

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

Substantive Resolutions

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S. 1 The UN's Role in Iraq

Sponsored by the San Fernando Valley and Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recalling the Preamble of the Charter of the United Nations in which all signatories vowed to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war;”

Considering that the recent election in Iraq established an Iraqi National Assembly with authority to draft an Iraqi constitution and hold elections for the official new government;

Respecting the Iraqi people's right to determine when foreign troops are withdrawn from Iraqi territory; and

Supporting the United States' commitment to: (1) provide further police and military training as requested by the new interim government, (2) withdraw its troops as soon as possible, (3) expedite reconstruction and post-war recovery, and (4) cultivate broad based democracy and cooperative relations between the various peoples of Iraq.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the United States government and the coalition of allies to: (1) speed up training of Iraqi security forces and arrange for broader international participation in provision of this training, (2) accelerate reconstruction and recovery on an urgent basis, and (3) support the writing of a constitution that respects equality, human rights, the rule of law and Iraqis' right to determine their own future;
2. *Further urges* incremental withdrawal of foreign military forces as soon as the situation permits;
3. *Further urges* the Congress of the United States to continue its contribution to funding of Iraqi police training and reconstruction, giving lead authority to Iraqis and promoting the use of international and Iraqi monies in a transparent manner; and
4. *Further urges* the Congress of the United States to fund a cooperative reconstruction oversight process with the United Nations.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S. 2 Full Recognition of Kurdish Democratic Rights

Sponsored by the Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recalling the first article of the Charter of the United Nations, which recognizes the principle of “equal rights and self-determination of peoples;”

Recognizing that since the founding of the state of Iraq, the Kurdish people have reached agreements with the central government in Baghdad to live in peace as equal citizens in that country; but that after the central government gained sufficient power, it repeatedly abrogated the agreements, abandoned human decency and international laws, and violated the rights of the Kurdish people;

Knowing that in January 2005, under the Iraqi Transitional Administrative Law, the Kurds, in their first free election, formed the Kurdistan National Assembly, in order to secure full democratic rights of the Kurdish people within Iraq;

Concerned that although a referendum vote of more than 1.7 million Kurds was presented to the United Nations on December 22, 2004, showing a consensus for self government, the question of the future safety and welfare of the Kurdish minority remains unresolved;

Recalling further that since the beginning of the reconstruction, stabilization and democratization of Iraq, the Kurds have extended full cooperation to the transitional government, the United Nations field representatives and neighboring countries to bring peace and stability to Iraq and to the region.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Calls* for full recognition of the legitimate right of the Kurdish people to regional self-rule within the future constitution of the new Iraq;
2. *Further* calls upon the United Nations and the United States to guarantee any accord between the Kurds and the future government of Iraq, to safeguard the legitimate right of the Kurdish people;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S. 3 Resolving the Israeli-Palestine Conflict

*Sponsored by the Southern New York State Division, Westchester Chapter and
NYS Capital Area Chapter*

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Concerned that the Israel-Palestine conflict remains unresolved even 60 years after the establishment of the United Nations;

Convinced that failure to achieve an equitable and durable peace reflecting the fundamental rights and concerns of both Israelis and Palestinians encourages those who support terrorism, and therefore increases the risk of more worldwide terrorist attacks;

Believing that recent events, which have changed the political landscape in the region, provide the opportunity for a new approach to this controversial and difficult issue, which should be seized and pursued as a matter of urgency;

Recalling the many resolutions of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly aimed at resolving the situation, in particular Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and regretting that the majority of the provisions of these have not been implemented to date;

Considering that the road map, which resulted from efforts made by the diplomatic quartet consisting of the European Union, Russian Federation, USA, and the United Nations, as well as the frameworks for peace negotiated at Oslo, Taba, and Geneva provide useful guidance for launching a new initiative;

Believing that the United Nations, through its ongoing contacts with all countries in the region, will have an essential role in the peace process and in guaranteeing and monitoring the implementation of the final peace settlement;

Stressing also that the United States must be a key player in bringing an end to the conflict, and in reaching an equitable, comprehensive and lasting settlement.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the United States to give high priority to working with the Quartet and the Israelis and Palestinians, as well as other interested parties in the region, to reach and implement such a settlement at the earliest possible date;
2. *Welcomes* the British initiative in convening a conference in London in March 2005 as a useful first step;

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3. *Recommends* that the President appoint a high-level personal representative with high credibility in the region and substantial knowledge of the Israel-Palestine situation as well as the wider problems of the Middle East, and who would be in a position to devote the time and energy needed to find an equitable and comprehensive long-term solution acceptable to the parties concerned;
4. *Further recommends* that—to support and complement the peace process—there be developed a Compendium of Alternative Approaches to Palestinian-Israeli Co-existence;
5. *Calls upon* UNA-USA, in cooperation with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), to apprise the Quartet of this intent, and to seek funding for this study, and to ensure that all relevant parties are adequately represented in its development, operations and conclusions;
6. *Urges* interested UNA-USA Chapters and Divisions as well as WFUNA members to develop prototype local community conversations on peacemaking on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, utilizing principles of conflict resolution.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.4 Security Council Reform

Sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, San Diego Chapter and Greater Boston Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Noting that the Security Council is given the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security under the Charter of the United Nations;

Observing that the structure and membership of the Security Council were established at the end of World War II and that this structure and membership does not reflect the current world situation in terms of national economies, populations, or financial and other contributions to the United Nations;

Further observing that the “Report of the Secretary-General’s High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change” strongly recommends a change in the composition of the Security Council to add new permanent members or regional representatives in order to make the Council more representative of the changed world community;

Recognizing that the membership of the United Nations has long debated ways to realign the membership of the Security Council to get a better representation of countries prepared to act together effectively to maintain international peace and security;

Applauding the debate on Security Council reform emanating from the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

Affirms its strong support for the reform of the Security Council in line with the principles outlined in the High-level Panel’s report as a high priority for action by the international community.

1. *Calls* on the United Nations General Assembly to fashion a plan for Security Council revision that adheres closely to the goals and criteria set out by the High-level Panel, on an interim basis, to be reviewed in 15 years;
2. *Urges* that the scope of expansion be strictly limited as suggested by the High-level Panel, so as not to undermine the Council’s efficiency;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of the resolution to the appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.5 Preventing Nuclear Proliferation

Sponsored by the Iowa Division and Capital Area (Albany) Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing that the United States has demonstrated a heightened interest in halting the spread of nuclear weapons, especially given concerns over possible use of weapons of mass destruction;

Affirming that the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty on nuclear weapons (NPT) is the single best vehicle for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons;

Applauding the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of Resolution 1540 (April 2004), a US-initiated proposal for an anti-proliferation initiative that finds proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as means of delivery a potential threat to international peace and security subject to control by the Security Council and accordingly requires UN member states to adopt measures to prevent such materials entering into illicit commerce or falling into the hands of non-state actors;

Aware that the credibility of the nonproliferation system depends on Security Council willingness to enforce NPT requirements in the face of violations;

Concerned that nations will agree to strict anti-proliferation controls only if they are applied to all nations, rather than selectively;

Recalling that the United States had declared, in seeking permanent extension of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty in 1995, that accession to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty was a crucial litmus test of the nuclear-armed states' fulfillment of their side of the NPT bargain—namely, their obligation under Article VI to establish through negotiations a path to elimination of their own nuclear weapons and the restoration of a nuclear-weapons-free world;

Recognizing the incompatibility with the NPT commitment of the Administration's proposals for new generations of nuclear weapons, and the long-term un-sustainability of a two-tiered nuclear order in which some states have nuclear weapons but oppose others that seek the same.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Calls on* the United Nations Security Council to take necessary measures to enforce the requirements of the NPT on states that have failed to comply with NPT treaty commitments;
2. *Calls on* the US Senate to approve the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty;

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3. *Calls on* the United States government to cooperate fully in the work of the upcoming NPT review conference;
4. *Calls on* the Security Council to launch, with the support of the International Atomic Energy Agency, an investigation of the A. Q. Khan nuclear proliferation network and other proliferators, and to demand that all states fully cooperate with the investigation;
5. *Urges* the Security Council to propose measures to work toward “nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,” as mandated under Article VI of the NPT;
6. *Further urges* the US and the UN to work toward achievement of a treaty that creates uniform obligations for all nations on non-acquisition, reduction and eventual elimination of weapons of mass destruction.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN and to the UN Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs.

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S.6 The Crisis in Sudan

Sponsored by the Iowa Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Whereas, Sudan, Africa's largest country, has been torn by bloody civil wars for nearly two decades, pitting an Arabic-speaking and Muslim north against black African peoples of different language and religion in the south and west;

Whereas, even as long drawn out negotiations between the Khartoum government in the north and the rebels in the south were making progress, a new rebellion in the western province of Darfur provoked harsh new repression by *Janjaweed* militias that United Nations agencies have called to the attention of the world;

Whereas, the extent of the killing and dislocation has shocked the world, prompting the United States Congress to adopt a resolution calling the situation one of "genocide," a description the Bush administration has also embraced;

Whereas, the United Nations Security Council has demanded that the Sudanese government rein in the militias and halt the killing and population expulsions, but held back from imposing coercive measures such as sanctions;

Whereas, many Western countries want to ensure that the perpetrators of the atrocities are brought to justice and do not escape with impunity, and therefore propose referring the case of the Sudan militias' campaign to the International Criminal Court;

Whereas, with the tireless outside mediation of the United Nations and US presidential envoys, a settlement of the north-south Sudanese war has finally been reached, to be guaranteed by a United Nations peacekeeping force.

Therefore,

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States:

1. *Calls* on the US Congress to follow up its proclamation of genocide in Darfur by affirming by resolution its readiness to fund the United States share of a United Nations peacekeeping assessment for a peacekeeping force in the Darfur region of western Sudan;
2. *Calls* on the Congress likewise to provide prompt funding for the new United Nations peacekeeping force in southern Sudan;
3. *Urges* the United Nations Security Council to refer the Sudan atrocities to the International Criminal Court for investigation and possible prosecution, and calls on the United States government to do nothing to obstruct it;

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4. *Calls* on the U.N. Security Council to maintain pressure on the Sudanese government – including adoption of a schedule of economic sanctions if necessary — to ensure that Khartoum halt the attacks on civilians in Darfur and give the African Union peacekeeping force full cooperation in protecting civilians, and to bring the Darfur insurgents and Khartoum government into negotiations on a peace settlement.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary- General of the UN.

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S. 7 The Commission on Human Rights

Sponsored by the Greater Boston Chapter and Advocacy Committee

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Concerned that the credibility of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights has declined in recent years because of the election of gross violators of human rights to the Commission and the Commission's growing reluctance to address many situations of persistent rights abuses;

Recognizing that the Commission will be most effective in its Charter mandate of promoting respect for human rights if its membership is supportive of the Commission's mandate;

Affirming the vital roles that the Commission, as well as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, must play in protecting the rights of people of all countries and in promoting efforts of individuals and non-governmental organizations striving to enhance human rights.

Therefore,

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

1. *Calls* on member states of the Economic and Social Council to develop criteria for eligibility for election to the Commission on Human Rights that will exclude the handful of worst abusers from membership until they have taken remedial steps to address the concerns of the Commission and its rapporteurs and provide guidelines that Commission members would uphold to support the mandate of the Commission on Human Rights;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to the appropriate officials of United States government, to the Permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN

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S.8 Strengthening International Security

Sponsored by the Greater Boston Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing that the Al Qaeda terrorist network's attacks and the 2003 invasion of Iraq both laid bare weaknesses in the international security system of which the Charter of the United Nations is a cornerstone, prompting Secretary-General Kofi Annan to appoint the High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change to identify ways to strengthen the United Nations so that it is better able to address 21st century security challenges;

Applauding the comprehensive vision of security that the High-level Panel articulated in its consensus report, *A More Secure World: Our Shared Responsibility*, which reaffirms the founding vision of the Charter that durable peace and security are built not simply on military arrangements but also on economic and social foundations;

Appreciating in particular that the Panel emphasized the importance of conflict prevention, and underscored the need for the Security Council and the UN at large to respond to emerging threats to peace preventively;

Reaffirming the Charter framework for regulating the use of armed force, limiting national initiation of military action to self-defense against armed attack, and otherwise reserving initiation of armed force to a collective action, is essential for American security as much as it is for every nation in the world.

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Therefore,

1. *Calls on* the United Nations General Assembly to reaffirm the Charter vision that "armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest," even as the United Nations and regional organizations become more prepared collectively to deal effectively with threats preventively and even preemptively, and not just reactively;
2. *Urges* member states to fulfill the Panel's request that its five basic criteria of legitimacy for the use of force — seriousness of the threat, proper purpose, last resort, proportional means, and balance of consequences — be embodied in declaratory resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly;
3. *Urges* the UN to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which specifically addresses the impact of war on women and women's contributions to conflict resolution and peace-building;

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4. *Calls on* the United States, and all UN member states, to support the creation of a Security Council subsidiary body as proposed by the Panel and a Commission on Peace-Building to take responsibility for early-warning mediation and conflict prevention actions on the one hand, and for long-term political and socio-economic reconstruction of war-shattered states after international peacekeepers have gone home, on the other;
5. *Further calls on* the United States government, in light of the proposal for a UN Commission on Peacebuilding, to study the current organization of the United States government and its capacity for peace-building tasks and to reform its bureaucratic structures as appropriate to strengthen its capabilities in the crucial area of the relationship between peace and security;
6. *Commends* to American and UN policymakers the Panel's many other recommendations for controlling conflict, from tracing small arms to improving sanctions application and enforcement to redoubling efforts to reduce poverty and desperation that serve as wellsprings for conflict.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.9 Ensuring the Implementation of NPT Safeguards in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Sponsored by the Metropolitan Seattle Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations, states that “all Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered;”

Noting the report by the IAEA in which it acknowledged that Iranian cooperation had resulted in Agency access to requested locations but stressed that Iran’s cooperation had not been as full, timely and proactive as it should have been;

Noting that foreign ministers from France, Germany and the United Kingdom met December 13, 2004 with the secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council to open negotiations toward a long-term resolution of concerns surrounding Tehran’s nuclear programs; and the United States offered cautious public support for the talks;

Noting that Iran, with a population of over 65 million and a dynamic young society would rally behind the Iranian regime in the event of an attack;

Observing reports in the media of a possible military attack on Iran by the United States to eliminate the nuclear weapon production facilities, and that covert intelligence actions are underway to identify underground, hardened, dispersed production facilities;

Recognizing the improved potential for Israeli/Palestinian peace talks, which could be threatened by a military attack on Iran;

Observing that Iran is a signatory of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) from which they would likely withdraw if attacked, and that such an attack could result in the unraveling of the NPT;

Having determined: that (1) this critical issue requires resolute negotiation to avoid military action which is likely to cause extensive civilian casualties and result in increased widespread terrorism upon the United States; and (2) that destruction of the dispersed and hardened sites cannot be certain of success.

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Therefore,

calls upon the government of the United States of America to:

1. *Pursue* a diplomatic solution by joining the European Union negotiations;

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2. *Encourages* the continued work of the IAEA so that Iran's nuclear activities can be monitored continually; and
3. *Further encourages* that UNA-USA call upon the IAEA to institute safeguards inspections on a continuing basis by IAEA to ensure Iran does not enrich uranium for the production of nuclear weapons.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member States and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.10 Reforming the World Trade Organization

Sponsored by the Minnesota Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing the important work of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change;

Affirming the importance and timeliness of the report;

Aware of the need for continuing reform and improvement of the United Nations and its related entities;

Supporting the High-level Panel's concerns about security;

Recognizing the need for poverty alleviation and the Millennium Development Goals.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the US and other World Trade Organization (WTO) member states to work step by step toward integrating international labor standards, public health and environmental protections into WTO agreements and to make WTO decisions transparent, democratic and inclusive of representatives of civil society and developing nations.

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.11 Abiding by the Geneva Conventions of 1949

Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Noting that the United States is a party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, in particular the 3rd Convention on Prisoners of War and the 4th Convention on Civilians under Enemy Control, and is a party to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

Observing that the 3rd Convention states, *inter alia*,

“Article 3: In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each Party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions:

- 1) Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed *hors de combat* by sickness, wounds, detention, or any other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, color, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria. To this end the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons:
 - (a) violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture;
 - (b) taking of hostages;
 - (c) outrages upon personal dignity, in particular, humiliating and degrading treatment; or
 - (d) the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.”

Observing also that the fourth Convention has identical provisions;

Recognizing that violation of the conventions by the government of the United States represents not only a violation of its treaty commitments, and thus the law of the land, but exposes United States armed forces personnel and civilians to retaliation;

Recognizing also that violations of the conventions threaten the ability of the United States to establish peace and democracy in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Recognizing finally that abiding by the conventions in decisions affecting detainees will be a goodwill gesture to help restore harmony among nations.

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The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Calls* on the government of the United States to implement President George W. Bush's assurance that it will "investigate all acts of torture and undertake [measures] to prevent other cruel and unusual punishment in all territory under our jurisdiction," and to take actions that reflect the President's determination that the United States remain "steadfastly committed to upholding the Geneva Conventions."

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S.12 International Rule of Law

Sponsored by Edison Dick, Chair of the Advocacy Committee

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing that the United States has been a consistent and outspoken advocate on behalf of the rule of law;

Recognizing further that the advancement of international law is a founding principle of the United Nations, with its Charter pledging member states “to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained;”

Mindful that the international rule of law is weakened when selectively applied and inconsistently enforced;

Underscoring the September 2004 assessment of Secretary-General Kofi Annan that “today the rule of law is at risk around the world;”

Noting that a principal objective of the Secretary-General’s current initiative to revitalize the United Nations is the reinvigoration of an international framework of fair rules that are accepted by all states.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the United States government to strengthen its efforts to promote the international rule of law by ensuring that the United States adheres to its international legal obligations, including complying with the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Geneva Conventions, and the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT);
2. *Strongly encourages* the United States government to send a high-level official delegation to the 2005 NPT Review Conference and to provide constructive and flexible leadership in deliberations to strengthen the treaty;
3. *Calls* on the Senate to strengthen the international rule of law by giving its advice and consent to ratification of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime), the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Mine Ban Treaty, the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

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Requests that the UNA-USA report this resolution to the President, the Secretary of State, other high-level officials of the Executive Branch, and all members of the United States Congress.

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S.13 Millennium Development Goals

Sponsored by Edison Dick, Chair of the Advocacy Committee

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Noting that all member states of the United Nations, including the United States, endorsed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) during the 2000 Millennium Summit, resolving to “spare no effort to free our fellow men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected;”

Realizing that the MDGs—a set of eight clearly-defined, time-bound and achievable goals—provide the international community with a shared blueprint for concerted action to alleviate poverty, hunger, infectious disease, child and maternal mortality, gender inequality, and environmental degradation;

Realizing further that the MDGs provide measurable targets with which civil society groups and citizens around the world can hold governments accountable to the commitments they made at the Millennium Summit;

Aware that President George W. Bush in March 2002 reaffirmed the support of the United States government for the MDGs and stated that the “growing divide between wealth and poverty, between opportunity and misery, is both a challenge to our compassion and a source of instability. We must confront it. We must include every African, every Asian, every Latin American, every Muslim, in an expanding circle of development....As the civilized world mobilizes against the forces of terror, we must also embrace the forces of good. By offering hope where there is none, by relieving suffering and hunger where there is too much, we will make the world not only safer, but better;”

Observing that in January 2005, the UN’s Millennium Project, an independent advisory panel established by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, released its report, *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals*, that offers a comprehensive strategy for meeting the MDGs, including detailed and cost-effective recommendations for action;

Observing further that in March 2005, the Secretary-General is scheduled to release a report that will incorporate key aspects of the Millennium Project report and help set the agenda for a special summit of world leaders that will meet at the United Nations in September 2005 to review progress in meeting the MDGs;

Recognizing that, as the world’s richest country, the United States must play an engaged, active and lead role if the MDGs are to be successfully achieved;

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Therefore,

Calls upon Congress and the Executive Branch to provide vocal, high-level and official endorsement of the MDGs;

Urges the Administration to demonstrate constructive leadership leading up to and during the September 2005 five-year review conference to secure consensus among member states on reaffirming their support for the MDGs and redoubling their efforts to achieve them;

Further urges the United States government to commit a larger percentage of its gross domestic product to international development assistance, as called for in the Millennium Project's report;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

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S. 14 UN Democracy Caucus

Sponsored by the Advocacy Committee and Greater Boston Chapter

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Applauding the emergence of a Democracy Caucus at the United Nations to advance democratization and human rights, and the strengthening of democracy by economic and social development to sustain it;

Recognizing the final declaration of the inaugural conference of the Community of Democracies, held in Warsaw, Poland, in June 2000, which emphasized the interdependence between democracy, peace, development and human rights, and urged democratic governments to coordinate their activities in regional and international organizations, including through the formation of coalitions and caucuses in support of democracy promotion;

Further recognizing that the UN has done important work to support democracy;

Recalling that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan stated at the 2000 Warsaw Conference which 108 democracies attended, “When the United Nations can truly call itself a community of democracies, the Charter’s noble ideals of protecting human rights and promoting ‘social progress in larger freedoms’ will have been brought much closer.”

Noting that the Community of Democracies at its Second Ministerial Conference, held at Seoul, South Korea, in November 2002, reaffirmed the Warsaw Declaration’s call for the establishment of caucuses of democratic nations within international organizations;

Noting further that on September 22, 2004, for the first time, foreign ministers from the states in the Community of Democracies at the United Nations met as a group;

Realizing that the development of the democracy caucus within the United Nations is a principal objective of the United States for the 59th session of the UN General Assembly;

Recalling UNA-USA’s pioneering proposal for a U.N. Democracy Caucus in the 1996 global policy project report, *Inalienable Rights, Fundamental Freedoms*, and its 1988 global policy project proposal for a United Nations elections unit, both ahead of their time that are now taking root;

Mindful that UNA-USA proposed a UN democracy caucus again at its National Conventions in 2001 and 2003;

Observing that, by working together on issues of common concern, democracies can help the United Nations to advance ideals such as human rights, good governance, and the rule of law, as well as development, through, among other means, collaboration on resolutions and the promotion of democratic governments for membership and leadership positions in UN bodies.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

Commends the current Administration for its continuation of United States Government efforts to establish a functioning democracy caucus within the United Nations;

Encourages the United States government to continue its leadership role in promoting a UN democracy caucus that strengthens the work of the United Nations in advancing democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, and to keep this goal as a priority of United States policy at the United Nations;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member States and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S.15 United States Financing of the United Nations System

Sponsored by Edison Dick, Chair of the Advocacy Committee

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Acknowledging that as a privileged member of the United Nations, with a permanent seat on the Security Council and veto power in that body, the United States bears a special responsibility in providing for the effective functioning of the organization;

Acknowledging further that membership in the United Nations enables the United States to share with other member states the costs of addressing global challenges;

Recognizing that by ratifying the Charter of the United Nations, the United States, under its own Constitution is itself bound by international treaty obligations to provide its assessed membership dues to the UN system on time and in full;

Observing that the United States regularly pays its regular budget dues to the United Nations eight to eleven months after they are due;

Noting that the failure of member states to provide their regular budget assessments to the United Nations in full and on time has serious negative consequences for the organization and that in 2004, the UN was forced to borrow from the accounts of closed peacekeeping missions in order to fund ongoing peace operations and its regular budget;

Aware that a long-standing US statutory cap on contributions to UN peacekeeping at 25 percent of total assessments could be reinstated by Congress on October 1, 2005, preventing the United States from providing its full 27 percent assessment for UN peacekeeping in this period when the need for and cost of UN peacekeeping operations is rapidly escalating;

Realizing that United States government efforts to reduce the federal budget deficit will place severe constraints on government spending, but that US support for the UN advances American interests.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America,

Therefore,

Calls on the United States government to meet its financial obligations to the United Nations system in full and to make the required payments when they are due;

Encourages the United States Congress to permanently repeal the statutory limitation on financing of UN peacekeeping operations;

Further encourages Congress to provide appropriate levels of voluntary contributions to United Nations programs;

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

Requests that the UNA-USA Board of Directors report this resolution to the President, the Secretary of State, other high-level officials of the Executive Branch, and all members of the US Congress, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S.16 Ratification of Mine Ban Treaty

Sponsored by the Coastline Chapter and Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Convinced that the development and production, use and deployment of landmines leads to unnecessary death and injury of innocent people

Strongly desiring to hasten the end of American manufacturing and deployment of landmines—pursuant to the United Nations’ purpose to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,” as set forth in the Preamble of the UN Charter.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the United States government to ratify and adhere to the Mine Ban Treaty;
2. *Further requests* that all chapters participate in a UNA-USA grassroots campaign to obtain United States ratification of the Mine Ban Treaty;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member States and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S.17 Earth Charter

Sponsored by the Florida Division

Co-Sponsored by the Pacific Los Angeles Chapter and SGI-USA Member, UNA-USA Council of Organizations

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Whereas the present era is marked by a global environmental crisis that will continue to become more serious unless significant steps are taken;

Whereas both foreign and domestic policies and patterns of consumption contribute to the global environmental crisis and there is a growing consensus among scholars, scientists, activities and policymakers that ecological integrity and sustainability cannot be achieved without attention to social and economic justice;

Whereas Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the Statement of principles for the Statement of Management of Forests were adopted by more than 178 countries at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 3-14, 1992;

Whereas, participating United Nations-affiliated nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) stayed beyond the conference and developed a draft of the Earth Charter that included and expanded upon the principles set out in Agenda 21;

Whereas, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was created in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up on UNCED and to monitor and report on implementation of the agreements;

Whereas the Earth Charter is completely consistent with the principles of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular goal number 7 to “ensure environmental sustainability;”

Whereas the full execution of Agenda 21, the Programme for Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Commitments to the Rio principles, were strongly reaffirmed at the UN sponsored World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa from August 26 to September 4, 2002;

Whereas the Earth Charter articulates a set of core principles that can serve as a basis for moving our nation toward a more just and sustainable future, including (1) Respect and Care for the Community of Life, (2) Ecological Integrity, (3) Social and Economic Justice, and (4) Democracy, Nonviolence, and Peace.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

Therefore,

1. *Urges* the United States government to support the Earth Charter principles as a guide to public policy and urges UNA-USA to work toward that goal;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member States and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S.18 Convention on the Rights of the Child

Sponsored by the Florida Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Whereas protection of children is a fundamental part of the ethical, moral, and legal systems of all civilized peoples;

Whereas 192 states have become party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, leaving the United States and Somalia as the only non-parties;

Whereas this Convention codifies legal protections for children that are widely accepted by the nations of the world, states, parents, and societies at large of various cultures and religions of the world.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

1. *Supports* the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
2. *Urges* the US Senate to give its advice and consent to ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S. 19 Ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention

Sponsored by the Citrus Chapter and Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing that past UNA-USA national conventions have repeatedly urged United States ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

Commending President George W. Bush for his recent public support of US ratification;

Determined to bring culmination to the valuable processes of global cooperation in preservation of the seas and in harmonious commerce in and on our world's seas.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

Reaffirms support for United States' ratification and leadership in the global conservation and lawful, peaceful development of the seas;

Further urges all members, council and divisions, chapters and boards of UNA-USA to take this cause to the US Senate for deliberation and a vote on advice and consent;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S. 20 Support for the United Nations Population Fund

Sponsored by the Orange County Chapter and Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Recognizing that the United States Congress has appropriated funds for international family planning for each of the past three years 2002 (\$34 million), 2003 (\$25 million), and 2004 (\$34 million), for voluntary contributions to the UNFPA;

Realizing that the United States Administration has withheld this money from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA);

Understanding that the American people, represented by the Congressional vote, support family planning assistance to needy families around the world;

Recognizing that family planning can prevent numerous abortions and maternal and early childhood deaths from starvation and disease, while encouraging smaller healthy families;

Noting UN Secretary General Kofi Annan's statement that "There is no time to lose if we are to reach the Millennium Development Goals by...2015. Only by investing in the world's women can we expect to get there;"

Aware that the population of the world was .3 billion in 1 A.D., 1 billion in 1830, 2 billion in 1930, 3 billion in 1960, 4 billion in 1974, 5 billion in 1987, and 6.3-plus billion today and is on a trajectory that appears unsustainable;

Believing that families will become more free and democratic if they can plan their family numbers.

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

Be it Resolved that the United Nations Association of the USA supports the release of family planning funds from the United States government to the UNFPA and supports allocation of such funds;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member States and to the Secretary-General of the UN.

UNA-USA Substantive Resolutions 2005

S. 21 Mutual Security Single Standard Ban on Weapons of Mass Destruction

Sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Chapter and Southern California Division

The 2005 Biennial National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States of America:

Disturbed that the U.S. Congress may allocate funds for development, testing and manufacturing of new, depleted (irradiated) uranium shells and more destructive nuclear bunker bombs, and other weapons of mass destruction;

Recognizing that military and armament escalations are promoting a new spiral of governments seeking acquisition of nuclear capability;

The National Convention of the United Nations Association of the United States

Therefore,

- 1. Urges* the US to work toward achievement of a treaty that creates uniform obligations for all nations on non-acquisition, reduction and eventual elimination of weapons of mass destruction;

Requests UNA-USA to provide copies of this resolution to appropriate officials of the United States government, to the permanent representatives of UN member states and to the Secretary-General of the UN and to the UN Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs.