



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States

Northern
Colorado
Chapter

January-February 2011

Volume 7, Number 1

UPCOMING EVENTS:

UNA Public Meeting and Luncheon. Saturday, 15 Jan, at 10:30 a.m. at the Christ Methodist Church, 301 East Drake. Stuart Conway of *Trees Water and People* will speak. See announcement below.

2011 UN Seminar. Saturday, 26 February, at the Denver Center for International Studies, 374 W. 6th Ave. See the announcement on page 4 for details.

ANNUAL MEETING INVITATION

Join us

for our 7th Annual Meeting of the UNA/USA
of Northern Colorado

Our speaker will be Stuart Conway, International Director and Co-founder of *Trees Water and People*, headquartered in Fort Collins. Mr. Conway was recently awarded the United Nations *Environment Programme 2009-10 Sasakawa Prize*. TWP is well known for its fuel efficient Justa Stove and for reforestation programs in Central America and Haiti.



When: Saturday, 15 January at 10:30 a.m.

Where: Christ Methodist Church
301 East Drake, 3 blocks east of College at Drake Rd.

What: 10:30 Sign in—Coffee “hour”**
11:00 Business meeting
12:00 Lunch (buffet—quiche, salad, breads, dessert)
12:30 Speaker—Stuart Conway,

*Trees Water People Making a Difference
in Central America and Haiti*

1:30 Adjourn

**We have added a new attraction this year—display tables of various projects we sponsored in 2010.

Cost for lunch is \$10 per person, pay at the door.

RSVP for lunch by January 12 to Tom Guter:
tpguter@gmail.com (preferred) or 970-419-2766

BRING A FRIEND—EVERYONE IS WELCOME

PRESIDENT’S CORNER:

Every day I become more and more convinced of the importance of having a strong, effective United Nations.

Our United Nations is only as strong as its members. The United States, as the current world leader, is in a position to grease the wheels that make our UN work. We, the members of the United Nations Association, must continue to push our United States to support all the many efforts of this world body.

We must work to be sure the U.S. pays its dues to the UN, supports the UN Peacekeepers and the many UN economic and social agencies.

We are the only large and well organized civil society doing this. It is my hope that as our National UNA joins with the UN Foundation, we will be even better able to do this.

So it is that I have worked as the president of the Northern Colorado Chapter now for four years because I feel so strongly about the necessity of making a difference in the way our community views the United Nations. We have a lot to be proud of, but are we doing as much as we could? New leadership will bring new ideas and talent to our group. I urge all of you to bring your ideas and support to help us shape a new era for Northern Colorado UNA.

We will be implementing some program changes this next year that should make it easier for our leaders to put together fewer but better programs. These events will be augmented with frequent small, informal discussion groups based on something such as a book or a film. These small groups may be something many of you will enjoy participating in, so do be sure to take advantage of them when they are announced. I plan to be a part of these adventures.

I would like to thank all those hardworking individuals who served with me on the UNA of Northern Colorado Board of Directors over the past several years. It has been a pleasure to know all of you and to count each one of you as my friend. With your permission I will continue to be an active member of this vital organization.

Eleanor Dwight, President
UNA/USA, Northern Colorado

RESTORING US LEADERSHIP THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

The **UNA/USA 2011 Advocacy Agenda** outlines the Association's policy priorities and provides concrete outcome goals for each issue, as well as specific actions that UNA-USA members and leaders can take to help promote the Agenda. The 2011 agenda covers the following six priority issues:

1. [Strengthening the U.S.-UN Relationship](#)
2. [Advancing Human Rights and International Justice](#)
3. [Renewing the United Nations](#)
4. [Building International Consensus on Climate Change](#)
5. [Achieving the Millennium Development Goals](#)
6. [Promoting Arms Control and Disarmament](#)

Throughout the year, there will be numerous opportunities for educating policymakers about the importance of working collaboratively through a strong UN to find effective solutions to today's global problems. To find out how to become involved, visit: <http://www.unausa.org/advocacyagenda>.

Ken Thorpe, Advocacy Committee Chair

Notes from our HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATION

We commemorated the *Declaration of International Human Rights* this year on 11 December by reading a portion of the Articles from the Declaration followed by a talk from Professor Ved Nanda, Director of International Legal Studies at the University of Denver.

Professor Nanda complimented Stan Kidder on his Soapbox about International Human Rights (Stan has had a Soapbox in the Coloradoan every year but one for 10 years.) Nanda gave us a run down on the history of the Declaration and urged us to be aware of the effect this resolution has had on many nations and, as a civil society, to keep pushing for the ratification of the Declaration by the US.

He spoke of the long road getting the accused in Congo to the ICC in The Hague.

He also told us of his grave concerns about the advances in the use of "drones." They are a new threat and rules for their use have never been agreed upon. He said that they are fairly simple to build and thus it is only a matter of time until terrorists have them. There will be a conference in Denver in a few months with leaders from around the country taking beginning steps to regulate their use and possible proliferation.

Eleanor introduced a guest from the Congo. Professor Nanda asked him about the state of affairs in Congo and an interesting exchange took place.

UN LAUNCHES NORTH AMERICAN DECADE FOR DESERTS FROM CSU

from the Northern Colorado Business Report, CSU helps launch UN fight against desertification

The North American Regional Launch of the **United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification** (UNDDD) was held 11-12 November 2010 at Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins.

CSU is the first university in the world to host one of the UN's "decade" announcements. This Regional Launch followed the Global Launch in Fortaleza, Brazil and the African Region Launch in Nairobi, Kenya, both on 16 August, and the Asia-Pacific Region Launch in Seoul, on 12 October. The European Launch was on 16 December in London.

Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and university officials were joined by students and scientists from around the world in a seminar series that focused on North American desertification topics.

Following the seminar was a formal ceremony in which CSU and UN officials signed a letter of intent to explore how the two organizations can work closely together on desertification research.

"Colorado has had to address the issues surrounding land degradation including soil erosion, water conservation and drought management," said Gov. Bill Ritter. "As this environmental global debate continues, Colorado institutions, including CSU, will be leaders in collaborating with United Nations organizations to address sustainable land management issues."

The UN Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification runs from 2010 to 2020. For more information, visit <http://unddd.unccd.int/index.htm>.

IN MEMORIAM

The United Nations Association, greater Fort Collins and the country recently lost a true activist for world peace when our friend **Joe Stern** passed away in November. Many of us remember Joe's constant effort to get us to think. He thought that apathy was a deadly disease facing our nation. Joe was on the corner of Mulberry and College every Saturday protesting the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and most of the time carrying a UN flag. He always crossed the street at these events to shake hands with and to speak to those who disagreed with him. He truly "walked the talk." Here is a quote he often used from President Kennedy that pretty much sums up Joe's philosophy and influenced his non-violent resistance. "War will exist until that distant day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same reputation and prestige that the warrior does today." Joe will be missed by many.

**United Nations Millennium
Development Goal #1:
Eradicate extreme poverty
and hunger**

**Target 1A: Halve the proportion of
people living on less than \$1 a day**

- Proportion of population below \$1 a day (PPP values)
- Poverty gap ratio [incidence x depth of poverty]
- Share of poorest quintile in national consumption

**Target 1B: Achieve Decent
Employment for Women, Men and
Young People**

- GDP Growth per Employed Person
- Employment Rate
- Proportion of employed population below \$1 per day (PPP values)
- Proportion of family-based workers in employed population

**Target 1C: Halve the proportion of
people who suffer from hunger**

- Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age
- Proportion of population below minimum Level of dietary energy consumption

**2011 United Nations
Seminar
Saturday February
26th, 2011**

Denver Center for International Studies
574 W. 6th Ave
Denver, CO 80204

Information: 303-756-0842

Sponsors

Asian Chamber of Commerce
Center for Teaching International Studies
Church and Society Network: Advocating for Peace with Justice
Denver Center for International Studies
Denver Sister Cities International
League of Women Voters of Colorado
Political Science Department, University of Colorado Denver
United Nations Association— USA Denver

UN Seminar

A program of UNA-USA Denver
574 W 6th Ave
Denver, CO 80204

UN Seminar Committee

Jane Barru	Moyra Hudgens
Gordon Benesh	Malia Knapp-Rossi
Lauren Birge	Dorothy Musil
Joan Gendreau	Malliga Och
Kathy Gonclaves	Ruth Purkapple
Melanie Grant	Darlene Rivera
Lousie Haggerty	

**MILLENNIUM
DEVELOPMENT
GOAL #1:
ERADICATE
EXTREME POVERTY
AND HUNGER**

Can We Do it?



United Nations Seminar
8th Annual Discussion Series
Saturday, February 26th, 2011
8:30a.m. – 3:30p.m.

Denver Center for International
Studies
574 West 6th Avenue
Denver, CO 80204

TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

8:30-9:00 Registration and Coffee

9:00 Opening Session

*Welcome, Principal of Denver
Center for International Studies*

*Presentation by DCIS Model United
Nations Students*

*Keynote Address by Edward
Elmendorf, executive director of the
United Nations Association—USA*

10:45 Morning Workshops

11:45 Digital Video Conference
with special guest straight from the
United Nations

12:45 Lunch and posters on the
Millennium Development Goals by
DCIS students

1:45 Afternoon Workshops

2:45 Closing Session

*Edward Elmendorf and how citizens
can support the UN and MDGs*

The United Nations

*“to save succeeding generations
from the scourge of war. . .*

to promote the general welfare. . .

*to reaffirm faith in fundamental
human rights. . .*

*to promote social progress and
better standards of life in larger
freedom*

*to practice tolerance and live
together in peace. . .*

to unite our strength”

The UN Charter

Information: 303-756-0842

Registration Form

Registration Deadline is
February 20th, 2011

Make checks payable to
UNA-USA Denver

Mail Registration form and payment to
Louise Haggerty
333 E. Florida Ave, #103
Denver, CO 80210

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Cost (including lunch)

Adults _____@ \$40 \$ _____

Students _____@ \$15 \$ _____

*Teachers who bring 3 or more students will
have their fee waived*

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

United States backs indigenous rights treaty—17

December 2010. The announcement by President Barack Obama that the United States supports the landmark UN treaty outlining the rights of the world's estimated 370 million indigenous peoples was hailed at the UN. The US was one of only four countries that voted against the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples when it was adopted by the General Assembly in 2007.

The US has joined the other three countries in endorsing the treaty – a non-binding text that sets out the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples. It also prohibits discrimination against indigenous peoples and promotes their full and effective participation in all matters that concern them, and protects their right to remain distinct and to pursue their own visions of economic and social development.

UN officials hail climate change deal reached at Cancún conference—The December climate change talks in Cancún concluded with a package of decisions to help countries advance towards a low-emissions future, delivering what the world body's top officials have hailed as a victory in the battle against one of today's biggest challenges.

The Cancún Agreements formalized mitigation pledges and ensured increased accountability for them; take concrete action to protect the world's forests; establish a fund for long-term climate financing to support developing countries; bolster technology cooperation and enhance vulnerable populations' ability to adapt to the changing climate.

Delegates also agreed to ensure no gap between the first and second commitment periods of the Kyoto Protocol.

Afghan wheat sale marks UN agency's largest local purchase ever—In a groundbreaking agreement in December 2010, the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) will buy enough wheat directly from farmers in Afghanistan to help feed more than 500,000 people in the country for three months, marking the largest local purchase ever by the agency.

WFP will purchase some 13,000 metric tons of wheat through the pilot Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative, through which it buys surplus from local farmers for its aid operations, thereby helping to boost agricultural production and incomes in developing nations.

"We are relieved and excited that these landmark purchases will let us continue providing food assistance to Afghanistan's neediest families, and do so with food produced here in the country," said Louis Imbeau, WFP's Representative in Afghanistan.

On average, the WFP distributes food to 7.3 million people yearly, primarily in remote, rural areas.

UNICEF hails new law on rights for indigenous children in Republic of Congo—On 31 December 2010, a law protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous populations was adopted by the Republic of Congo's Senate and ratified by the National Assembly. It grants children belonging to indigenous populations a legal basis to access health, education and protection.

"This law is unique in the region and sets an example for all other countries having indigenous populations similar to the ones in Congo. This is a great step forward for the children of the Congo, and represents a milestone in Congolese history," said Marianne Flach, UNICEF Country Representative in Congo.



350.org asks world leaders to not ignore the elephant in the room--Prior to the December UN climate talks in Cancun, Mexico, artists worked with 350.org to create giant artworks--large enough to be seen from space—in many countries around the world (see photo).

The name 350.org refers to the 350 parts per million of greenhouse emissions that most scientists consider 'safe'.

Climate Elephant, by Daniel Dancer

3,000 students and teachers at the Ryan International School in New Delhi and volunteers from the Indian Youth Climate Network joined aerial artist Daniel Dancer to form an enormous elephant above rising seas.

DDancer/artforthesky.com

UN agency coordinates transfer of nuclear waste from Serbia to Russia

In December, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN nuclear watchdog, announced that a multinational project carried out by Serbia to move two and half tons of highly radioactive nuclear spent fuel to a secure Russian facility, has been successfully completed. It was the largest single shipment of spent nuclear fuel made under an international program to repatriate such material to the nations that originally supplied it.

This delivery ends the project to repatriate fuel from the Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences outside Belgrade, where the Soviet Union had built and fuelled a 6.5-megawatt nuclear research reactor in the 1950s.

The IAEA has actively participated in efforts to repatriate research reactor fuel, including transfers from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Libya, Romania, and Viet Nam. In addition, the IAEA is supporting and also supports efforts to help nations convert their research reactors to use low-enriched uranium fuel.

Collapses prompt UNESCO mission to assess threats to Pompeii

A series of structural collapses in Pompeii in November 2010 prompted an urgent visit from Specialists from the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to examine and assess the extent of the damage at one of the world's most important archaeological sites.

The monitoring mission will identify threats to any other structures and advise on measures, including legal provisions, to stop further incidents. Pompeii was inscribed on UNESCO's *World Heritage List* in 1997, along with the neighboring Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata. Their inscription states that they provide a complete and vivid picture of society and daily life at a specific moment in the past that is without parallel anywhere in the world.



House of the Gladiators, Pompeii

Millions of Pakistanis still in need of post-flood assistance

31 December. Millions of Pakistanis are still in need of assistance as they recover from the floods that inundated large portions of the country during what was one of the most challenging years for the South Asian nation, two senior United Nations officials stated today.

The floods that began in late July affected some 20 million people across the provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan, and damaged schools, health centers, important infrastructure such as sanitation systems, bridges and roads, and destroyed croplands.

The \$2 billion appeal for aid for Pakistani flood victims made in September, the largest-ever launched by the UN and its partners for a natural disaster, is currently 51 per cent funded.

Romania provides UN agency with funding to help Moldova gather agriculture data

In December, Romania provided the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) with more than half a million dollars to aid its neighbor Moldova—the first time Romania has ever entered into a contribution agreement with a UN agency. Romania will provide some \$695,000, which FAO will use to provide technical assistance to Moldova during its first General Agriculture Census in early 2011. The two-year project will establish a reliable system of agricultural statistics in Moldova and harmonize it with European Union practices. After the Soviet Union's disintegration, Moldova went through two phases of agricultural land privatization and is now planning for integration with the European market.

New \$200 million sustainable development project in Haiti

5 January 2011. The United Nations and its partners this week launched a 20-year, \$200 million environmental recovery program in southwest Haiti to benefit more than 200,000 people and show that sustainable rural development, from fisheries to tourism, is practical.

The project covers a land area of 780 km² and a marine area of 500 km². Lessons learned from this project can be extended to the rest of the country.

"Restoring the region's environmental services will be a key step towards restoring a real and long-lasting development path for its people and a stepping stone towards a green economy," UN Environment Program (UNEP) Executive Director Achim Steiner said at yesterday's inauguration of the program in Port-Salut, southern Haiti.

Yesterday's launch was made possible by an initial \$14 million in grants from the Government of Norway, Catholic Relief Services and the Green Family Foundation.

UN-African mission helps deliver aid to newly displaced in Darfur amid tension—29 December.

Thousands of newly displaced people who fled their villages because of recent fighting in Sudan's troubled region of Darfur are receiving humanitarian aid. UNAMID peacekeepers and officials from UN aid agencies are collaborating with local security officials to gain access to all affected areas and ensure the safe delivery of aid. Currently, more than 10,000 people have settled in Khor Abeche and Shaeria in South Darfur.

Tel Aviv's 2010 Human Rights March—Some 5,000 people marched in Tel Aviv to celebrate Human Rights Day. Many carried signs referring to the rise of racism and xenophobia in Israeli society. For the first time, hundreds of African asylum seekers joined the protest.



Combatants for Peace: "Israelis and Palestinians, together" (photo: Yossi Gurvitz)

Images from space enhance UN efforts to promote sustainable development on Earth—The

UN is using satellites to help chart a course for sustainable development with an ecological map of the world's most biologically diverse region--Latin America and the Caribbean. The map, *Latin America and the Caribbean—Atlas of our Changing Environment*, released in December by the UN Environment Program (UNEP), combines over 200 precise and striking satellite images with analysis examining changes taking place in the region's environment. It is the latest in a series coordinated by UNEP.

"These Atlases are an indispensable tool in formulating the future actions and public policies needed to achieve more sustainable development in the region," UNEP said. The stark reality they portray" can catalyze action; e.g., the African atlas in Mali instigated a project to restore the lost Lake Faguibine now underway.

UN pays tribute to Richard Holbrooke—14

December 2010. Senior UN officials mourned the passing of veteran United States diplomat Richard Holbrooke, praising his skills as a top negotiator, peacemaker and champion of global causes.

Mr. Holbrooke, who died following heart surgery, helped broker the 1995 Dayton agreement that ended the Bosnian war. More recently, he was US special envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called him "a giant and a legend in his time".

"His drive was immense. His desire to do good in the world was fierce, and he pursued all he set out to do with a resolution and tenacity that were second to none.

"The advice on which so many relied reflected the rich breadth and challenge of his extraordinary career. He was there, a man of history: from architecting the Dayton peace accords, to working so hard to bring peace to the people of Afghanistan. His legacy will be his works, an inspiration to so many around the world."

Staffan de Mistura, the top UN envoy in Afghanistan, issued a statement highlighting the "energy, vision and drive" that Mr. Holbrooke brought in particular to his role as the US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Mr. Holbrooke's vast diplomatic experience also included a posting as US Ambassador to the UN from 1999 to 2001 under former President Bill Clinton.

Voicing sadness at the passing of an "extraordinary American diplomat," members of the Security Council expressed admiration for his contributions as US Ambassador to the UN, as well as for his "energetic and unrelenting" commitment to promoting peace and strengthening international cooperation at the world body.

Ambassador Holbrooke's service spanned decades and continents, confronting profoundly difficult issues in global affairs.

Robert Orr, who served as Mr. Holbrooke's deputy during his tenure at the UN, lauded not only his diplomatic skills but also the relationship he had with the media as it relates to diplomacy.

"Ambassador Holbrooke understood probably better than any individual I ever worked with the importance of the media," Mr. Orr, who is the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Planning and Policy Coordination, told reporters at UN Headquarters.

"So I think it's not just the United States and the UN that has lost an important figure. I think the media has also lost someone who not only gave them a lot of good quotes but someone who really understood the importance of your profession as well."

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, NORTHERN COLORADO (NOCO) CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

2010 UNA/USA NOCO Board of Directors

Officers:

President, Eleanor Dwight,
Eleanor@dwrightcentral.com , 970-377-0863
Vice President, Chuck Cairns
President-Elect, Hugh Sanborn
Secretary, Debbie Hamilton
Treasurer, Don Heyse
Membership Chair, Margaret Smith
MacSmith36@aol.com , 970-493-3857

Directors:

William DeMarco	Christinia Eala
Miranda Fisher	Norm Illsley
Nasil Jalal	Stan Kidder
Hazel Krantz	Heidi Nash
Dick Rush	Paul Smith
Susan Solick	Marla Swanson
Ken Tharp	Jane Thompson
Bill Timpson	Elissa Tivona
Mary Wolfe	

WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter:

www.unanortherncolorado.org .

UNA national: www.unausa.org .

UN Foundation: <http://www.unfoundation.org/>

UNICEF: www.unicefusa.org .

United Nations information: www.un.org .

UN Information Center, DC: www.unicwash.org .

Our World 2.0—a web-magazine produced by the UN University, the academic think tank of the UN: ourworld.unu.edu/en/. Supported by video on YouTube and Vimeo.

FREE UN E-PUBLICATIONS:

The Advocacy E-News, the national UNA-USA bi-weekly online newsletter.

E-Action Alerts Sign Up:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/mlm/>

Web stickers:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/remotecomtent/>

RSS Feeds:
<http://capwiz.com/unausa/remotecomtent/?action=RSS>

UN Wire, the UN Foundation daily email news.

Learn more about *UN Wire* at: www.unwire.org.
Subscribe at: www.smartbrief.com/un_wire/# .

The InterDependent: unausa.org/interdependent

UNA-USA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Please mail this form, along with your payment to:

UNA/USA NOCO Membership Director
1980 Welch St, #31
Fort Collins, CO 80525

Name (please print)

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Phone Business Phone

Email

Questions? Contact our Membership Director at 970-493-3857

Membership Category: Check one

- \$10 Student
- \$25 Introductory (first year only)
- \$40 Individual or Household Membership
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$500 Patron
- \$1,000 Lifetime (a one-time payment)

Student Members Information:

School Name & Level (ex: Adams High School, Class of '86)

Additional Contribution Opportunities:

- UNA-USA National Programs \$ _____
- My local UNA-USA Chapter \$ _____

My check (payable to "United Nations Association of the USA") is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ _____

Check one: AMEX Mastercard Visa

Name as it appears on credit card

Billing address

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature

Membership in the UNA-USA is open to any citizen or resident of the United States of America who is committed to the purposes of UNA-USA. **The BWF/UNA-USA** is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization (EIN/tax ID number: 58-2366765). Your donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.