainable, always remembering that there is an enormous competition for limited funds when it comes to project funding.

He concluded by reiterating his strong message to the Plenary Assembly that WFUNA is there to serve the its members, but that it needs the feedback and guidance of the members to achieve this goal.

The floor was opened for questions and discussion. Many UNAs thanked the Secretary-General for the tremendous work he had done to rebuild an active and functioning WFUNA Secretariat.



Attention was drawn to the difficulties UNAs encountered their relations with local representatives of the United Nations, many of whom who were insufficiently informed about the role and function of UNAs. The Secretary-General replied that the Secretariat was making a concerted effort to publicize WFUNA and the UNAs within the UN system and encouraged UNAs to do the same at the national level.

Responding to the Secretary-General's call for fundraising suggestions, one idea put forward was to pursue limited business opportunities, such as the production and sale of teaching materials. The Secretary-General responded that WFUNA needs to be very careful of such initiatives, as they could alter the nature of the organization. Suggestions were made for WFUNA to become more involved in human rights education and in the annual DPI/NGO conference. A further suggestion was to expand WFUNA's project activities in Africa and communication links between African UNAs and the Secretariat. The Secretary-General promised to work on such improvements.

The Financial Situation

The treasurer was called upon to present the financial statements for the years 2001 and 2002 and the proposed budget for 2003. (See Appendix III) He informed the Plenary that the Executive Committee had adopted the 2001 accounts in its 182nd session and that the audit had been conducted according to US law, by certified,

independent auditors. In 2002, the Geneva office sent the Geneva financials to New York, and the accounts were consolidated there by certified auditors. After his presentation the floor was opened for questions and discussion.

It was suggested that the audited accounts and reports on management should be distributed to members at least 20 days in advance of the Plenary Assembly to allow the delegates to sufficiently scrutinize these rather technical papers. This suggestion was seconded, put to the vote and adopted.

The Plenary Assembly then adopted the Financial Statements for 2000, 2001 and 2002. The chair advised that in making this decision, the Plenary Assembly removed any responsibility from the Executive Committee Members for any claim that may be made against WFUNA with respect to the audited accounts for this period.

The discussion of the revised dues schedule was postponed until after the Commissions' sessions on Sunday morning. The revised dues schedule was adopted in the Sunday Plenary Session.

Ambassador vanden Heuvel, Chair of the Finance Committee of the Executive Committee, presented the proposed budget for 2003, which amounted to \$500,000 (see Appendix III).

He introduced the Friends of WFUNA, a Foundation that was created in the US with the sole purpose of raising funds for the benefit of WFUNA. The current balance was \$250,000.

Amb vanden Heuvel said that the Secretary-General was working on a pro bono basis, dedicating an enormous amount of time to the organization and particularly to fundraising. Fundraising gives the organization energy, integrity, and replenishment, it helps renew its purposes and justify what it is doing. He recommended that the Plenary adopt the proposed budget, while keeping in mind that the obligation of fundraising is upon everyone.

The Chair of the Executive Committee said that it was hoped that the Plenary would debate the budget in connection with the plan of action, so that everyone could understand how WFUNA's funds were being allocated and begin to share responsibility for identifying campaigns and projects for which funds could be raised. WFUNA needed to diversify its sources of financial support and should be able to tap into the human resources of UNAs to assist with the creation of project proposals. There is great potential for WFUNA projects to be implemented in partnership with UNAs and this, in turn, could help ensure WFUNA's sustainability.

The Plenary Assembly adopted the proposed budget for 2003.

The Secretary-General invited suggestions for WFUNA's fundraising. Suggestions included the creation of an international support group for WFUNA, the holding of cultural events and closer cooperation between WFUNA and UNAs in developing project proposals.

General Debate on WFUNA's plan of action

The Chair of the Executive Committee opened the debate. She asked the Plenary to advise how WFUNA could work for UNAs and how UNAs' work could feed into WFUNA, particularly on policy issues.

The representative of UNA-Sri Lanka congratulated WFUNA on its publication 'UN Connections', which is a very useful information and communications tool for UNAs. He expressed the need for a written history of WFUNA and was advised that Horace Perera had already started work on this document.

UNA–Australia's representative outlined her vision of WFUNA as a platform for action. For this purpose it was important to have a broad framework. While the organization needs to set certain priorities, it needs the flexibility to be able to react to events that are happening at the UN. While there should be specific campaigns, for example around the MDGs and human rights education, WFUNA needs to be responsive to issues as they emerge. To fulfill this task, it needs solid communications capacity and to make use of the opportunity to work with governments at the United Nations in New York and in Geneva.

Mr. John Foster of the North-South Institute picked up on the theme of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The North-South-Institute had been collaborating with WFUNA on the MDG survey; he urged UNA members to respond fully to the 2003 survey and to promote it through their networks. The more people who respond, the more useful the information gathered will be. The results can be used to inform governments about civil society's view on the MDGs and how they can be a tool for accountability. He suggested that each UNA hold a yearly meeting with their government on progress in achieving the MDGs.

The representative of the UNA-Argentina called for greater UNA involvement in WFUNA's programs. WFUNA education and international human rights programs had been and should remain a high priority, especially through the WFUNA Academy for a Stronger UN. She hoped that WFUNA would encourage UNAs to lead national coalitions of NGOs to ensure that governments live up to the commitments they made in the Millennium Declaration.

The representative of UNA-USA explained how its programs are designed to engage its individual members actively. One of its biggest activities is the promotion of Model United Nations (MUN) Conferences in public schools. They have devised a curriculum that helps teachers to instruct and prepare students for MUN Conferences which are a highly efficient, tried and tested means of conveying an understanding of the UN to students. The "Adopt a Minefield" campaign has seen local chapters raise \$20,000-\$30,000 to clear a minefield. The UNA-USA had cooperated with the UNA-UK in the development of this program.

The US Government doctrine of pre-emptive strikes and the war against Iraq continues to put the UNA-USA in a problematic position. The US public debate of the issue had not been as open as it should have been. Normally 70% of US citizens express their support for the UN in surveys, but at the beginning of the Iraq war this figure had dropped to below 50%. UNA-USA had initiated a Public Affairs effort in

support of the UN, including the capacity to respond to negative references to the UN in the press. During the SARS crisis, newspapers that were typically critical towards the UN were praising the WHO, however most Americans were not aware that the WHO is part of the UN. UNA-USA had actively promoted the return of the US to UNESCO, support for the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the increase in US funds in support of the global effort to combat HIV/AIDS.

The UNA-USA plans to join WFUNA in its efforts to promote MUN in Africa and wants to cooperate further in WFUNA's very creative MDG Campaign.

The representative of UNA-UK, called for WFUNA to strengthen its regional offices, particularly in Africa. There are many differences between the continents and these should be reflected and acknowledged in the organizational structure of the Federation. In terms of programs, the MDGs should be at the top of WFUNA's agenda. Looking at the goals critically and without rhetoric, WFUNA should select certain goals to prioritize and concentrate its efforts on the promotion of these.

WFUNA should play a stronger coordinating role with respect to issues concerning NGO and civil society relations with the UN and be more active in shaping the agenda of the UN.

The UNA-Sudan representative considered that the WFUNA Secretariat should show greater regional sensitivity, particularly towards Africa. He was very concerned about the peace process in Sudan and felt that WFUNA should address the problems of refugees in its programs. WFUNA needed to diversify, to have different policies and different priorities for different locations.

The representative of the UNA-Hungary reported that they had initiated a program called the Millennium Academy to promote implementation of the MDGs. They translated and published materials in Hungarian, conducted lectures and developed strategies for involving parliamentarians and finding out what the government administration is doing to implement the MDGs. They had already held 5 lectures, which attracted a lot of interest, including from the student community. International organizations are of great interest in Hungary, as the country is orientating itself outwards, towards the UN and the EU.

A further account of successful work with youth came from the representative of the UNA-Bulgaria, who told the Assembly that the Bulgarian association works very successfully with young people and feels that MUN is of utmost importance for the future of UNAs, especially in the Eastern European countries. They feel very positive about working with the MDG package as they already have experience in working with young people on the MDGs as well as on human rights education, that is of particular importance in Eastern Europe. She considered that excellent communications between UNAs is necessary and that the possibilities of partnerships and fundraising within the EU should be explored further. Maybe, WFUNA could develop initiatives with eminent personalities, such as Mr. Stiglitz or Mr. Sachs, to ensure a higher profile for their activities.

The representative of UNA-Tanzania brought up the issue of sustainability of African UNAs. Currently there is an acute lack of sustainability, as they do not receive any

core funding. In most countries the private sector is growing but the chances of obtaining funding are very small. He wondered whether WFUNA could approach the EU, which facilitates partnerships between NGOs, to help sustain UNAs in Africa. Furthermore, most of the available funding in Africa is project-orientated. It is impossible for UNAs to raise the funds to pay its contribution to the Federation as they cannot add dues to WFUNA in a project line to submit to donors. The organization needs to look for alternative ways to solve this problem.

The representative of the UNA-Czech Republic highlighted the positive trend of growing interest of youth and university students in the UNA activities, and saw value in regional and sub-regional cooperation and more communal projects between UNAs.

The following day the Commission on the Plan of Action held a meeting to discuss the ideas and suggestions raised by the Plenary.

Report of the Plan of Action Commission

The Rapporteur, Steve Mason of UNA-Canada, presented the outcomes of the Plan of Action Commission to the Plenary Assembly. The discussion in the Commission focused mainly on two programmatic priorities for WFUNA: the Millennium Development Goals and Model United Nations.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

It was suggested that WFUNA facilitate the sharing of educational material on the MDGs, as well as support UNAs in forming national coalitions and networks of NGOs around the Goals.

UNA participants were encouraged to network with each other and support each other by exchanging materials and experiences. Further they should share success stories about their MDG work in the WFUNA newsletter, 'UN Connections', as well as participate in and circulate the WFUNA survey on the MDGs and the MDG listserv.

It was proposed that the WFUNA Campaign for the MDGs focus on specific priorities in implementing the goals. One suggestion was that UNAs in developed countries maintain pressure on their governments to increase Official Development Assistance (ODA), particularly targeting meetings such as the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting. Another suggestion that received support was for the UNAs to hold an annual meeting with their Head of State to maintain accountability for the commitments made in the Millennium Declaration.

Model UN (MUN)

It was noted that MUN is one part of a continuum of education. Many participants emphasized that there should be more coordination between UNAs in the area of MUN, and the internationalization of MUN was strongly encouraged. MUN has helped many UNAs educate young people about the role and activities of civil society.

Model UN activities should be linked with the MDGs and Human Rights Issues. As well, Model UN was seen as a tool for facilitating cooperation between young people in zones of unrest.

It was proposed that the WFUNA Secretariat consider preparing documents on how to prepare delegates. One participant noted that with the forthcoming closing of many UN Information Centers, it may become increasingly difficult to access UN documents. It was suggested that WFUNA could help with the circulation of these documents to UNAs and MUN participants.

Finally, it was suggested that a MUN Conference be held in relation to the Forum 2004 in Barcelona, Spain.

Amendments to the WFUNA Constitution

The Commission on the Constitutional Amendments met to consider the amendments to the WFUNA Constitution as proposed by the 181st Executive Committee meeting. The Commission recommended to the Plenary Assembly the adoption of the amendments with the following changes:

Article 2:

(d) ... Should such individuals be nationals of countries in which the Federation has a Member, the Member concerned must approve the admission of an individual.

Article 3:

(f) ... In the case of Individual Associates who are nationals of a State in which the Federation has a Member, the Member concerned must approve the admission.

Article 15:

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

Article 18:

(e) Candidates for election to the Executive Committee cannot be from a Member from which the President and the Vice-Presidents are elected.

The amendments to the WFUNA Constitution, including the above changes, were adopted by the Plenary Assembly. The vote to adopt the amendments including these changes, took place by roll call, with 29 votes in favor and 10 votes against, thus obtaining the required approval of two-thirds of those present and voting (Article 44 (d) of the Constitution). The full text of the amendments is available in Appendix VI.

Membership

The Membership Committee examined the reports presented by the Executive Committee on the applications for membership. In summary, the Executive Committee had made the following decisions and recommendations:

At its 177th meeting in Geneva, September 2000

- It was decided for the time being to suspend Afghanistan's application for membership.

At its 178th meeting in New York, March/April 2001

- The candidatures of Estonia, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela were accepted as conditional upon payment of dues,
- The interest from the UNAs of Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Moldova, Paraguay and Tunisia in joining WFUNA had been noted,
- The Secretariat reported that UNAs were being set up in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Kiribati, Malawi and South Africa,
- It was hoped that UNAs would be re-established or set up in Pakistan, the Maldives and in other parts of the Pacific.

At its 179th meeting in New York, September 2001

- It accepted the application for membership of the UNA-Dominican Republic,
- It welcomed the applications for membership of the UNA-South Africa and UNA-Moldova, and accepted them as members on a provisional basis, subject to the further assessment of their compliance with the requirements of Articles 2 and 3 of the WFUNA Constitution,
- It decided to set up a Membership Committee to advise on UNA applications for membership of WFUNA. The Committee would be chaired by Mrs. Shashua-Hasson and include 4 members of the Executive Committee (Rhyl Jansen, Malcolm Harper and 2 other members, to be advised),
- It decided that the Secretariat should give priority to setting up a full database of the UNAs, showing their Executive Committee members and secretariat staff.

At its 180th meeting in New York, May 2002

- The candidatures of Afghanistan, Cote D'Ivoire and Pakistan were accepted by acclamation. A minor amendment to the official name of the UNA-Cote d'Ivoire was necessary.
- It has subsequently been discovered that the UNA-Cote D'Ivoire has been acting under false pretences and at the request of the UNDP Resident Coordinator; a letter has been sent advising that the UNA request for membership be annulled and their dues payment returned.

At its 181st meeting in Geneva, December 2002:

- The candidature of Northern Iraq/Kurdistan was, with all due respect, denied,
- The candidatures of Angola, Mozambique, Puerto Rico were left pending, to be completed,
- The candidatures of Benin, Cambodia and South Africa were accepted upon settlements of their dues.
- The candidature of the Democratic Republic of Congo was adopted as an associate member until the next Plenary Assembly. Meanwhile the Secretariat found the existing UNA (SG, Cissa wa Numbe lives in Bradford, UK). It appears that despite efforts of the Secretariat to merge their activities in sustaining the UN by creating a branch office, the two associations cannot reach consensus. The new UNA, based in Kinshasa, was unfortunately unable

to send a delegate. The Secretariat recommended to the Membership Committee to examine both UNAs closely, as the new UNA puts forward harsh criticism against the existing one and claims that it was not established legally.

The 37th Plenary Assembly, on the recommendation of the Membership Committee and in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution, admitted as members of WFUNA the United Nations Association of Afghanistan, Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Guyana, Pakistan, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.

Regional Offices

Prior to the Plenary Assembly a proposal had been received from UNAs in Europe and Africa to revise the regional structure of WFUNA. It was proposed that instead of the current top-down approach to regional organization, the future regional structures of WFUNA would be based upon a bottom-up approach, where the regional coordinators are to be elected for a specific period of time by all UNAs in the respective regions. The functions of the regional coordinators would be:

- to secure a flow of information between the UNAs in the region
- to facilitate sharing of best practices and exchange of experiences
- to function as a Liaison Office between WFUNA HQ and the regions
- to help the WFUNA HQ in the assessment of whether existing UNAs are functional
- to assist in the establishment of new UNAs in the region
- to provide ideas to WFUNA for common projects, fundraising etc.
- to initiate political initiatives
- to assist in arranging of meetings in the region

The function as regional co-coordinator would not be paid for by WFUNA, however WFUNA should prioritize to cover the costs for regional coordinators within different kinds of project funding. The new regional co-coordinator would not act on behalf of WFUNA, and WFUNA would have no legal, financial or other liability for the functioning of the regional coordinators.

The consequences of this proposal would be that the existing set up for regional structures, including the centrally appointed Deputy Secretary-Generals as regional coordinators for WFUNA would be dismantled.

While the Committee approved of this proposal, such far-reaching changes would clearly require constitutional amendments. It therefore asked the Plenary to defer its decision on this matter, referring a further development for the plan and the initiation of the process of constitutional change to the Executive Committee, while the Secretariat and the local UNAs should prepare the implementation of this new system.

The African caucus agreed to set up a Committee of five members, one each from Eastern, Western, Northern, Southern and Central/Francophone Africa. The UNAs of each of these regions would be responsible for a sub-regional office, whose

representatives would be the members of the Committee. The Chairmanship of the Committee would rotate among its member and it would be this chairperson who would be the formal representative of the African region vis-à-vis WFUNA.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Membership and Regional Offices the Thirty-Seventh Plenary Assembly of WFUNA:

- Requested the Thirty-Eight Plenary Assembly to consider the proposed changes to the Regional Structure of WFUNA and the corresponding amendments to the WFUNA constitution.
- Requested the Executive Committee to take the necessary steps for the preparation of these amendments in accordance with Article 45 of the Constitution.
- Encouraged its members to prepare these changes and implement alternative structures on a regional level.

Elections

Upon the recommendation of Elections Committee, the Plenary Assembly decided to hold all elections on the same day, with the vote for the Executive Committee taking place immediately after the results of the presidential and vice-presidential elections were announced. Current members of the Executive Committee would then be able to stand for the presidential elections without having to stand down from their posts on the Executive Committee in advance.



The Secretary-General announced that he would be willing to continue in his post until the autumn Ex Co meeting in 2004. The Executive Committee would then have sufficient time to identify a suitable candidate to take on his post and to build up the WFUNA resources.

Following a second heads of delegations meeting on the evening of the 10th, the 37th WFUNA Plenary Assembly elected by acclamation, in accordance with Article 33 of the Constitution and Rule 18 of the Bylaws of the Federation, as Secretary-General Ambassador Donald Blinken to serve until the 2nd Executive Committee meeting of 2004.

The first ballot for the presidential election was declared invalid due to procedural problems. In the second ballot none of the four candidates obtained a clear majority, leading to a further ballot to decide between two candidates. By a narrow margin Plenary Assembly elected Lady Rhyl Jansen, UNA-New Zealand, as President of WFUNA.

The Plenary Assembly elected the following as Vice-Presidents of WFUNA:

- Mr. Ricardo Dominicé (UNA-Argentina)
- Mr. Sayed Shahed (UNA-Bangladesh)

- Ms. Helen Drayton (UNA-Trinidad and Tobago)

It should be noted that Mr Aleksander Gabelic resigned his position as Vice-President. The other two Vice Presidents, elected at the Calcutta Plenary, are Mr Suresh Srivistava (UNA-India) and Dr Samir El Daher (UNA-Lebanon).



As there was only one candidacy for Treasurer, the Plenary Assembly decided to waive the secret ballot in accordance with Rule 18 (a) of the WFUNA bylaws. Thus the Plenary Assembly elected Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri (UNA-Georgia) as treasurer by acclamation.

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

- Ms. Margaret Reynolds (UNA-Australia)
- Mr. Carlos Amat Forés (UNA-Cuba)
- Ms. Pavla Kortusova (UNA-Czech Republic)
- Dr. Christos Theodoulou (UNA-Cyprus)
- Prof. Ervin Gömbös (UNA-Hungary) – re-elected
- Mrs. Rena Shashua-Hasson (UNA-Israel) – re-elected
- Ms. Ángels Mataró (UNA-Spain)
- Mr. Abdalla Ahmed Abdalla (UNA-Sudan)
- Mr. Aleksander Gabelic (UNA-Sweden)

The Plenary Assembly conferred the title of Honorary President on former WFUNA president Mr. Hashim Abdul Halim by acclamation.

WFUNA Youth Organization



Parallel to the conference and the meetings of the Plenary Assembly, 39 representatives of 27 youth organizations met to create a new youth organization for WFUNA. They joined the Plenary Assembly on May 11th to present the outcomes of their meetings.

The youth representatives thanked WFUNA and UNA Spain for allowing their meetings to take place and regretted the absence of many African, Asian and Latin American youth delegates due to visa problems. The youth delegates had met throughout the previous three days, working very hard to produce the WFUNA-Youth Memorandum of Understanding, which had been distributed to the delegates. Notwithstanding, everyone was able to work with great focus despite long meetings, enabling constructive debates characterized by mutual respect and willingness to compromise.

Driven by their belief in the ideals, principles and objectives of the United Nations, inspired and encouraged by the work of WFUNA, and convinced that all young people should be informed about the UN and provided with opportunities to contribute to civil society in support of the United Nations, they formed WFUNA-Youth. WFUNA-Youth is to be an umbrella organization, a communication platform and a coordinating body for all United Nations Youth Associations and UNA Youth Programs.

As a basic document for the organization they wrote a Memorandum of Understanding, which outlines the aims and activities of WFUNA-Youth, its structure and relationship to WFUNA. (See Appendix VIII).

The structure as put down in this document is preliminary. The organization will be headed and coordinated by an interim authority. The Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed in the light of the experiences and recommendations of the Interim Authority at the next Plenary Assembly of WFUNA-Youth to be held parallel to the 38th WFUNA Plenary.



The decision for an interim authority was the result of thorough discussion. The reasoning behind the decision was that a preliminary structure would be the most effective and appropriate way to start up the initiative, allowing an easier adaptation of the organization's structure to the practical needs of the organization at the next Plenary.

Seeing that WFUNA-Youth has been just newly set-up and has no funds at its disposal, they would depend on the WFUNA Secretariat to assist them with the basic administrative secretariat work. They would, of course, also welcome the support of individual UNAs.

The representatives then moved on to a presentation of the WFUNA-Youth objectives and prospects. The main aims and objectives of the WFUNA-Youth are:
First – to gain more support for the spirit of the United Nations among young people and further the activities of United Nations Youth Associations world wide,
Second- to promote the establishment of United Nations Youth Associations or departments where they do not exist
And Third – to cooperate with WFUNA, the United Nations Agencies and other organizations whose objectives include support of the United Nations.

To realize the aspirations they agreed upon include immediate activities that will focus on enhancing cooperation, communication and capacity development. WFUNA-Youth will provide a forum for communication including exchanging best practices of UNAs and UNA Youth programs; promoting youth representation and presence within the UN; promoting educational tools and initiatives that increase understanding of the UN, including Model United Nations and encouraging the implementation of the UN World Program of Action for Youth, in line with the Millennium Development Goals

To be a member of WFUNA-Youth, a UN Youth Association will be accredited by its country's UNA. In countries where there are no UN Youth Associations, youth members of existing UNAs shall be admitted as members.

Finally, they expressed their hope that the Plenary Assembly would support this course by not only adopting this Memorandum of Understanding but also working side by side with the Interim Authority to transfer the youth organization from paper into reality.

Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee presented the Plenary Assembly with seven resolutions, on a variety of issues, three of which were submitted directly to the Plenary without previous consideration by the Resolution Committee.

PA37/RES1: About the Situation in Iraq

A resolution on Iraq was put forward by the UNAs of Argentina, Cuba, Chile, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Venezuela. With some minor changes to the wording, the Committee recommended that the Plenary Assembly adopt this resolution. The Plenary Assembly made some further changes to the wording and voted to adopt the resolution with a clear majority:

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA):

Considering that one of the fundamental aims for which the United Nations was created is the maintenance of peace, in accordance with international law, as well as the implementation of mechanisms leading to a peaceful resolution of conflicts;

Taking into consideration the UN Security Council had adopted the appropriate resolutions to solve the problems related to Iraq, none of them giving tacit authority for the unilateral use force against that country, without the express consent of the Security Council;

Considering the majority of the members of the Security Council made substantive reservations to the final proposal made by the United States, as the verification process about the presumed existence of weapons of mass destruction had not finished nor had all the efforts towards a peaceful solution been exhausted;

Regretting that members of the international community, with the superior military power over the rest of the nations, violated international law and imposed their will against the spirit of the United Nations and the peoples of the world;

Taking into consideration the powerful and massive demonstration of civil society in an important number of countries from all continents that supported peace, rejected war and demanded respect for the sovereignty of states, freedom of religious beliefs and civil rights;

Therefore WFUNA, as representative of civil society at the United Nations, decides:

1. To express its most firm condemnation against the illegal invasion of Iraq carried out by the coalition lead by the United States.
2. To request the international community to stop applying a double standard to evaluate in one way some privileged countries and in a different way the rest of nations in such serious issues as war and human rights. States should not act outside the rule of law or breach international law, confusing force with reason.
3. To demand the withdrawal of the invading forces in Iraq and orderly turnover of responsibilities to the UN, undertaking the protection and rebuilding of this state by constituting a process which after a wide consultation among the population will establish a transition government.
4. To demand the immediate protection of the life of the civilian population, irrespective of their political and religious beliefs; the preservation and recovery of cultural and historical inheritance, which is also humanity's inheritance; the protection of the natural resources – particularly oil – remaining under a provisional international administration, recognizing that they belong to Iraqi people.
5. To ask the United Nations General Assembly to start a process of deep renewal of the structure of the organization, particularly the Security Council, which will allow the effective fulfillment of the aims for which the UN was created, particularly in relation to peace, democracy and human rights.
6. In this process the UN and its agencies should consider the wide support they have from civil society and expand its effective channels of participation within the United Nations system.

PA37/RES2: The Millennium Development Goals

A resolution on the Millennium Development Goals was submitted by the UNAs of Ghana, Australia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Canada, Luxembourg, Belgium, Trinidad and Tobago, and Suriname. The Committee had made some minor changes and recommended adoption. The Plenary Assembly adopted the resolution by consensus, as presented below:

1. In recognition of the significance of the Millennium Development Goals in achieving global human security and social justice, the World Federation of United Nations Associations pledges to continue to pursue the Millennium Development Goals Campaign.
2. WFUNA and its members should work with governments to ensure that commitments agreed by 191 member states are fully honored by Member States within the time frame leading to 2015.
3. This campaign would involve a grassroots education program by UNAs to inform people of governments' responsibilities in meeting the commitments of the Millennium Declaration.
4. The global campaign by WFUNA would include national and international advocacy in partnership with civil society, with UNAs sharing their experiences and promoting ideas of best practice.

PA37/RES3: Human Rights Education

The UNA-USA presented a draft resolution on Human Rights Education, to which some minor changes were made by the Committee. On the recommendation of the Committee the Plenary Assembly adopted the draft by consensus:

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA):

Remembering the proud history of the United Nations and the Human Rights Commission on the development of human rights through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the twin Covenants on Civil and Political and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

Recognizing that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights requires that education be provided to promote human rights and their enforcement;

Encouraging students in all countries to learn about the Universal Declaration and Covenants and to participate in research regarding human rights projects in universities, research centers and non-governmental organizations;

1. It is recommended that members within WFUNA shall endeavor each year to go to primary and secondary schools and universities within their boundaries to make presentations about the ongoing work of the United Nations to inform students and members of the community about the Millennium Development Goals and other projects. Reports may be sent to WFUNA describing the outcomes.

PA37/RES4: In the Field of Sustainable Development

The resolution on Sustainable Development was put forth by UNA-Russia. With some minor changes to the wording, the Committee recommended that the Plenary Assembly adopt this resolution. It was adopted without a vote:

The World Federation of United Nations Associations decided:

To support the proposal of the UNA-Russia, at the initiative of the Buryat Regional Branch of the UNA-Russia, to recognize Lake Baikal as a target territory of the world's significance within the framework of the UN programs on sustainable development;

Taking into consideration that Lake Baikal contains over 20% of the overall freshwater resources of the world, to protect Lake Baikal and its adjacent territory.

The Resolutions on the Appreciation of Arthur Ross and the on the election of the Secretary-General were submitted directly to the Plenary and adopted as presented below:

PA37/RES5: Expression of Appreciation for Arthur Ross

The 37th Plenary Assembly of WFUNA, having heard a message to the Assembly from its Honorary President, Arthur Ross, expresses its enormous respect and affection for Arthur Ross whose personal leadership has been an indispensable part of the rebuilding of this organization.

We take this opportunity to express our continued commitment to the purposes of the United Nations and our determination to carry forward the rebuilding efforts of WFUNA that Arthur Ross has inspired. We wish him a happy and healthy year ahead as we look forward to his continued leadership.

PA37/RES6: On the Election of the Secretary-General

Be it resolved,

In as much as the Secretary-General of WFUNA, the Honorable Ambassador Donald Blinken, has in his tenure of office demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership and commitment to the purposes of WFUNA, and whereas Ambassador Donald Blinken has indicated a personal wish to conclude his responsibilities as Secretary-General by June 1st, 2004,

The 37th Plenary Assembly, having received and accepted the recommendation of the Executive Committee, to now elect the Honorable Donald Blinken as Secretary-General of WFUNA to serve in said office until the 2nd Executive Committee of 2004, the 37th Plenary Assembly call the Executive Committee to take the action in due time, to fill the vacancy of Secretary-General until the next session of the Plenary Assembly according to the rules of the By Laws (21) so that the successor can be in place and prepared to assume the responsibilities of the office at the agreed time, and calls upon the Executive Committee to fulfill its constitutional obligation to choose a successor as a Secretary-General to serve until the 38th Plenary Assembly of WFUNA.

The Committee members considered that the two resolutions put forward by the UNA-Bangladesh focused on issues that may be particular to UNA-Bangladesh, or that the two resolutions could be combined into one resolution. The Committee Chair, Rod Fielding, offered to speak to Mr. Shahed of UNA-Bangladesh about the possibility of dropping the resolutions or combining them. Mr. Shahed considered that the resolutions addressed problems faced by many UNAs, and that they should be tabled at the Plenary Assembly. The Committee decided to put it to the Plenary Assembly for its decision, without a recommendation for adoption. After a brief discussion the Plenary Assembly did judge these two resolutions relevant to many UNAs and passed them as presented below:

PA37/RES7: UNA Grants

It has been observed that sometimes UNAs of the developed countries extend financial assistance to developing countries in the form of travel grants facilitating attendance to different international conferences. Drawing attention to the fact that most UNAs of developing countries have funding constraints, the financial help from UNAs of developed countries can be better utilized by UNAs of developing countries in the way of travel grants and in the funding of other UN related programs.

Thus it is proposed that for extending such financial grants the UNAs of developing countries should be given priority. In special cases if the grant is at all sanctioned to any organization other than UNAs, the UNAs of the respective countries may be consulted prior to the extension of such assistance.

PA37/RES8: Financial Assistance

While appreciating advantages and good effects of ICT, it may be also mentioned that ICT has a few inherent snags. One of them being, some non-existent bodies from the developing countries upload fictitious information about their activities in the network. Being fed by such fake information some international bodies including UNAs from developed countries extend support to many so-called organizations resulting in the misuse of this assistance. Considering these facts, it is proposed that before giving any support to such bodies UNAs of the respective developing countries may first be contacted to define the status of these organizations.

PA37/RES9: WFUNA - Youth

The UNA-Norway submitted a resolution on WFUNA-Youth directly to the Plenary, which was then adopted as reads below:

The 37th WFUNA Plenary Assembly approves the Memorandum of Understanding presented by WFUNA Youth (Appendix II).

The 37th WFUNA Plenary Assembly further commits WFUNA to:

- Provide administrative assistance to WFUNA-Youth
- Make efforts to find resources for the convening of the Interim Authorities of WFUNA-Youth

- Facilitate a Youth Meeting at the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, as referred to in the Memorandum of Understanding.

WFUNA Secretary-General announced that the Friends of WFUNA would offer a \$20,000 matching grant for all funds contributed by UNAs to WFUNA-Youth. A first donation of €100 was received that same evening from Ms. Pavier-Russell of the UNA-UK.

Closing

The newly elected President of WFUNA, Lady Rhyl Jansen addressed the Plenary Assembly at the beginning of the closing session. She assured everyone of her full commitment to the UN principles and programs, to the work of WFUNA and particularly to all UNAs. She pledged to uphold the constitutional principles of WFUNA and to ensure that they are respected throughout the organization. Finally, she promised to promote the collaboration between the Federation and its members, as the successful outreach of WFUNA's work is the result of truly interactive efforts and cooperation.



The Acting President of the meeting, Aleksander Gabelic, thanked everyone involved in the preparation of the Plenary, in particular the WFUNA and UNA Spain staff. He thanked UNA representatives for coming to Barcelona, and congratulated the participants for all the work that had been done in the short time available. He excused himself for any inconveniences or misunderstandings that had occurred.

Mr Chika Nwaozuzu of the UNA-Nigeria took the floor to invite WFUNA to hold the next Plenary session in Lagos. The Acting President thanked the UNA Nigeria for their generous invitation and it was decided to leave the decision of the date and place of the next Plenary Assembly to the Executive Committee.

Appendix I



Program

WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS
FEDERATION MONDIALE DES ASSOCIATIONS POUR LES NATIONS UNIES

A peoples' movement for the United Nations

Program

7 - 11 May 2003

Barcelona

182nd Meeting of the WFUNA Executive Committee

WFUNA Conference - The United Nations: Our Hope, Our Future

WFUNA 37th Plenary Assembly

Meeting of United Nations Youth Associations and Young People

Sponsored by: UNA Spain, UNA USA, UNA Denmark, Friends of WFUNA, World Trade Center Barcelona, Port de Barcelona, Generalitat de Catalunya, Diputació de Barcelona, Escuela de Criminología de Cataluña, Fòrum 2004, Coca Cola

Wednesday 7 May

20.00 Informal get together for youth delegates, Restaurant Arcano

Thursday 8 May

10.00-13.00 **WFUNA 182nd Executive Committee** (closed meeting)
UNA Spain Headquarters. C/ Fontanella 14, 1º 1ª. Barcelona

17.00 **Meeting of the Heads of Delegations**
UNA Spain Headquarters. C/ Fontanella 14, 1º 1ª. Barcelona

Youth Meetings

Auditori de la Secretaria General de Joventut, Calàbria 147, 08015 Barcelona

10.00-12.00 **Opening Session**

13.00-17.00 **Consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding**
to be submitted to the WFUNA Plenary Assembly

Friday 9 May 2003

**WFUNA Conference:
"The United Nations: Our Hope, Our Future"**

Location: Auditorium, World Trade Center Barcelona, Moll de Barcelona, s/n, 08039
Barcelona

08.30-09.30 Registration

10.00-11.30 Morning session

Welcoming statement by a representative of the Spanish Royal House, a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Joan Rigol, President of the Catalan Parliament, by Jordi Pujol, President of the Generalitat and by Joan Clos, Mayor of Barcelona.

Welcome from WFUNA President, Mr Hashim Abdul Halim

Welcome from UNA-Spain President, Marina Bru.

Message from UN Secretary-General H. E. Kofi Annan

Keynote Address by H.E. Jan Kavan, President of the UN General Assembly.

11.30-11.45 Coffee Break

**11.45-13.00 Panel Discussion on the Global Millennium Campaign and
Global Governance**

Madame Eveline Herfkens, UN Secretary-General's Executive Co-coordinator
for the MDG Campaign

Dr Michael Doyle, Special Adviser to the United Nations' Secretary-General

**13.00-15.00 Luncheon hosted by the President of Catalonia in the
Palace of the Generalitat**

**15.00-16.30 Discussion on the role of civil society in support of the
United Nations, including how to strengthen the role and
effectiveness of UNAs and WFUNA.**

**“Human Security – the need for civil society to consolidate the UN’s
Security and Development Agenda”**

Dr Necla Tschirgi, Vice-President, International Peace Academy:
Respondent: Ms Sirpa Pietikäinen, Chair of the WFUNA Executive
Committee
Questions and Debate

“The institutional renewal of the United Nations”

Dr. Josep Xercavins, UBUNTU

Respondent: Professor Mihaly Simai, Honorary President, WFUNA

Questions and Debate

“Individuals making a difference”

Representative of United Nations Volunteers

Respondent: Jaume Pagès, FÒRUM 2004

Questions and Debate

16.30-16.45 Coffee Break

16.45-17.45 World Summit on Information Society: consideration of a strategy for civil society engagement

Mr. Guy- Olivier Segond, special ambassador for the WSIS

Ms. Louise Lassonde, coordinator of the Civil Society Division

Respondent: Roberto Savio, Society for International Development

Questions and Debate

17.45 - 18.00 Closing session of the Conference

Saturday 10 May 2003

37th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Location: Auditorium, World Trade Center Barcelona, Moll de Barcelona, s/n, 08039
Barcelona

9.30-11.00 Opening Session

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30-13.00 Plenary Session 2

Report of the Secretary-General
WFUNA Financial Situation

13.00-14.30 Lunch-break

14.30-16.00 Plenary Session 3

General debate on WFUNA Policy Priorities led by the Heads of UNA
delegations

16.00 Nominations for elections close

16.00-16.30 Coffee break

16.30-18.00 P plenary Session 4

General debate on WFUNA Policy Priorities continued
Working Groups may be set up

Youth Meetings

Location: World Trade Center Barcelona, Moll de Barcelona, s/n, 08039
Barcelona

18.00–19.00 Further Consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding

Sunday 11 May 2003

37th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Location: Auditorium, World Trade Center Barcelona, Moll de Barcelona, s/n, 08039
Barcelona

9:00 Balloting opens

9:00-10.30 Open-ended Commission Meetings

Membership and regional offices
Constitutional Amendments

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-13.00 Plenary Session 5

Reports of the Commissions, Youth Meetings and Working Groups

13.00 Balloting closes

13.00-14.30 Lunch Break

14.30-16.30 Plenary Session 6

Distinctions
Consideration and Adoption of statements and resolutions
Announcement of the Election Results

16.30-17.00 Coffee break

17.00-18.00 Plenary Session 7

Closing Session

18:00 Closure

20.30

Reception hosted by Mr Joan Clos, Mayor of Barcelona and President of the UN Boarding Council of Local Authorities at the Palace Albéniz, official residence of HM the King of Spain in Barcelona

Appendix II



Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Secretariat

This report aims to do three things:

1. To describe how the WFUNA secretariat has been transformed over the last two and half years
2. To examine WFUNA's strengths and weaknesses, its opportunities and threats, from the perspective of the secretariat
3. To outline a strategic vision, program priorities with budget estimates, through to 2005, for the consideration, debate and decision of UNA representatives at the Plenary Assembly.

1. Transformation of the WFUNA Secretariat

Today, the WFUNA secretariat is functioning in both the New York and Geneva offices. This has taken over two and half years to accomplish. In the process, the organizational culture of the secretariat has been transformed. This report provides a brief description of how these changes have been made so that UNAs may assess the implications for themselves and for the future services and support they may expect from the secretariat.

1.1 Rebuilding the secretariat

The 36th Plenary Assembly took place in Calcutta in April 2000. The follow-up meeting of the Executive Committee in Geneva, September 2000, gave top priority to establishing a functional secretariat. Three appointments were approved – Secretary-General, Ambassador Donald Blinken, Deputy Secretary-General and Representative in Geneva, Dr Macha Levinson, Assistant Secretary-General, Ms Pera Wells. Ambassador Blinken and Ms Wells were located in New York.

At the time, the office in New York had been closed for five months: all bank accounts had been shut down, although there were unpaid bills, including salary payments, telephone and postage, printing and claims from people who had purchased lithographs, but not received them. The WFUNA kiosk in the UN Visitors' Center was closed. It stood as a sad, silent reminder to everyone who went past, that WFUNA was down and out.

In the Geneva office, the necessary databases, files, accounts and communication systems for maintaining a global network of member associations were in disarray. Regrettably, the Deputy Secretary appointed in October 2000 to head this office resigned after six months. It was subsequently discovered that the only remaining staff member was there under false pretences. A contract with her had been fraudulently signed by the former Acting Secretary-General, after he had left the

office without the knowledge or prior approval of the Executive Committee. The 'contract' committed WFUNA to employ her, beyond the level of her competency, for five years. It took until mid 2002, and the cost of legal fees and settlement, to resolve this unpleasant situation.

During this time, the New York office gradually became operational. The tasks in the first few months were to open a bank account, clear away boxes of unwanted envelopes, set up computers and filing systems, recruit interns and volunteers and convene the 178th Ex Co meeting in New York in March/April 2001. Only after the success of this meeting, was an administrative position established in the office. Then, increasingly, the functions that were no longer being performed in Geneva, such as collection of membership dues and servicing of the Ex Co meetings, were transferred to the New York office. Two further meetings of the Ex Co were held in New York (179th Ex Co - September 2001 and 180th Ex Co - May 2002).

In May 2002, Ms Cilgia Caratsch was appointed to clean up and re-organize the Geneva office and later in the same month, Ms Bruna Faidutti was recruited as the Director. With the help of interns they structured the work in the office and relocated it from Pavillon Le Bocage to the core of the Palais des Nations. Much like the New York office, the first months were spent clearing away boxes of unwanted materials, setting up an operational structure, dealing with outstanding bills and legal issues and bringing the books and accounts back into order.

By the time of the 181st meeting of the Ex Co in December 2002, the Geneva office was back on track and fully operational. It successfully hosted this meeting. It helped to organize a Model United Nations event in Geneva and was an active participant in UN and NGO events. Through these activities and partnerships it reinforced WFUNA's presence in diplomatic and NGO circles at the UN in Geneva.

Today the two offices share the secretarial responsibilities of WFUNA, such as the collection of membership dues, servicing of UNAs visiting the UN and the organization of Ex Co meetings and the Plenary Assembly.

The establishment of the WFUNA Secretariat consists of the Secretary-General, Amb. Donald Blinken (pro bono, based in New York)

Four staff positions in the Geneva office: Bruna Faidutti, Representative and Director of the office; Uta Dirksen, Secretariat for the Barcelona Plenary, Cilgia Caratsch, Office Administrator, Beatrice Lueber, French Liaison officer. Since June 2002, 9 interns coming from Italy, Germany, Hungary, Britain, Russia, India and the US have been offered training at the Geneva office.

Three staff positions in the New York office: Pera Wells, Deputy Secretary-General, Stephanie Rossi, Communications Strategist and editor of UN Connections, Carolina Hernandez, Office Administrator. Since the New York office opened in October 2000, interns and volunteers have come from Argentina, Australia, Bhutan, Canada, Cote D'Ivoire, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, UK, US, Venezuela

The cost of maintaining the secretariat is about \$400,000 per annum. Audited accounts will be submitted to the Plenary Assembly for the years 2001/2002. The budget for 2003 will be considered by the Finance Committee at the 182nd Ex Co and recommendations forwarded to the Plenary Assembly. Budget estimates for

WFUNA's activities for 2004/5, indicating the estimated cost of core budget functions as well as of projects and programs that will require outside sources of funding will be available for consideration.

The Masaryk Center in Geneva, a basic youth hostel located near the United Nations, is partly a responsibility of WFUNA. It has had to face gradually increasing financial difficulties, which WFUNA tried to overcome by means of a grant of CHF 20'000 authorized by the 178th Ex Co in 2001. As the financial situation has not improved and in the absence of additional funds, the Masaryk Foundation has decided to close the Center by the end of August 2003.

The WFUNA kiosk at the visitors' center at United Nations Headquarters has been refurbished (at a cost of \$4000) and brought to life by volunteers who staff the kiosk from 10.00 – 4.00 each day. The main activities are selling the remaining lithographs and promoting public awareness of the role of United Nations Associations, Model UN and the Millennium Development Goals. Sales were valued at over \$9000 in 2002.

1.2. How the secretariat now performs its functions

The 178th meeting of the Executive Committee endorsed a strategic framework and action plan based on the following mission statement for WFUNA:

The mission of WFUNA is to inform, sustain and energize a global network of UNAs to support the principles and programs of the United Nations and to help shape its agenda.

All subsequent reports by the secretary-general on the work of the secretariat to meetings of the Executive Committee, as well as the minutes of each meeting, showed how this mission was being implemented: After each Executive Committee meeting, the minutes were sent to all UNAs and are now available on the WFUNA website. Copies of the minutes and reports will be on hand at the Plenary Assembly.

➤ **Towards a global network of UNAs**

The agenda of Ex Co meetings followed the logic of the mission statement: the first key item was WFUNA's global network of UNAs and consideration of applications of new members.

The Geneva office has re-established a functional and up-to-date database of UNAs, which gives an overview of their contact details, as well as information on each UNA's activities.

During the period under review, nine new UNAs have been approved by the Ex Co to join the World Federation, subject to the confirmation of the Plenary Assembly: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Guyana, Pakistan, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela. This makes a total of 103 UNAs worldwide.

More UNAs are in the process of being formed or revived in Benin, Indonesia, Mozambique, Portugal, Rwanda and South Africa. Funding is being sought to develop and support UNAs in francophone countries.

As only 3 UNAs exist so far in the Arab world, Egypt, Lebanon and Yemen, the UNA-Yemen has offered to host a workshop to which people from Arab countries would be invited to learn about how to set up and run their own UNA. As well, funding is currently being sought for a project aimed at developing UNAs and civil society in the Middle East by means of the Model United Nations Conferences. Consideration is being given to developing a project proposal for creating UNAs in Central Asia.

The 179th Executive Committee set up a Membership Committee to review applications for membership of WFUNA and to advise the Executive Committee on its recommendations. As well, the Membership Committee is expected to provide advice on other aspects of membership, including strategies for setting up UNAs where they do not currently exist, ensuring that the credentials of UNAs are maintained and dealing with situations where UNAs have collapsed or become discredited, for whatever reason. The fundamental question of how to revise the WFUNA membership dues schedule for UNAs has been considered by both the Membership and Finance Committees.

To encourage UNA members to network with each other and participate in UN meetings, an annual WFUNA meeting for UNAs is held on the weekend before the annual DPI/NGO conference at UN Headquarters in New York. This has two aims:

1. To give all UNAs an opportunity to participate in the renewal of WFUNA and in shaping future strategic directions.
2. To share information and ideas on how UNAs and WFUNA could help to implement the Millennium Declaration.

Thirty UNAs were represented at the first meeting, held in September 2001. Forty-six participants from 22 UNAs attended the 2002 meeting, which gave consideration to the aims and objectives of the 37th Plenary Assembly. Reports of both meetings were circulated to all UNAs and posted on the WFUNA website.

Creating a new global youth network or organization to be affiliated to WFUNA

At the 180th Ex Co in New York, the UN Youth and Student Association of Austria presented a proposal for setting up a new youth organization to be affiliated with WFUNA – they called it WFUNSYA. A task force was set up to consider the proposal which met in the context of the 2002 annual meeting of UNAs and later at the 181st Ex Co meeting in Geneva. As a result, a youth meeting is being held in conjunction with the Barcelona Plenary Assembly, to enable about 75 young people from 35 countries to come together and decide for themselves the most appropriate organizational model to adopt for a new global youth network and to propose a Memorandum of Understanding to the WFUNA Plenary, which will be the basis of coming to an agreement about the form of affiliation.

➤ **Facilitating effective communication with UNAs and between WFUNA/UNAs and the United Nations**

Developing a global network of UNAs, including youth, has been the top priority of the secretariat's mission. Facilitating effective communications with UNAs, between WFUNA/ UNAs and the United Nations, has been of equal importance. The vitality of a global network is a function of its systems of communication.

When the New York office was re-opened in October 2000, it was decided that the secretariat would optimize the use of email and the Internet in all communications with UNAs. Right from the start, all the communications relating to the Executive Committee have taken place through email.

At the same time priority has been given to assessing the online communication capacities of all UNAs – and to ensuring that those, which had email addresses, were included in the WFUNA E-group. As much as possible, information has been disseminated and shared through the WFUNA E-group, which now has over 215 listed members and averages 12 messages a month, many originating from UNAs. Other online groups have been created by the secretariat to facilitate networking on the Millennium Development Goals and among youth.

Today, on a daily basis, the WFUNA secretariat receives and responds to email messages from UNAs all over the world in many different languages. Regular mail-outs to UNAs have been continued and will continue.

The bi-monthly WFUNA newsletter, *UN Connections*, was launched in April 2002 and has proved a tremendous success. Each issue has been printed and sent out to all UNAs, UN secretariat staff and heads of all agencies and programs, diplomatic missions and media accredited to the UN. It is sent out as an email message to over 5000 people – including all NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC in New York, and posted on the WFUNA website in Spanish and French, thanks to the translation services of UNA Spain and the Geneva office

Over 30 UNAs have contributed information about their programs, Model UN activities, events, publications, bilateral visits and policy statements to be published in the newsletter. This has raised the visibility of the work of the UNAs, as well as enhanced the knowledge within our own network on the activities of Associations.

The feedback has been very positive. For example, UNAs have written:

"Most informative. It has kept us up to date on all areas and aspects of the United Nations and of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. We shall not fail to distribute this document into the schools, to the Public and Private Sectors and Community leaders. We are very happy and proud of this publication."

"I would like to thank WFUNA once again for the bulletin "UN Connections" which has been very useful to us".

"I read the WFUNA bulletins and admire the progress!"

To accommodate the newsletter on its Home Page, a new WFUNA website was designed and has been upgraded on a regular basis. It is gradually becoming more interactive and multilingual. There are now specific sections in English, Spanish and French, as well as an online translation facility into many other languages.

The website contains a directory of United Nations Associations with contact details and links to their websites. This feature, which is updated regularly, allows people to find out how to get involved in supporting the UN at a local level through their national UNA.

The website features information about the objectives, history, leadership and news and events of WFUNA. Shortly, it will have the capacity to receive online donations for WFUNA programs.

The website serves as a platform for the presentation of positions on major policy issues: over many UNAs posted their comments on the UN's role in disarming Iraq on the Message Board – they remain there as a valuable chronicle for all to see.

Fundraising has been successfully integrated into the secretariat's activities

The "Friends of WFUNA" was set up in 2001 to enable Americans to make tax-deductible donations to WFUNA. The New York office services this new facility.

A successful WFUNA fund-raising event, in tribute to WFUNA Honorary President, Arthur Ross, was held in 2002 at the United Nations headquarters, raising over \$130,000. Participants included the UN SG, Kofi Annan, UNDP Administrator Mark Malloch-Brown, UNICEF Director, Carol Bellamy, many Ambassadors and civil society leaders. This event has the potential to become a feature of the UN New York calendar.

Specific funding support has been successfully sought for new programs and projects, notably the newsletter, UN Connections, the annual online survey and report on "We the People – A Call to Action for the Millennium Declaration" and the new WFUNA brochure. Outside support for these programs amounted to \$143,000 over 2002-2003. With the aim of further developing WFUNA's capacity to help strengthen UNAs' engagement with the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, a project proposal has been submitted for additional funding of \$100,000 a year for 2003/4/5.

Fund-raising project proposals have been prepared on various themes: to Grow Model UN Globally, to support ICT capacity development for UNAs in Africa and elsewhere, to develop UNAs in francophone countries, to develop UNAs in the Middle East through MUN, to establish a partnership with the World Summit on the Information Society and to support a new WFUNA youth network. These proposals have been submitted to Foundations and Governments for consideration. Only when funding is made available can these and other projects be implemented.

Successive meetings of the Ex Co have considered strategies for fundraising. It is agreed that a concerted long-term effort by European UNAs to approach the European Union could yield fruitful results.

While it is not possible for the secretariat to provide direct funding support for UNAs or their projects, it is possible for the secretariat to provide moral and tactical support for each UNA's own fundraising efforts. Moreover there is great scope for WFUNA to facilitate exchanges of ideas and information that enable UNAs to develop project proposals that build partnerships between UNAs and UN agencies and programs.

WFUNA is more visible and valued at United Nations Headquarters and in Geneva, including at the highest levels.

UN SG Kofi Annan, in person and through his office, is in regular contact with the WFUNA SG and Secretariat. Under the patronage of the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Harri Holkeri, WFUNA co-sponsored a very successful symposium on UN Outreach to civil society, which was attended by Ambassadors, leading civil society actors and senior UN secretariat staff.

WFUNA now convenes a monthly round-table dialogue at UN Headquarters on the role of civil society in implementing the Millennium Development Goals, which are regularly attended by Ambassadors, NGOs, UN staff and media. Former President Kaunda of Zambia addressed the March meeting. Reports of meetings are posted on the WFUNA website and disseminated through the MDG campaign listserv.

WFUNA took an active part in the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, presenting statements on four issues (the elimination of racial discrimination, freedom of religion, migrant workers, human rights education) and chaired a roundtable on the UN Convention on Prevention and Repression of Genocide.

Both offices maintain close contact with senior officials in the UN Secretariat and Agencies - such as PAM, UNHCHR, ITU/WSIS, UNOPS, NGLS in Geneva and DPI, DESA UNDP, UNICEF, UNFIP in New York, to plan and discuss partnerships. WFUNA as well as CONGO is a partner with DESA in establishing the Informal Regional Networks of NGOs (IRENE). The offices have held briefings for NGOs, agencies and member states and are constantly in touch with representatives of UN, governments, civil society and the media.

WFUNA is becoming an integral part of global civil society networks that engage with the policy work of the United Nations.

The secretariat maintains links with a large number of NGO activists and networks, regularly attends NGO meetings, briefings and caucuses, academic and think-tank events concerning issues on the UN agenda. Through the WFUNA newsletter, UN Connections, information about and from these activities is shared with all UNAs – and global civil society more generally.

The purpose of WFUNA's project on the Millennium Declaration and its Development Goals (MDGs) is to empower civil society to hold governments accountable for their achievement - and in so doing maintain pressure for change on global and national governance structures to make them more democratic. Key components of the strategy include:

- Enhancing the capacity of United Nations Associations to mobilize local community-based civil society groups to take ownership of the MDGs and

actively participate in the MDGs implementation, while at the same time maintaining pressure on governments to uphold an inclusive, transparent and democratic approach.

- Promoting public awareness of the role of civil society in achieving the MDGs and the need to engage in major policy debates relating to democratic governance at global and national levels
- Producing an annual online survey and report that is the civil society counterpart to the UN's annual report on the Millennium Declaration. The 2002 Report: "We the Peoples: A Call to Action for the Millennium Declaration" was produced in English, French and Spanish.

Negotiations are under way with the secretariat of the World Summit of the Information Society to establish WFUNA as a partner of the WSIS civil society outreach; UNAs are set to play a central role as national focal points for the WSIS.

There is a strong assumption among many UNAs that WFUNA should be engaged with the policy debates taking place at the United Nations. This can be done through global conferences, ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and other means, including UN sponsored initiatives like the Global Compact or by sending statements to UN SG Kofi Annan, permanent missions to the United Nations, the media and NGOs.

The WFUNA Plenary Assembly is the policy making body of the Federation and it is expected that the Barcelona meeting will agree on a series of policy statements and strategies that can serve as the basis for WFUNA's active engagement with particular debates.

2. WFUNA's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats

In 2000, the UNAs of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark sent applications to their respective governments with four project proposals to support capacity building for UNAs in developing countries and a staff position in the Geneva office of WFUNA. In the event, the UNA-Denmark received funding and single handedly ran workshops for UNAs in Latin America (2001), Asia/Pacific (2002) and Africa (2003). The UNA-Finland provided funds and a project manager for a workshop in the context of the World Conference Against Racism, held in Durban in 2001. At the suggestion of UNA-Finland, the series of workshops became known as the WFUNA Academy for a Better UN. At the request of UNA-UK, the name was changed at the 181st Ex Co to WFUNA Academy for a Stronger UN.

The three sessions of the Academy sponsored by UNA Denmark have been highlights of the period under review. UNA-Denmark may present its own report to the Plenary. The opportunity is taken here to invite all UNAs to reflect – as did participants before each workshop – on the Strengths and Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) they saw for their own UNA. Drawing on the information provided by UNAs and from the experience of revitalizing WFUNA, here is a brief SWOT analysis of WFUNA's situation, as seen from the perspective of the secretariat.

2.1 Strengths

WFUNA benefits enormously from the quality and commitment of people all over the world to the shared sense of being a people's movement in support of the UN.

It was a brilliant concept to write the United Nations Charter in the name of "We the Peoples" and then to set up United Nations Associations in member states, uniquely privileged to use the UN logo, with the explicit aim of being a peoples' movement for the United Nations.

The great strategic achievement of the UN Millennium Summit in 2000 was to give new life and meaning to idea that the United Nations is there for "We the Peoples". The Millennium Development Goals that have been derived from the Summit Declaration are proving very dynamic because they are about putting people – human security - at the center of everything the United Nations does.

WFUNA too has gained new vitality and focus by harnessing its aim to be a peoples' movement in support of the UN to the debate about civil society's engagement with the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and it's Development Goals.

It says something about the value that the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, attaches to WFUNA's leadership in campaigning for implementation of the Millennium Declaration, that he wrote a message to congratulate us – and all UNAs - for the report "We the Peoples – A Call to Action for the Millennium Declaration" on 18 September 2002, within a week of its submission to him when the General Assembly was in full swing.

WFUNA's long time close relationship with the UN provides it and UNAs with ready access to the UN system and to UN Conferences. Through its global network of UNAs, WFUNA is in a unique position to facilitate connections between UN and civil society and to develop far reaching partnerships in support of the United Nations.

2.2 Weaknesses

As in many not-for profit organizations that rely very largely on people contributing time and energy on a voluntary basis, there is a tendency for the lines to become a bit blurred between the constitutional purpose of WFUNA – and UNAs - and the personal motivation of those who dedicate so much of themselves to our work. This is very understandable.

It shows up as a problem in WFUNA in various ways. The most troubling examples are those cases when an individual takes control of a United Nations Association and exploits the privileges of position for personal financial or political benefit. Occasionally the United Nations Resident Coordinators report such instances to the secretariat. We take whatever action is considered fair and appropriate to resolve what may sometimes simply be misunderstandings, but at other times, have been well-documented grounds for concern.

The best way to guard against this happening is for each UNA – no less than WFUNA – to have regular elections, transparent and accountable processes of administration and to promote a culture of openness and inclusiveness.

WFUNA is weakened when UNAs do not pay their membership dues, both because of the uncertainties this imposes on the management of the secretariat's core functions and because it prevents the concerned Members from exercising their full voting rights during Plenary Assemblies, thereby hampering the democratic processes of the Federation. Like UNAs, WFUNA lacks a regular and sufficient source of funding which would provide it with a sense of security and the ability to plan activities in the medium and long term.

2.3 Opportunities

The status and privileges enjoyed by each UNA at the national level depend upon its maintaining, in good order, its credentials as a member of the WFUNA. The World Federation is in effect a 'contract' between UNAs to work together in support of the United Nations. The secretariat serves to facilitate this.

The great opportunities available to WFUNA are no more or less than the willingness and capacity of UNAs to work together for shared objectives and mutually beneficial exchanges. UNAs in partnership with each other, and through WFUNA, are uniquely positioned:

- to support the setting up of new UNAs in parts of the world where they do yet exist to facilitate people to people exchanges to promote peace and understanding in areas of the world afflicted with conflict

- to promote global campaigns, such as for the alleviation of poverty, education of the girl child, or universal access to safe drinking water as spelt out in the Millennium Development Goals

- to promote fund-raising activities for special UN causes, such as the anti-landmine campaign

- to convene global, regional or national events, such as Model UN conferences, that bring young people into contact with issues on the agenda of the United Nations to create, together, a WFUNA calendar of events

- to undertake some of the promotional and outreach activities, typically performed by United Nations Information Centers (some of which may be closed at the national level and replaced by regional hubs)

- to inform and educate on the United Nations, bringing it closer to the people to facilitate peoples' access to the United Nations, allowing them to exercise their rights and legitimate influence over the United Nations.

These opportunities - and many more - will only be forthcoming if all UNAs meet their membership obligations to WFUNA. In the last few years, the Ex Co gave considerable latitude to the secretariat to take a lenient attitude towards UNAs that did not pay their membership dues or report on their activities. The time has come for the Plenary Assembly to consider this matter thoroughly and to provide clear guidance to the secretariat. It is recommended that this guidance take into account the question of the role of regional offices in raising UNA membership dues for the World Federation. It is essential for the continuing vitality of WFUNA that all UNAs clearly understand the opportunity cost of not meeting their obligations to each other and the consequences of failing to meet them, not just for themselves, but for WFUNA and for all other UNAs.

2.4 Threats

The major threat to WFUNA – and to the United Nations – is the build up of political divisions in the world at any given time. Pressures by political leaders to divide member states of the United Nations between ‘them and us’ have been mounting in recent months, in the context of the declared war against terrorism and the situation in the Middle East.

WFUNA survived the bi-polar tensions of the Cold War, serving as a valued channel of communication between people seeking to understand and resolve differences between their governments. Such channels of communication between peoples are as necessary today – and perhaps even more so.

The world situation is changing rapidly. The emergence of global peoples’ movements and networks, evident in the World Social Forum and protests all around the world against the war in Iraq, are calling into question the capacity of the United Nations to fulfill its mandate to “We the Peoples”. The threat to WFUNA, as to the United Nations itself, is that the creative energy of civil society will turn away from the UN into other channels of influence and action. This is one of the reasons that the Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, has set up a panel of eminent persons to advise him on the future of civil society relations with the UN. It is highly recommended that WFUNA demonstrate strong support for this initiative, including the submission of a well-researched paper to the panel, preferably as an outcome of the 37th Plenary Assembly.

3. Proposed strategic vision and program priorities through to the 38th Plenary Assembly, for the consideration, debate and decision of the Plenary Assembly.

This section offers a draft strategic vision and program priorities for consideration of the Plenary Assembly. It should be clearly understood that most of the proposed program priorities will require additional outside sources of funding.

The final program of action to be adopted will guide the work of the secretariat, under the supervision of the Ex Co, through to the 38th Plenary Assembly, where a report will be presented on the progress achieved in securing the outcomes.

Proposed outcome by PA38**WFUNA secretariat priority action**

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| 1. Membership – Grow the global network | |
| 1.1 Another 25 UNAs established by 2005, mainly in Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East – bringing the total number of UNA members of WFUNA up to 130. | Fund raising and other forms of support for conducting workshops on how to set up and run UNAs, including production of a manual. |
| 1.2 UNAs all over the world have a functioning office, an elected Executive Committee, an increasing dues-paying membership and other sources of funding. | In close collaboration with any regional UNA arrangements, work with UNAs to identify sources of support in the UN or Government to assist with office space and facilities, encourage information sharing between UNAs on strategies for increasing their memberships and for fundraising. |
| 1.3 All UNAs pay their membership dues to WFUNA in full and on time. | Invoices and receipts will be sent, as well as reminders as necessary; Monthly reports on status of dues payments circulated to the Ex Co. |
| 1.4 UNAs participate in WFUNA sponsored events and activities. | The next Plenary Assembly held in 2005, annual meetings are held for UNAs in conjunction with the DPI/NGO conference, capacity building workshops and other activities. |
| 2. Communication – Inform the global network | |
| 2.1. Members of all UNAs have the appropriate information and skills to communicate effectively with the public, governments and UN offices in their countries, as well as with WFUNA and other UNAs | Continued publication of <i>UN Connections</i> and Directory of UNAs, development of WFUNA's website, increased used of the E-groups and responding promptly to specific requests from UNAs for UN passes, information and advice. |
| 2.3. UNAs conduct a varied and productive program of activities throughout the year, increasingly serving as the national hub of community-based, civil society support for the United Nations | Co-ordinate a calendar of UNA events and activities and place on the website, with follow-up links, as appropriate, to UNAs and the UN. |
| 3. Education - Sustain the global network | |
| 3.1. UNAs collaborate with WFUNA and each other to promote educational activities, including Model UN. | Model UN events held in Asia/Pacific, Africa and Europe, and possibly elsewhere. |
| 4. Campaigns and special projects - Energize the Global Network | |
| 4.1 UNAs become engaged in global campaigns, notably for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. | Continued high priority given to promoting the role of UNAs and civil society in implementing the Millennium Development Goals. |
| 4.2 UNAs, particularly from developing countries, participate more actively in UN policy and program events for global civil society | Increase efforts to seek funding support and partnerships to facilitate the participation of UNAs in UN decision-making processes |

Appendix III



Financial Papers

2003 Budget

| | <u>Total Programs</u> | <u>Total Supporting</u> | <u>Supporting & Programs</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <u>NY & GVA</u> | <u>NY & GVA</u> | <u>Total NY & GVA</u> |
| | <u>Jan - Dec 03</u> | <u>Jan - Dec 03</u> | <u>Jan - Dec 03</u> |
| Income | | | |
| Interest Income | | 700.00 | 700.00 |
| Sales-Lithos/Registrations | | 14,000.00 | 14,000.00 |
| Grants- received | 30,000.00 | 157,000.00 | 187,000.00 |
| Grants- applied for | | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| Membership Dues | | 113,000.00 | 113,000.00 |
| Contributions (FOW) | | 197,590.00 | 197,590.00 |
| Total Income | <u>30,000.00</u> | <u>502,290.00</u> | <u>532,290.00</u> |
| Expenses | | | |
| Bank Service Charges | | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 |
| Internet access fees | 500.00 | 2,600.00 | 3,100.00 |
| Dues and Subscriptions | | 2,200.00 | 2,200.00 |
| Miscellaneous | | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Postage and Delivery | | 4,900.00 | 4,900.00 |
| Telephone | | 3,600.00 | 3,600.00 |
| Representation | | 14,100.00 | 14,100.00 |
| Insurance/Social charges/Taxes | | 38,500.00 | 38,500.00 |
| Printing and Reproduction | 10,000.00 | 14,200.00 | 24,200.00 |
| Travel | 4,000.00 | 27,200.00 | 31,200.00 |
| Office Expenses | | 21,500.00 | 21,500.00 |
| Rent- GVA only | | 17,250.00 | 17,250.00 |
| Professional Fees | 7,500.00 | 14,500.00 | 22,000.00 |
| Grants & Sponsorships | | 15,800.00 | 15,800.00 |
| Organizational & Adm costs (15%) | | | |
| Meeting expenses | 10,000.00 | 7,500.00 | 17,500.00 |
| Salaries | | 278,050.00 | 278,050.00 |
| Total Expenses | <u>32,000.00</u> | <u>464,900.00</u> | <u>496,900.00</u> |

Notes on the 2003 Budget

Program and supporting services

WFUNA's programs for 2003 depend upon outside sources of funding. They fall into the following groups:

Education: The purpose of this program is to promote research, information and education about the goals and work of the United Nations; promoting Model United Nations conferences, conduct of WFUNA Academy for a Stronger UN, ICT Capacity Building, including the Africa Focus project, and workshops

Global Millennium Campaign: The purpose of WFUNA's campaign is promote civil society engagement in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and its Development Goals; this is done through an online global survey, an annual report, monthly round-table dialogues at the UN in New York, MDG Campaign listserv, privacy-protected online searchable database and regional workshops on implementing MDGs.

WSIS-World Summit on Information Society: The purpose of this program is support the active participation of UNAs in the preparatory process for the Summit to be held in Geneva in December 2003 and Tunis in 2005.

Supporting services represent core budget activities and include the following:

Communications: Support all programs for public relations, editing, website updating and production of newsletter UN Connections.

Finance and Administration: Provides necessary support and leadership to all programs through planning, budget and accounting, establishment of organization-wide policies, and staff management and representation, as well as the kiosk in the UN visitors' center.

Fundraising: Activities and events aimed at raising funds for WFUNA.

Membership: To coordinate and enhance the activities of United Nations Associations and to promote the establishment of new UNAs; this is done through the Plenary Assembly Executive Committee meetings and annual meetings of UNAs, servicing UNA enquiries, facilitating UNA accreditation to UN meetings.

Income

1. Sales – Lithos/Registrations

Finance and Administration – The WFUNA Kiosk is expected to generate \$5000 in sales

Membership- It is estimated that \$9,000.00 will be collected in registration fees for the WFUNA Conference and Plenary.

2. Grants received

Education - a contribution of \$15,000.00 from the Open Society Institute received in 2002 was carried over to 2003 and it is proposed to divide the funds between the NY and Geneva offices.

Global Millennium Campaign - a contribution of \$15,000.00 from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund was received in April 2003.

Communication - a contribution of \$50,000 is forthcoming from the Ross Institute founded by Courtney Ross-Holst

Membership - a grant of \$10,000.00 from UNA/USA was received for the Plenary. Funds of \$48,000 from the closed Maurice Strong Foundation have been used for the Plenary.

3. Grants applied for

Education - A substantial project proposal has been developed to promote Model UN conferences in eleven countries in the Middle East over the next 3 years.
Global Millennium Campaign – The outcome of funding requests for project proposals and partnerships, for a 3-year period, should be known by the middle of June.

WSIS - A paper outlining WFUNA's project proposal was circulated to UNAs.
Membership - A matching grant of \$20,000.00 has been pledged by the Friends of WFUNA for UNA-sponsored project proposals emerging from the Barcelona Plenary Assembly.

4. Membership Dues

The revised Dues schedule to be voted on by the Plenary provides a total of \$ 113,000. 00 Dues are collected in both Geneva and New York and final estimate is shown in the column headed: Total supporting NY and Geneva.

5. Contributions: Friends of WFUNA (FOW)

Finance and Administration
NY- General Support
GVA- General Support

Fundraising

Estimated funds to be raised from annual NY luncheon and other activities.

Membership

The Friends of WFUNA has matched funds raised by UNAs for the Barcelona Plenary to assist with the travel costs of participants from developing countries and the running of the conference.

Expenses

An effort will be made to reduce or subsidize the rent of the Geneva office.

The Secretariat has functioned on the principle that any new staff position or new program activity needs to have secured outside funding to be maintained.

The existing staff establishment in Secretariat of a pro bono Secretary-General and 4 paid positions in Geneva and 3 paid positions in New York may need to be reviewed in light of the decisions made by the Plenary.

WFUNA Financial Position as of 1 April 2003

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Balance of Friends of WFUNA: | \$256,942.22 |
| Balance of WFUNA- New York Accounts | \$29,694.08 |
| Balance of WFUNA Geneva Accounts as of 1 April 2003 | \$54,268.19 |
| -Operating accounts | \$2,539.13 |
| - Foundation | \$48,417.62 |
| - Joint account in \$ | \$3,311.44 |

Total **\$340'904.49**

Comparison between WFUNA's financial position at 1 April 2002 and today

| | 1 April 2002 | 1 April 2003 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Friends of WFUNA | \$198,310.38 | \$256,942.22 |
| Balance of WFUNA-New York accounts | \$74,611.65 | \$29,694.08 |
| Balance of WFUNA- Geneva accounts | \$71,200.00 | \$50'956.75 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>\$344,122.03</u> | <u>\$340'904.49</u> |

Dues payments received in Jan 2003:

2002 Dues

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|-----|
| Australia | \$ 1,157.00 | NY |
| Norway | \$ 1,500.00 | NY |
| India | \$ 1,800.00 | GVA |
| Total | \$ 4,457.00 | |

Dues Payments received in Feb 2003:

2002 Dues

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----|
| Congo DR | \$472.00 | NY |
| Japan | \$10,000.00 | NY |
| Kyrgyz Republic | \$360.00 | NY |
| Romania | \$360.00 | GVA |
| Yemen | \$360.00 | NY |

2003 Dues

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|-----|
| UK | \$11,160.00 | NY |
| Finland | \$1,500.00 | GVA |
| New Zealand | \$250.00 | NY |
| Czech Republic | \$720.00 | NY |

Total \$19582.00

Dues Payments received in March 2003 :

2002 Dues

| | | |
|---------------|----------|----|
| Dominican Re. | \$360.00 | NY |
|---------------|----------|----|

2003 Dues

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-----|
| Cambodia | \$360.00 | NY |
| Spain | \$1800.00 | GVA |
| Italy | \$4620.00 | GVA |

Total \$7140.00

Dues Payments received in April 2003:

2002 Dues

| | | |
|--------------|----------|----|
| Mauritius | \$360.00 | NY |
| Ghana | \$360.00 | NY |
| Sierra Leone | \$360.00 | NY |

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----|
| Iran | \$360.00 | GVA |
| 2003 Dues | | |
| Cuba | \$405.84 | NY |
| Russia | \$400.00 | NY |
| Malaysia | \$420.00 | NY |
| Total | \$2665.84 | |

Appendix IV



Revised Dues Schedule

| National UNA | % WFUNA Dues Assessment according to LIN | Contribution To WFUNA % of \$100,000 in USD with minimum of \$250 USD | Current Contribution to WFUNA in USD |
|--------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Afghanistan | 0.009 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Angola | 0.002 | 250.00 | |
| Antigua | 0.002 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Argentina | 1.149 | 1149.00 | 360.00 |
| Australia | 1.627 | 1627.00 | 4080.00 |
| Austria | 0.947 | 947.00 | 1500.00 |
| Bangladesh | 0.01 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Barbados | 0.009 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Belarus | 0.019 | 250.00 | 420.00 |
| Belgium | 1.129 | 1129.00 | 2100.00 |
| Benin | 0.002 | 250.00 | |
| Bhutan | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Bolivia | 0.008 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Brazil | 2.39 | 2390.00 | 720.00 |
| Bulgaria | 0.013 | 250.00 | 420.00 |
| Cambodia | 0.002 | 250.00 | |
| Cameroon | 0.009 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Canada | 2.558 | 2558.00 | 4620.00 |
| Central African Republic | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Chile | 0.212 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| China | 1.532 | 1532.00 | 2400.00 |
| Congo | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Croatia | 0.039 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Cuba | 0.030 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Cyprus | 0.038 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Czech Republic | 0.203 | 250.00 | 720.00 |
| Democratic Rep. Of Congo | 0.004 | 250.00 | |
| Denmark | 0.749 | 749.00 | 1800.00 |
| Dominican Republic | 0.023 | 250.00 | |
| Ecuador | 0.025 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Egypt | 0.081 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Estonia | 0.01 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Ethiopia | 0.004 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Finland | 0.522 | 522.00 | 1500.00 |
| France | 6.466 | 6466.00 | 3000.00 |
| Georgia | 0.005 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Germany | 9.769 | 9769.00 | 13800.00 |
| Ghana | 0.005 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Gibraltar | | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Greece | 0.539 | 539.00 | 1500.00 |
| Guatemala | 0.027 | 250.00 | 360.00 |

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Guinea | 0.003 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Guyana | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Hungary | 0.12 | 250.00 | 900.00 |
| Iceland | 0.033 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| India | 0.341 | 341.00 | 1800.00 |
| Indonesia | 0.2 | 250.00 | 420.00 |
| Iran | 0.272 | 272.00 | 360.00 |
| Ireland | 0.294 | 294.00 | 420.00 |
| Israel | 0.415 | 415.00 | 420.00 |
| Italy | 5.06475 | 5064.75 | 4620.00 |
| Jamaica | 0.004 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Japan | 19.51575 | 19515.75 | 15900.00 |
| Kenya | 0.008 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Korea | 1.851 | 1851.00 | 1800.00 |
| Kyrgyz Rep. | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Latvia | 0.01 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Lebanon | 0.012 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Lesotho | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Liberia | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Lithuania | 0.017 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Luxembourg | 0.080 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Malaysia | 0.235 | 250.00 | 420.00 |
| Mali | 0.002 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Mauritius | 0.011 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Mexico | 1.086 | 1086.00 | 1800.00 |
| Mongolia | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Mozambique | 0.001 | 250.00 | |
| Nepal | 0.004 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Netherlands | 1.738 | 1738.00 | 1800.00 |
| New Zealand | 0.241 | 250.00 | 720.00 |
| Nicaragua | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Nigeria | 0.068 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Norway | 0.646 | 646.00 | 1500.00 |
| Panama | 0.018 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Pakistan | 0.061 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Peru | 0.118 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Philippines | 0.1 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Poland | 0.378 | 378.00 | 360.00 |
| Romania | 0.058 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Russia | 1.200 | 250.00 | 390.00 |
| Samoa | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Senegal | 0.005 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Sierra Leone | 0.001 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Singapore | 0.393 | 393.00 | 420.00 |
| Slovakia | 0.043 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Slovenia | 0.081 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| South Africa | 0.408 | 408.00 | 360.00 |
| Spain | 2.51875 | 2518.75 | 1800.00 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.016 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Sudan | 0.006 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Suriname | 0.002 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Sweden | 1.02675 | 1026.75 | 3000.00 |
| Switzerland | 1.274 | 1274.00 | 3000.00 |
| Tanzania | 0.004 | 250.00 | 360.00 |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Thailand | 0.294 | 294.00 | 420.00 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0.016 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Turkey | 0.444 | 444.00 | 1500.00 |
| Uganda | 0.005 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| UK | 5.536 | 5536.00 | 12000.00 |
| USA | 22.000 | 22000.00 | 216000.00 |
| Venezuela | 0.208 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Virgin Island | | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Yemen | 0.006 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Yugoslavia | 0.020 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Zambia | 0.002 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| Zimbabwe | 0.008 | 250.00 | 360.00 |
| | | | |
| Total | | \$113,623.00 | \$333,030.00 |

Appendix V



Messages

Message from Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations

You have gathered at a crucial time in the life of the United Nations. The feeling of global insecurity has seldom, if ever, been greater than it is today. We live in a world where unprecedented wealth coexists with terrible deprivation. Globalization brings opportunities for some, but excludes far too many. Interdependence and open borders knit us closer together, while intolerance drives us apart. Science offers unprecedented promise, yet AIDS kills a child every minute. Technological progress enables us to communicate in a split second across thousands of miles, but has given international terrorists tools that can help them in their plans to obliterate thousands of people in the same split second. From the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to the trafficking of small arms, from climate change to the spread of new, deadly viruses, more and more of the problems we face are global, with the potential to threaten not only our stability, but our survival.

These issues are not new to the United Nations agenda. But for many, they were brought into more acute and painful focus after the events of 11 September 2001, and now even more so by the war in Iraq. And yet, despite the sense of vulnerability and uncertainty that pervades the global consciousness, people and nations retain the hope of strengthening the foundations of stability and uniting around a common humanity. The world's people still turn to the United Nations, both as an embodiment of shared principles and ideals, and as an instrument for addressing their common concerns and improving the human condition.

The Organization -- for all its imperfections, real and perceived -- has built up unique experience in dealing with a range of crises and issues of common concern to humankind. In these endeavors, the United Nations has drawn strength from the energies and dedication of its partners. The World Federation of United Nations Associations is one such vital contributor, working at the grass roots of our membership 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 and in particular for focusing such attention on attracting young people to this cause. Please accept my best wishes for a successful conference.

Kofi A. Annan

Message from Mr. Halim Hashim, President of the WFUNA

Delivered by Dr. Syed Mhammad Shahed

Honorable Members of Head Table, Delegates, Friends, ladies and gentlemen, at the outset I beg to express my apologies to you all for not being present in person before you today, due to SARS, to address you as the outgoing President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

I was first elected as your President in 1995 at the 35th Plenary Assembly at San Francisco. It was a great honor and privilege bestowed upon me. In 1996 we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of WFUNA at Luxembourg. WFUNA was passing through a very difficult financial situation. Although Executive Committee met regularly, twice a year, but the scheduled next 36th Plenary Assembly could not take place in 1997 in Oslo. Those were really challenging times for WFUNA. During this critical time I was greatly supported by the members of the WFUNA Executive Committee and the National UNAs. I would like to particularly mention here, about Mr. Malcolm Harper the then Chairman for standing by my side as a major source of strength. At this juncture Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, President of Soka Gakkai International, Tokyo, Japan came to our rescue and helped us financially and I am grateful to him for his timely assistance and valuable guidance. Subsequently, the Executive Committee decided at its meeting to make him an Honorary Adviser to WFUNA.

In spite of mine, and the Executive Committee's best effort, it was not possible to hold the Plenary Conference, as a suitable host was not available. I was not feeling personally very comfortable in continuing as President of WFUNA after completing 2 years' terms on the basis of constitutional position that the President's term continues till next Plenary is held. To my great relief my own UNA – Indian Federation of UN Association – came forward and I would like to record my gratefulness to IFUNA President, Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, who is also the Honorary President of WFUNA for his gesture and initiative. My colleague Mr. Sitaram Sharma, WFUNA Deputy Secretary-General and Regional Director for Asia – Pacific took almost single handed the big responsibility of hosting and organizing the 36th WFUNA Plenary Assembly in June 2000 in Kolkata, India. It turned out to be a good plenary with many important and far-reaching decisions. Prior to the Plenary at Kolkata I was invited by Mr. Arthur Ross to visit New York and hold discussions on the future of WFUNA and problems facing WFUNA. Arthur Ross in his magnanimity and generosity came forward with support, guidance and assistance to save WFUNA from total insolvency and various other problems into which WFUNA had got into over a period of time. The decision was taken to elect Mr. Arthur Ross (USA) as the Honorary President of WFUNA, in view of his valuable contribution and significant role he had played in bringing WFUNA around. I would like to take this opportunity to record my deep appreciation of his zeal, hard work and hope. WFUNA will continue to receive his support and guidance for a long time to come.

When I was in New York, Arthur Ross arranged a Luncheon Meeting with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in the UN Building to discuss how the UN could further assist WFUNA. It was decided at that meeting that the WFUNA Office in New York will be upgraded, our office in Geneva would be brought into the main Palais des Nations building and better equipment and interns will be provided to both

the offices which has already been done. We have not yet surmounted all our difficulties. We have not yet achieved our goal of having a Secretariat, headed by a full time, salaried and elected Secretary-General at Headquarters of WFUNA in Geneva. It is important for effective and democratic functioning in the interests of member UNAs. Unfortunately we have not been able to provide necessary strength and support to the Regional Offices in different continents, which is so important for de-centralized functioning and to ensure voluntary involvement in an international NGO.

During my tenure I had the privilege of visiting a large number of UNAs in different parts of the world. It was an enriching experience and re-affirmed my views that WFUNA lives and functions through these UNAs, not merely in New York or Geneva offices.

It has been a great honor and privilege for me to serve as your President. I have made many friends. The love and respect showed by each one of you has really overwhelmed me. I will continue to be a soldier of this great people's movement for UN. I would like to thank each member and staff of the Secretariat for their excellent work and cooperation.

Over the years many of our colleagues have left us after having served and contributed a good part of their lives for the cause of WFUNA. Today I would like to remember and pay tribute to some of those who worked with me – Mr. Hilary G. Barratt Brown, Mr. Roger Shipton, Ms Annabelle and Mr. Bob Wiener, Mr. S.D. Pandey, Mr. Syed Ahmad Hossain, Mr. Erskine Childers.

Delegates and Friends, over the years United Nations has done commendable work through its various activities in the field of health, poverty eradication, drinking water, empowerment of women, human rights, problems of refugees, environment, labor, specially of child labor, elimination of racial discrimination, establishment of various laws including law of the sea etc. Millions of people have access to clean drinking water. Through the agencies of UNHCR refugees all over the world are being rehabilitated and repatriated. Undernourished and hungry people were provided with nourishment, food, and medicines. Education has reached remote corner of the globe even in certain inaccessible regions because of the good work done by UNESCO and other UN agencies. It is imperative that an organization, like ours, the only NGO that works fully and totally for the United Nations to carry on a sustained program to make the United Nations and its programs more popular and attractive to the people.

Unfortunately, on the other hand, its role in maintaining international peace has not been that successful. When we see what happened in Iraq, recently a very gloomy picture appears and at the outset I would like to point out that what has been touted as a war in Iraq was in reality an armed aggression by the Coalition forces on a defenseless country while United Nations looked helplessly and at time appeared to be an accomplice.

If we look into the background of the whole issue we will find that since 1991 Iraq has been under serious sanctions from the United Nations and the country and its people have been severely hit economically and materially because of those sanctions. There were two areas covering large parts of the country, which were no fly zones.

They could not fly their own aircraft within their own territory. Weapon inspectors under the guidance and mandate of UN have been touring and inspecting all parts of their country and verifying armaments, stockpile of war machinery. The entire defense mechanism became known to inspectors, which in turn were being handed over to the members of Security Council, which included USA and Britain. Iraq had often protested that the weapon inspectors are spying and doing espionage work but their voice was a voice in the wilderness. The electronic and print media owned by USA and Britain and other big business houses had wanted to show that a heroic battle was fought and won by the Coalition forces. It is nothing but a farce because Iraq had no defense mechanism and a war that never took place was won before it was even fought, taking lives of thousands of men, women, children and elderly people and injuring many more.

The question is who is accountable and who is answerable and why did the United Nations fail and how? Members of Security Council could defy decisions of the Security Council brazenly. Was it not a challenge to the Security Council and United Nations itself? More so when Hans Blix wanted only four months more to complete his inspection. No weapon of mass destruction has yet been found. United Nations has to take steps immediately and to take charge of the country. Set up its own administration through Iraqi administrators. Call upon the coalition forces to pay for the entire reconstruction program of the country. The army does not know how to act in a democratic manner and does not recognize the right of democratic protest. Millions of dollars of contracts are now being given to American companies, American administrators are being appointed to administer a country. This is in gross violation of the Geneva Convention. No occupation force can set up an administration for more than six months. United Nations have to act now and act with firmness, failing which United Nations will go the way of the League of Nations.

Dear Delegates I have taken much of your time. I do not wish to burden you further. I wish this conference all success and hope you will give your considered thoughts on current issues facing the United Nations and before you leave for your respective countries you will be in a position to advise the United Nations in the present situation as to what its role should be. Looking forward to serving you in whatever capacities I may in future. Thank you,

Message from Mr. Arthur Ross, Honorary President

Delivered by Amb. William van der Heuvel

Dear friends,

I greatly regret not being with you on the occasion of this 37th plenary of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. I share your enthusiasm for all that has been accomplished since the last plenary in Calcutta by our distinguished Secretary-General, Donald Blinken and Deputy Secretary-General, Pera Wells in New York. Our Geneva office is well led by Bruna Faidutti. The Secretariat offices are now firmly established. We are a well-organized global association poised, at a critical point in the history of the United Nations, to play an active role in supporting and shaping the UN agenda.

The political arm of the United Nations is presently challenged as never before. So it is, that the world federation of United Nations associations, as the most important NGO devoted exclusively to the support of the United Nations, can be an indispensable element in achieving world order.

At the same time, I feel responsible for striking a grave note in connection with our financial position and our ability to continue our activities at this level for any length of time. As we all know by now, the member dues to WFUNA total only \$100,000, if fully subscribed, and there is a carefully controlled overhead of \$400,000. Nevertheless the secretariat has received no financial support from its 100 members, other than the dues. As for the plenary expenses, despite our appeal, no support was forthcoming from the membership other than the considerable generosity and organized hospitality of UNA-Spain and further contributions from two other UNAs.

The secretariat has been able to maintain its operations due to private support, which obviously cannot be expected to be available on this scale indefinitely. New programs and sources of income are required to be embraced, and it is urged that the following recommendations be seriously considered.

(1) The dues schedule needs revision.

(2) A UNA should be selected from each region and be responsible for:
The prompt payment of dues by regional members.
The organizing and launching of the model UN program, the adopt-a-minefield program and other such efforts to be utilized for fundraising purposes.
Other fundraising efforts are to be put in place and directed at institutions, industries, individuals and governments
Goals should be set and a determined effort made to achieve them.

The time has come, and it cannot be long delayed, for our members to unite in support. WFUNA is in possession of a unique apparatus of global consequence that can contribute significantly to the purposes of peace, development and other UN objectives. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to participate in the carrying out of these purposes. Forsake them not.

Message from Mr. Horace Perera, Honorary President

Delivered by Mrs. Bruna Faidutti

Mr. President, Honored Guests, Mr. Secretary-General, Delegates. Observers and other Ladies and Gentlemen. I am very sorry not to be participating with you in this particular session of our Plenary Assembly. I have been associated with the Federation, in various capacities, since 21 March 1961 and will continue to do so as long as my health permits and my assistance is welcome. As a matter of fact, this is the first time in forty-three years that I will be missing a session of this Supreme Organ of WFUNA. I am not shy to admit to you all that on 9 May this year I shall be celebrating the 88th anniversary of my birth. In other words, half my life has been devoted to promoting the aims and objectives of our Federation. I have sent the Secretariat a résumé of my service in and for WFUNA. I hope that they will find the time to distribute it to the delegates.

My Honorable friend, our President, the Hon. Hashim Abdul Halim, has in his address recounted the vast achievements of the United Nations in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and humanitarian fields. The UN has had a measure of success in the political field too. It has prevented a number of regional conflicts developing into global wars because those concerned were willing to use its machinery. The question that has to be asked today is not so much “What has the United Nations achieved?” but “What would have been the state of the world today but for the United Nations?”

President Halim has referred to what historians may call the Second Gulf War. Some later historians may, after all records are declassified, refer to it as the beginning of the New Imperialism. The Old imperialists also went to the South to “civilize barbarians”. I would like to make one comment. So far coalition forces have not found Weapons of Mass Destruction. Donald Rumsfeld and the Hon. the President of the USA, are both reported as saying that that will take more time and more personnel. Could not Hans Blix and his team of Inspectors have been given that time and thereby saved so much bloodshed, suffering, cultural destruction and damage to the UN’s authority. Was four months too long for War Lords to wait?

The USA is a solitary super power today. Where are the great Empires of the past? While History moves on burying each in time greater superpowers will emerge. It in this context that I draw attention to President Kennedy’s reminder to his fellow Americans that they must face the fact “that we are only six percent of the world’s population – that we cannot impose our will on the other ninety-four percent of mankind – that we cannot right every wrong or reverse every adversity – and that therefore there cannot be an American solution to every problem”.

Much was said in recent months about the need for the UN to make itself relevant. Under the influence of which super power was the UN made irrelevant while about nine hundred thousand Tutsis were being massacred in Rwanda? Which super power was prepared only to lease (not supply free) armored carriers to six African Nations, which needed them to intervene to stop the genocide?

I wish to refer to WFUNA’s recent past so that its future can be better understood and planned. I saw the decline of the Federation begin as early as 1991. The wonderful

spectacle of the WFUNA World Congress in 1996, so ably crafted by the legendary Erskine Childers, appeared to me, at that time, as the last flicker of the candle. Fortunately the Federation was saved by the appearance of Arthur Ross with whose help a WFUNA team prepared most of the arrangements adopted, and the elections held in Calcutta and completed by the 177th session of the Executive Committee. I have worked closely and very cordially with Ms. Pera Wells whose work shows her own dedication and equally that of her supportive staff in New York. I have worked directly and almost daily with the Geneva Office and with my long experience of WFUNA I have nothing but praise for the youthful, pleasant, competent and hard working team in Geneva working as a closely knit unit under the friendly direction of the gently smiling, softly speaking Bruna Faidutti. The UNAs individually and collectively owe the Secretariat and the Officers of WFUNA a great debt, which is best paid by effective co-operation. The future of WUNA depends on the extent of that co-operation.

I wish to conclude with a reference to a statement made in a message by the UN Secretary-General to the Inaugural Session of WFUNA on 2 August 1947. He said: "The work of your Associations and your Federation are not a luxury. They are an integral part of the work of the United Nations since it is upon you that falls the essential task of mobilizing through out the world the conscience of the people in the cause of security and peace". We dare not fail.

Message from the United Nations Association of China

WFUNA will elect a new President, Chairperson and Secretary-General at its 37th Plenary Assembly and the first session of the new Executive Committee to be held in May in Barcelona. This election is very important to WFUNA and its member UNAs. UNA-China sincerely hopes that a strong leadership will be elected and the present renewal momentum will be kept to lead WFUNA to new and greater achievements.

The present President, Chairperson and Secretary-General, together with the Executive Committee and the Secretariat, have done a good job since the 36th Plenary Assembly. Now WFUNA is back to the international NGO community with some good projects and programs and has re-built partnership with the UN departments and agencies and other NGOs. The communication between WFUNA Headquarters and member UNAs and among UNAs has been greatly improved, thus enhancing the cohesive strength of WFUNA. These are some changes and achievements. In this context UNA-China wishes to pay a tribute to Mr. Hashim Abdul Halim, WFUNA President, who has made valuable contributions in leading WFUNA out of difficulties onto its road of renewal. It is a regret that he is not eligible for re-election at the forthcoming Plenary Assembly.

It is clear but nothing strange that WFUNA has its weak points and room for improvement. It would surely take more time than three years for WFUNA to change from semi-paralyzed situation back to normal and further to efficient and productive operation. When people have different expectations, visions and focuses about WFUNA, it will also take time before consensus could be reached. At present unilateralism and the Iraq War have constituted a serious challenge to the UN and the international order based on rule of law. This calls for a stronger UN. UNA-China wholeheartedly hopes that a strong leadership will be elected to guide WFUNA forward to its shared vision of building a dynamic people's movement for a strong UN.

UNA-China holds that a fundamental principle in the election is an equitable geographic distribution and balanced representation between developing and developed countries. In some cases, it is realistic to be flexible.

UNA-China has no plan to recommend new candidates for any posts of the leading officers except that UNA-China would like to recommend Ambassador CHEN Pingchu as a candidate for re-election of a Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee. Ambassador CHEN was elected member and vice-chairman of the Executive Committee at the 36th Plenary Assembly held in 2000. His term of Executive Committee membership will continue till the 38th Plenary Assembly and he is eligible for another term of the vice-chairman of the Executive Committee. During the past three years, Ambassador CHEN attended all the sessions of the Executive Committee and made contributions with his firm commitment to the UN and his constructive and pragmatic approaches. UNA-China hopes that Ambassador CHEN will be supported and elected Executive Committee Vice-Chairman at the coming 37th Plenary Assembly.

As far as I know, there are no candidates officially recommended / nominated for the posts of new leading officers of WFUNA so far. The past three years of WFUNA

renewal have seen several good names for these posts. It is probable that there will be many candidates to be nominated for the posts in the next few days. UNA-China believes that all candidates intend to work for the common good of WFUNA and hopes that a consensus will be reached through dialogue and consultation. This will demonstrate WFUNA's maturity and vitality for greater achievements. UNA-China wishes the election a success.

Message from the United Nations Association of the Kyrgyz Republic

Dear colleges,

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC greets all the participants of the 37th Plenary Assembly of the WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS. Unfortunately, the delegation of United Nations Association of the Kyrgyz Republic could not take part in this significant event. However we would like to confirm devotion of our association to the purposes of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

We would like to express our support to acting secretary-general of the WFUNA Donald Blinken and appeal to participants of plenary assembly to approve his nomination. And also appeal to approve amendments to the WFUNA's constitution. We hope that there will be an warm and friendly atmosphere at assembly.

With best regards,

Ednan Karabaev

President of the UNA of the Kyrgyz Republic

Appendix VI



Amendments to the Constitution

Following is the text of the amendments to the WFUNA Constitution as adopted by roll call by the 37th Plenary Assembly of WFUNA:

Please Note:

The use of the masculine pronoun in the present constitution as a generic term will be remedied.

Art. 42 and WFUNA relations with ISMUN

Article 42 will be abrogated. But since the acronym, ISMUN appears in several Articles of the Constitution, to avoid unnecessary repetition it follows that with the abrogation of Article 42 all references to ISMUN in the Constitution are expunged.

Members and Associates

Art. 2:

(a) United Nations Associations, which accept the objectives set out in Article 1 of this Constitution and which are legally established in States Members of the United Nations are eligible for admission as Members Associations, hereinafter referred to as Members.¹

(b) Not more than one United Nations Association from any State shall be admitted as a Member.²

(c) International - including regional - organizations, non-governmental organizations, entities accorded Observer Status by the United Nations and non-governmental organizations in Consultative Relations with ECOSOC can be admitted as International Associates, provided they accept the objectives, the aims and the constitution of the Federation. The Executive Committee may grant consultative status with the Federation to such International Associates.

(d) Individuals committed to the ideals, aims and objectives of the United Nations and who are prepared to support the Federation's programs may be admitted as Individual Associates. Should such individuals be nationals of countries in which the Federation has a Member, the Member concerned must approve the admission of an individual.

(e) All other categories of Non-Voting Associates may be admitted by the Executive Committee through procedures proposed by the Secretary-General and approved by the Executive Committee.

Admission

¹ Note: with the adoption of the above-mentioned amendments the Federation has three categories of affiliates: Member Associations (hereinafter referred to as Members), International Associates and Individual Associates.

² Note: The existing sections (c) and (d) shall be replaced by the (c) and (d) stated below and an additional clause (e) shall be added.

Art. 3:

In (a) and (c) add, after the word Member: or International or Individual Associates³.
(d) shall read as follows:

If applications for admission are received for any category of affiliates more than twelve months before an ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly, the Executive Committee may admit them provided it does so with a two-thirds majority of those present and voting and subject to confirmation by the next ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly.

(e) All applications for admission as Members of the Federation shall be accompanied by:

sub-paragraphs 1, 2,3, 4 remain as present.

(f) The application for affiliation by International Associates and Individual Associates shall be left to the discretion of the Executive Committee and any decision to admit such Associates shall be taken by two thirds majority of those present and voting subject to confirmation by the next ordinary session of the Plenary Assembly. In the case of Individual Associates who are nationals of a State in which the Federation has a Member, the Member concerned must approve the admission.

Termination of Membership and of Association

Art. 4:

Subsection (c) to be deleted

PLENARY ASSEMBLY

Composition

Art. 7:

(a) The Plenary Assembly shall consist of delegations appointed by Members, by representatives of International Associates and by Individual Associates, each in their capacity set forth in this constitution.

(b) Each Member shall be represented in the Assembly by no more than five delegates and five alternates.

(c) Each International Associate shall be represented by no more than two representatives.

(d) Individual Associates, Officers and Honorary Presidents of the Federation as well as members of the Executive Committee shall have the right to attend the Plenary Assembly.

Ordinary Sessions

Art. 10:

(a) The Plenary Assembly shall meet in ordinary session at least once every three years.

Quorum

Art. 13:

The quorum of the Plenary Assembly shall consist of two fifths of the Members qualified to vote.

³ Note: In subsequent Articles the terms Member or Members shall, as far as appropriate, be followed by the terms International Associates and Individual Associates.

Article 15:

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

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Composition

Art. 17:

(a) The Executive Committee shall consist of eighteen individuals, each from a different Member. Following a system of rotation nine of them whose term of office has ended shall cease to be members of the Executive Committee and elections shall be held to fill the vacancies thus created. The other nine shall continue as members of the Executive till the end of the next Plenary Assembly. (See below Art. 18(f))

Art. 18:

Article 18 (a) remains as present.

(b) Each candidate for election to the Executive Committee must be nominated by the delegation to the Plenary Assembly of the Member to which the candidate belongs and seconded by another delegation to the Plenary Assembly

(c) In electing members of the Executive Committee, the Plenary Assembly shall give due regard to the qualifications of the nominees, their availability and to equitable geographical distribution.

(d) Only Members with voting rights can nominate and second such candidatures.

(e) Candidates for election to the Executive Committee cannot be from a Member from which the President and the Vice-Presidents are elected. .4

(f) The term of office of the members of the Executive Committee shall be from the end of the session of the Plenary Assembly at which they are elected to the end of the second following session of the Plenary Assembly. They are eligible for immediate re-election for one additional term. This does not prevent candidatures for election to the Executive Committee being from the Member to which the “retiring” Executive Committee member belonged. Nor does it prevent the “retiring” member of the Committee seeking election at the following session of the Plenary Assembly.

Due to the insertion of additional sub-paragraphs the present paragraph 18 (e) becomes 18 (f), the present 18 (f) becomes 18 (h) and the present 18 (g) becomes 18 (i).

Functions

Art. 19:

Add

(e) Acting with Plenary authority in the interval between Plenary Assemblies, except to the extent that such actions would be inconsistent with this Constitution or binding decisions of the Plenary Assembly.

SECRETARIAT

Composition

Art. 27:

(d) 1. The Heads of such Offices shall be appointed by the Secretary-General for fixed terms; as staff members of the Secretariat, they shall be subject to the Rules and Regulations thereof.

General Regulations

Art. 28:

(d) Each Member, each Associate, Officers of the Federation, Honorary Presidents and members of the Executive Committee undertake to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

OFFICERS

Officers

Art. 29:

(a) The Officers of the Federation shall be the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer and the Secretary-General.

Treasurer

Art. 32:

(c) The Treasurer together with Secretary-General and the Executive Committee shall be responsible for:
the present items 1-8 remain.

FINANCES

Dues in Arrears

Art. 38:

(d) If the debt of a Member rises at any time to the equivalent of three years' dues and is not reduced, and if no agreement is concluded for its settlement, the Executive Committee may recommend to the Plenary Assembly the termination of membership of such a Member.

Budget

Art. 39:

(a) The Budget of the Federation shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Treasurer and, following adequate consideration by the Finance Committee, shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for transmission, with or without comments, but with an appropriate recommendation to the Plenary Assembly for final adoption.

Accounts

Art. 40:

(a) The Secretary-General shall, for each financial year, prepare a statement of expenditure and income together with a general balance sheet of the assets and liabilities of the Federation. This statement shall first be examined and checked by a qualified auditor appointed by the Executive Committee and, after submission to the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee, be communicated to the Members.
(b) A report of the Secretary-General in consultation with the Treasurer on the financial status of the Federation shall be submitted to the Finance Committee and the

Executive Committee for examination and forwarded, with or without comments but with an appropriate recommendation, to the Plenary Assembly.

ISMUN

Relations with ISMUN

Art. 42:

As proposed (page 1 above) this Article shall be abrogated and with such abrogation all references to ISMUN in any Article or part of any Article of the Constitution will cease to have force.

Appendix VII



Composition of the WFUNA leadership after the elections

President:

Lady Rhyl Jansen - New Zealand

Honorary Presidents:

Mr. Mogens Hasdorf - Denmark
Prof. Dr. Klaus Hübner - Germany
The Hon Nelson Mandela - South Africa
Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, M.P - India
Mr. Horace Perera - Sri Lanka
Mr. Arthur Ross - USA
Professor Mihaly Simai - Hungary
Mr. Hashim Abdul Halim - India
Mrs. Androula Vassiliou - Cyprus
Mr. Doug Roche - Canada

Vice-Presidents

Mr. Ricardo Dominicé - Argentina
Mr. Sayed Shahed - Bangladesh
Mr. Suresh Srivastava - India
Dr. Samir El Daher - Lebanon
Ms. Helen Drayton - Trinidad & Tobago

Treasurer

Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri - Georgia

Executive Committee Members:

Ms. Sirpa Pietikäinen - Finland
Mr. Chen Pingchu - China
Amb. William van den Heuvel - USA
Ms. Margaret Reynolds - Australia
Mr. Carlos Amat Forés - Cuba
Ms. Pavla Kortusova - Czech Republic
Dr. Christos Theodoulou - Cyprus
Prof. Ervin Gömbös - Hungary
Ms. Rena Shashua-Hasson - Israel
Professor Kyu-Taik Kim - Korea
Mr. Bossoondyal Nandekeswar Singh - Mauritius
Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant - Nepal
Mr. Gregory M Kovrizhenko - Russia
Ms. Ángels Mataró - Spain
Mr. Abdalla Ahmed Abdalla - Sudan
Mr. Aleksander Gabelic - Sweden
Mr. Cemil Özgül - Turkey
Mr. Malcolm Harper - UK

Secretary-General:

Amb Donald Blinken - USA

Appendix VIII



WFUNA-Youth Memorandum of Understanding

Preamble

Whereas the peoples of the world through their governments, have agreed to the Charter of the United Nations and thereby established the international organization known as the United Nations;

And whereas the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) has been founded by the United Nations Associations as the peoples' movement for the United Nations.

We, the youth delegations of our respective national organizations;

Recognizing the role of the United Nations in promoting the global peace, security and development;

Inspired by the work of WFUNA in support of the ideals, principles and objectives of the United Nations;

Acknowledging that young people in all countries are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovations;

Believing that young women and men in all parts of the world have to participate in the life of society;

Have resolved to combine our efforts to form a federation of young people and having agreed to this Memorandum of Understanding, and do hereby establish an Interim Authority for the formation of an international organization to be known as the World Federation of United Nations Associations – Youth.

Name and status

The organization shall be named World Federation of United Nations Associations - Youth, abbreviated as WFUNA-Youth

The organization shall be an autonomous, not-for-profit organization affiliated with WFUNA.

Aims and objectives

to gain more support for the spirit of the United Nations among young people;

to foster co-operation, and further the activities of its Members and to promote United Nations Youth Associations and United Nations Associations Youth Programmes;

to act at all times in accordance with, and in furtherance of, the ideals, principles and objectives of the United Nations;

to promote education and information sharing by youth in order to raise awareness regarding the United Nations, its Charter and its work, with special attention to the Millennium Development Goals.

to co-operate with the World Federation of United Nations Associations and, where appropriate, with United Nations agencies and other organizations whose objectives include support of the United Nations and its development.

Activities

Cooperation, Communication and Capacity Development

The organization shall:

Provide a forum for communication, including exchanging best practices of UNYAs and UNA Youth Programs;

Disseminate information on UN policies relevant to Members and/or programs relating to youth;

Promote the establishment and development of United Nations Youth Associations and/or UNA Youth Programs;

Seek and facilitate the exchange of the necessary resources for international co-operation between the UNYAs and UNA Youth Programs;

Assist Members in the provision of training;

Promote youth representation and presence within the UN;

Encourage the implementation of the UN World Program of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, in line with the Millennium Development Goals;

Promote educational tools and initiatives that increase understanding of the UN, including Model United Nations;

Promote the practical programs of its Members by facilitating partnerships with UN agencies, UNYAs and other relevant organizations.

Membership and age

Members and Associates

United Nations Youth Associations (UNYAs) which accept the aims and objectives of WFUNA-Youth and which are legally constituted in Member States of the United Nations, in states which are not United Nations Member States, as well as in territories not responsible for the conduct of their international relations, are eligible for admission as Members.

Not more than one UNYA from any state or territory shall be admitted as a Member.

To become a Member, the UNYA has to be accredited by the country's UNA.

In the absence of a UNYA, a UNA is admissible as a Member, on the basis of their youth programs and activities.

In countries where there is no UNYA or UNA Youth program; individuals, non-governmental youth organizations and institutions which accept the aims and objectives of WFUNA-Youth are admissible as Members under the condition that they shall facilitate the establishment of an UNYA in their respective country.

In the case of more than one organization from the same country applying and fulfilling the above mentioned criteria, such organizations will be asked to create a single and common entity which then can apply for membership

Regional organizations and non-governmental youth organizations can be admitted as international associates provided they accept the aims and objectives of WFUNA-Youth. The Interim Authority may grant them consultative status.

In the interim period, new membership may be granted on the basis of written applications, to be submitted to Interim Authority. Such applications may be provisionally approved by the Interim Authority, to be formally approved by the Plenary Assembly of WFUNA-Youth.

Age

Interim Authority coordinators and Member organization representatives shall be under 30 years of age.

No Member representative shall be allowed to contest for any position within the organization if her/his term of office expires after her/his 30th birthday.

Structure

The work and development of the organization is until the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly to be carried out by the following interim structure:

The Memorandum of Understanding will provide the mandate and guideline for the Interim Authority (hereafter called IA), but the IA is free to operate and initiate projects in the way it sees best.

A head coordinator, task force coordinators and regional coordinators are to be elected by the WFUNA Youth Meeting, 12th May 2003. These coordinators will form an Interim Authority of the WFUNA-Youth. Regional and Task Force coordinators all have equal status on the IA.

Regional coordinator positions are determined according to the ECOSOC regions:

Africa

East Asia and Pacific

Europe and North America

Latin America and the Caribbean

West Asia

Task force coordinators will cover the following areas:

Capacity Improvement

Communications and Publications

Fundraising and Finance

Information Technology (IT)

Programs and Members

At the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, the IA should report to WFUNA-Youth on the best model for running the authority, and hence whether the Memorandum of Understanding requires amendments.

The operation of the IA will be considered and reviewed at international conferences before the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly. The IA may not be dissolved, nor the Memorandum of Understanding amended, until the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly.

A Constitution for a permanent authority should be finalized at the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, in light of the IA's report and experience

The IA shall convene at such times it deems necessary, but at least once a year.

In the event of any vote of the IA where the vote is tied, the head coordinator shall cast a decisive vote.

An annual, and when possible periodic, report on the IA and the Task Forces shall be circulated to Members and WFUNA

Finances

The financial matters of WFUNA-Youth shall be guided by the Constitution and its consequent financial powers and operating procedures.

Before then, the IA shall control the administration of finances of WFUNA-Youth and observe the following:

All expenditures by the IA must be in pursuance of the aims, objectives and activities set out in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Coordinators and Members contribute to the organization as volunteers and shall not receive any financial or other material benefit for doing so.

All expenditure of which reimbursement by the Interim Authority shall be sought, must first be approved by a simple majority of votes by the Interim Authority.

A detailed report of the expenditure of such funds must be submitted to the Interim Authority within one month of reimbursement.

A financial report must be submitted by the IA to the first Plenary Assembly of WFUNA-Youth and to the 38th Plenary Assembly of WFUNA.
The expenses of WFUNA-Youth shall be covered by voluntary contributions and funds from other sources as may be available. The existence of membership fees will be determined by the fundraising and finance task force of the IA

Relationship with WFUNA

To promote mutual co-operation between WFUNA-Youth and WFUNA, WFUNA shall be invited in an observer capacity to the meetings of the Board of WFUNA Youth.

WFUNA may also send a representative with observer capacity, who has the right to speak and present proposals, to the WFUNA-Youth Plenary Assembly.

Equally, WFUNA-Youth shall be invited in an observer capacity to the meetings of the Executive Committee of WFUNA.

WFUNA-Youth may also send a representative with observer capacity, who has the right to speak and present proposals, to the WFUNA Plenary Assembly.

The WFUNA-Youth Plenary Assembly will be held parallel to the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly.

Miscellaneous

Regional representation and equity:

The IA is responsible for preparing mechanisms for regional representation, to be decided upon at the WFUNA-Youth Meeting during the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, including:

Concept, role and mechanisms for the regional representation in the formal structure;

Other measures to promote regional equity and balance;

Measures to promote inter-regional co-operation.

The regional coordinators have a specific responsibility in preparing these mechanisms.

Equal access to the youth meeting:

The IA must do its utmost to ensure equal access to the WFUNA-Youth meeting during the 38th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, as well as all other plenary meetings of the WFUNA Youth.

This includes:

Preparations in due time to ensure that all delegates can obtain the necessary visa;

Fundraising for travel-support for those delegates where the travel expenses might exclude their participation;

Providing information in English, French and Spanish in advance and during the meeting.

The Headquarter of WFUNA-Youth is to be decided at a later date.

Abbreviations:

WFUNA World Federation of United Nations Associations

UNA United Nations Association

UNYA United Nations Youth Association

IA Interim Authority

This Memorandum of Understanding is presented by the Youth Meeting during the 37th WFUNA Plenary Assembly, Barcelona, Spain, 8th – 11th May 2003.

During the Youth Meeting representatives from UNYAs and UNAs from the following countries took part:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Russia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, United Kingdom, Venezuela.

Appendix IX



List of Participants

Vice Presidents

Dr. Samir El Daher Lebanon
Mr. Aleksander Gabelic Sweden

Chairperson of the Executive Committee

Ms. Sirpa Pietikäinen Finland

Vice Chair of the Executive Committee

Amb. William van den Heuvel USA

Treasurer

Mr. Michalis Michael Cyprus

Secretary-General

Ambassador Donald Blinken USA

Members of the Executive Committee

Ms. Lucia Alberti Argentina
Dr. Syed Mhammad Shahed Bangladesh
Ms. Bente Nielsen Denmark
Ms. Sheela Mohunparsad Mauritius
(proxy Mr. Bossoondyal Nandekeswar Singh)
Professor Ervin Gömbös Hungary
Ms. Rena Shashua-Hasson Israel
Mr. Pius W. Obara-Ondato Kenya
Professor Kyu-Taik Kim Korea
Lady Rhyl Jansen New Zealand
Mr. Gregory M Kovrizhenko Russia
Ms. Angels Mataro Spain
Dr. Cemil Ozgul Turkey
Mr. Malcolm Harper United Kingdom

Honorary Presidents

Mr. Mogens Hasdorf Denmark
Professor Mihaly Simai Hungary

Observers

Andras Gulyas Ambassador of Hungary to Spain

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Mohsen Bilal | | Ambassador of Syria to Spain |
| Rosana Abon Zeid | | Embassy of Syria to Spain |
| Manuel Condominas | | Consul of Malaysia to Spain |
| Gao Zengyue | | Consul of China to Spain |
| Michael Godfrind | | Consul of Belgium to Spain |
| Juan Dexeus | | Consul of Luxemburg to Spain |
| Raimundes Michnevicius | | Consul of Lithuania to Spain |
| Franco Giordano | | Consul of Italy to Spain |
| Victor Soler-Sala | UNICEF Catalonia | |
| Luis Boggio | ACNUR Spain | |
| Albert Piqué | TMB | |
| Jordi Vendrell | | |
| Etamelas | TMB | |
| Francesca Casares | President of the Federation of Human Rights NGOs in Catalonia | |
| Assumpta Vinyals | Federation of Human Rights NGOs in Catalonia | |
| Miquel A. Leon | Federation of Human Rights NGOs in Catalonia | |
| Manuel Manonelles | UBUNTU | |
| Carlos Jiminez | Director United Nations Information Center Spain | |
| Montserat Gibert | Mayor of Sant Boi | |
| Amor del Alamo | Deputy Mayor Sant Boi | |
| Vaupel Natalie | World Food Program | |

International Associates

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Guy McClosky | Soka Gakkai International |
| Ian McIlraith | Soka Gakkai International |
| Hiroyuki Sakurai | Soka Gakkai International |

UNA Delegations

| | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Argentina | Mrs. Lucia Alberti | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Palma Martin Sabino | Youth Delegate |
| Australia | Ms. Margaret Reynolds | Head of Delegation |
| | Ms. Alyson Kelly | Youth Delegate |
| | Ms. Kylie McGrath | Youth Delegate |
| Austria | Mr. Michael F. Pfeiffer | Head of Delegation |
| Bangladesh | Dr. Syed Md. Shahed | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Sayed Md Saikh Imtiaz | Youth Delegate |
| | Mr. Mohammad Rashidul Hassan Naim | Youth Delegate |
| Belgium | Prof. Dr. Neri Sybesma-Knol | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Ludwig T'jampens | Delegate |
| Bulgaria | Ms. Petranka Fileva | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Plamen Nikolov | Youth Delegate |
| | Mr. Georgi Gorzev | Youth Delegate |
| Canada | Mr. Steve Mason | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. John Foster | Delegate |
| | Ms. Miriam Desjardins | Delegate |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| | Mr. Jack McCracken | Delegate |
| | Ms. Joan Broughton | Delegate |
| Chile | Mr. Osvaldo Ignacio Torres Gutiérrez | Head of Delegation |
| Congo, Democratic Republic | Mr. Cissa Gaston Wa Numbe | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Raymond Bitendelo | Delegate |
| Cuba | Mr. Carlos A. Amat Forés | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Boris Luis Rodriquez Garcia | Youth Delegate |
| Cyprus | Dr. Christos A. Theodoulou | Head of Delegation |
| | Mrs. Clelia Theodoulou | Delegate |
| | Mr. Michalis Michael | Delegate |
| | Ms. Irene Ekberg | Alternate Delegate |
| Czech Republic | Mr. Ilja Ulrich | Head of Delegation |
| | Ms. Pavla Kortusova | Delegate |
| | Ms. Yvona Sabacka | Delegate |
| Denmark | Ms. Bente Nielsen | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Mikael Bjerrum | Delegate |
| | Mr. Esben Juste | Youth Delegate |
| | Mr. Michel Sebastian Christensen | Youth Delegate |
| Dominican Republic | Mr. Francis Lorenzo | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. John R. Jr. Gagain | Delegate |
| | Mr. Eduardo Hernandez | Youth Delegate |
| Finland | Mr. Rauno Merisaari | Head of Delegation |
| | Ms. Sirpa Pietikäinen | Delegate |
| | Ms. Mirva Viitanen | Youth Delegate |
| Georgia | Mr. Ramaz Aptsiauri | Head of Delegation |
| | Mr. Jaba Devdariani | Delegate |
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