



# UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States

Northern  
Colorado  
Chapter

March-April 2012

Volume 8, Number 2

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**UNA Informal Discussion.** Sunday, 25 March, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. at the Global Village Museum, 200 West Mountain Ave, Fort Collins. Dr. Bill Timpson will present *Building Sustainable Peace and Development in Post Genocide Burundi: How the UN helps there and our Chapter can help here!* See Burundi article, page 3.

**World Water Day at CSU.** 22 March, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm in the Lory Center on the Colorado State University Campus. See Water article, page 6.

**UNA Denver UN Seminar.** Saturday, 28 April, 9:00 a.m.--2:00 p.m., at the Joseph Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. Keynote Speaker: Timothy E. Wirth, UN Foundation President. For more information contact: Gloria Dogan, [gloriadogan@comcast.net](mailto:gloriadogan@comcast.net) or 303-773-3099, or UN Seminar chair: Malliga Och : [moch@du.edu](mailto:moch@du.edu).

Flora Teran Vargas and Tod Huckaby. All but Tod Huckaby were elected at our annual meeting. Tod, a history teacher at Fossil Ridge High School who advises the Model UN group at his school, was elected at our last full board meeting to fill a vacancy. Welcome to all of you. We are pleased to have you aboard--terrible pun—a full list of Board members is available on page 9.

We hope that each of our new Board members—and every UNA member--will select one or more of the following committees on which to serve:

**Standing Committees:** (If you are interested in one of these, please contact the Chair):

**Membership:** Margaret Smith  
[MacSmith36@aol.com](mailto:MacSmith36@aol.com), 970-493-3857

**Education:** Dick Rush, [crush@frii.com](mailto:crush@frii.com)

**Advocacy:** Eleanor Dwight,  
[eleanor@dwightcentral.com](mailto:eleanor@dwightcentral.com)

**Indigenous Concerns:** Christinia Eala,  
[christiniawin@yahoo.com](mailto:christiniawin@yahoo.com)

**Publicity:** Hazel Krantz, [hazelkrantz@comcast.net](mailto:hazelkrantz@comcast.net)

**Hospitality:** TBD (contact Hugh Sanborn,  
[hwsanborn@comcast.net](mailto:hwsanborn@comcast.net))

**Special Event Committees:** (If you are interested in helping with one of these, please contact Hugh Sanborn, [hwsanborn@comcast.net](mailto:hwsanborn@comcast.net))

**International Humanitarian Award Program**

**UN Day Program**

**International Human Rights Day Program**

**Annual Luncheon Meeting Program**

A description of the responsibilities of each of these committees was passed out at our annual meeting in January. If you missed that handout and would like to receive it, email me and I will send it to you ([hwsanborn@comcast.net](mailto:hwsanborn@comcast.net)). It will also be posted on our website.

Presently our Chapter also needs a chair for Hospitality Committee. If this is something you would be interested in doing, let me know.

Note that committee chairs do not have to be members of the board.

Again, welcome to our new Board members. Your fellow board members join Nasir and me in looking forward to getting to know and work with you as the year unfolds.

Hugh Sanborn, Co-president

**Invitation to**  
UNA-NCO's  
2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN  
AWARD PROGRAM

**When:** 21 April, 4:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Global Village Museum  
200 West Mountain Avenue, Fort Collins

*Enjoy a relaxing stroll through the Museum  
while we honor our 2012 Humanitarian  
Award winner.*

*This will be a splendid, dressy affair.  
Refreshments will be served.*

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

*Additional details will be provided in a separate announcement.*

See Humanitarian Award article on page 6 for additional information.

## PRESIDENTS' CORNER

Nasir and I want to extend a warm welcome to our new board members, Andrea Heyman, Ed Jakubauskas, Daniel Owen, Erika Sydney Sloat,

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

**Please welcome these new members** who joined since the Annual Meeting. Please note their names and e-mail addresses in your 2012 Membership Booklet.

Abdunaser Omar Eadim

[nna772006@yahoo.com](mailto:nna772006@yahoo.com)

Randy and Kathryn Fischer [karand@frii.com](mailto:karand@frii.com)

Robert and Patricia Hollinger

[pathollinger@gmail.com](mailto:pathollinger@gmail.com)

Judy McKenna [jesmckenna@comcast.net](mailto:jesmckenna@comcast.net)

**Also welcome** new members Andrea Heyman, Erika Sloat, and Flora Teran who are already in the Booklet:

**The National Membership Office's** most recent report, which covers through November, 2011 reports that our Chapter had 82 members registered. Our six new members would give us 88. We expect a more up-to-date report from National soon.

**Dues are payable on a quarterly basis.** Our chapter has 17 households whose dues come due on March 31, 2012. If you are one of them, you should have received a "heads up" notice from me and probably by this time you will have received your renewal notice from the National Office. If you haven't already taken care of your dues, please try to do so promptly--it saves a lot of confusion. You can send the renewal form and payment directly to the Washington office as given on your renewal notice, or you can send them to me and I'll forward them after updating our local records.

**Did you know** that our chapter now receives **one half of the dues amount** back from the National Office? It used to be a smaller amount. This benefit is part of the affiliation of the U.N. Association with the U.N. Foundation that took place in 2011.

**Membership Booklets** for our Chapter are being given to members at meetings. Any not picked up by the end of the 25 March meeting will be mailed. Each one has a sticker on it with a name and the date when that person's dues lapse, so be sure the one you have is the one with your name on it. Please check your entry in the booklet, and if a change or correction is needed let me know at [macsmith36@aol.com](mailto:macsmith36@aol.com), or 493-3857.

**A Get Acquainted Gathering** was hosted by Eleanor Dwight and Norman Illsley on March 3. These gatherings are for new members and other interested parties to meet each other and learn about the UN, the UNA-USA, and our Northern Colorado Chapter. We have these events several times a year, so if you missed this one you'll have another chance.

**A new Membership Brochure** provided by the National Office explains various Programs and Initiatives of UNA-USA in an attractive way. It includes a Membership form. Pick one up at our next meeting and give to a friend.

**Who's on the Membership Committee?** YOU ARE! It's every member's job to encourage friends to join. The more specific answer as to who focuses on recruitment, record-keeping, mailings, and meeting sign-ins is that Pat Ciesla, Eleanor Dwight, and I are the core group, with some help from others, especially Mary Kay Graver, Hazel Krantz and Mary Wolfe. If you'd like to help with any of this, just let me know at 493-3857 or [macsmith36@aol.com](mailto:macsmith36@aol.com).

*Margaret Smith, Chair*

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Recent Committee focus has been on revitalizing the Model UN (MUN) in our local schools. A MUN Team was established to identify problems and determine how UNA can assist..

Daniel Owen met with Karen Gardenier, International Education, Office of International Programs, at CSU to discuss how CSU could again be part of the support group for UNA. They examined the MUN class already on the books. Elissa Tivona, an instructor in their department, has volunteered to teach the class.

Dr. Gardenier asked how being an MUN participant or teaching an MUN class would benefit her department and/or the university. They discussed the advantages of CSU hosting a MUN conference, which would bring potential CSU students to the university for a close-up-and-personal look at the campus and its various offerings.

Daniel also emphasized CSU's focus on attracting international students, e.g., their relationship with INTO and the Intensive English Program. INTO has recently signed a 30-year contract, worth millions of dollars. They have pledged to establish an Administration Office and a foreign students' dorm on campus and to recruit a minimum of 220 additional foreign students for 2012-2013. This would be a potential pool of students who might help with and/or participate in the MUN course as well as support any future MUN conferences.

Thanks to many contributors at our annual meeting, our Essay Fund now totals \$155. We still have a ways to go to reach the \$795 needed to reward all our essay winners. The students do a tremendous job researching and preparing these essays and the community outreach accomplished by these contests is effective and important to our mission. If you would like to contribute a few dollars to the Essay Fund, please contact Dick Rush at [crush@frii.com](mailto:crush@frii.com).

*Dick Rush, Chair*

## ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT:

I hope that some of you are availing yourselves of one of the “perks” of UNA membership and taking part in the monthly **UNA Nationwide Conference Calls**. They are well worth your time.

Participating in the conference call on 16 Feb, were Lawrence Gumbiner, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science, US Dept. of State and Melinda Kimble, Vice President, International Bioenergy Initiative, UN Foundation. They spoke about what they expect to be addressed in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (*Rio+20 Summit*—twenty years after the first Rio Summit). They said that it will be a much bigger agenda than climate change. The Summit will not attempt to initiate any treaties but will share best practices with regard to agriculture and land use. They will look at environmental, economical, and social well being issues as well as “green growth.”

New on the scene is the role of technologies. Lawrence remarked that when he was at the first Rio Summit he saw some of the first cell phones—the size of a shoe box! Social media can begin to be used for future “summits.” Lawrence said that he had taken part in a trial global “meeting” in which 15,000 people were on line.

One of the callers from Utah asked the experts about the “Sustainable Mountain Agenda.” There are meetings taking place in Nepal with regard to protecting and managing the ecosystems of mountains. (Has anyone reading this heard about sustainable mountain agenda?—sounds interesting for us in Colorado)

One caller asked about the Agenda 21 which I will address in another article.

As you can see from this very abbreviated write-up such a conference call is one hour well-spent. Next time, I will try to have a question ready. This is a rare chance to speak directly with people with long time experience in their fields.

**How can you participate?** Watch for an e-mail message with the Subject Line: **UNA-USA Nationwide Conference Call on** [title of the topic]. It will be sent out a week before the call. The body of the message will give information on the topic and the speakers. It will also list the phone number to call and the pass code and tell you where to send your RSVP.

*Eleanor Dwight, Chair*



Join UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter on Facebook. Anyone can join and everyone who joins will be able to post comments or items:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/225640767454752/>

## INDIGENOUS CONCERNS COMMITTEE REPORT:

During the month of January, I was blessed to be able to attend two critical conferences pertaining to water issues. On 15 January, the “Winyan Ituwán” (*Vision of the Women*) conference was held in Porcupine on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, in Lakota Territory. The theme of the conference was tar sands oil mining. Speakers told of the impacts on various communities in Canada and the US from tar sands oil mining and the XL Keystone pipeline, the Cameco, Inc. uranium mining near Pine Ridge, and the PowerTech, Inc. plan to mine uranium in the Black Hills.

The second conference, 27-29 January in Denver, was sponsored by *Downstream Neighbor*. ([www.downstreamneighbor.org](http://www.downstreamneighbor.org)). This extraordinary weekend symposium brought together activists, scholars & contemplatives in dialogue around the Front Range connection to the South Platte watershed. Speakers included Elisabeth Perado Beltrán, director of the *Solon Foundation*, an institution in Bolivia recognized for its work on human rights, integration and culture and the editor of *The Human Right to Water and Sanitation: Victory and Challenges for the Peoples of the World* and Maude Barlow co-founder of the *Blue Planet Project*, (<http://www.blueplanetproject.net/>), which works to protect the world’s fresh water supply and Senior Advisor on Water to the President of the UN General Assembly.

Attending these conferences has helped me prepare to support the *2012 Peace and Dignity Journey* (<http://sandiego.indymedia.org/pdji/>), which is dedicated to water. Our Chapter will be sponsoring a fundraising dinner to honor the runners when they stop in Fort Collins in August. See the *Journey* article on page 4 for additional information.

*Christinia Eala, Chair*

### INFORMAL DISCUSSION: Burundi

William M. Timpson, PhD will present  
**Building Sustainable Peace and Development in Post-Genocide Burundi**

**When:** Sunday, 25 March, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Global Village Museum  
200 West Mountain Ave, Fort Collins

Dr. Timpson is a professor of Learning, Teaching, and Culture in the Education Department at CSU. In 2011, he served as a Fulbright Senior Specialist at the University of Ngozi in Burundi.



**Coffee and cookies will be served.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!**

## ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING REPORT

The 9th Annual Meeting of our Northern Colorado Chapter/UNA went exceptionally well with reports on and summaries of all that was accomplished during 2011, election of board members (new and returning) and our new VP, Susan Solick, a delicious lunch prepared by Debbie Hamilton, and an informative, interesting and encouraging talk and slide presentation by our renown speaker Andrew Romanoff.

The Annual Reports will be available at our next few events and will be posted on our website. I will focus here on what Andrew Romanoff shared in his talk, *Growing Out of Extreme Poverty: How One Non-Profit Is Striving to Meet the UN Millennium Development Goals.*

Romanoff, who in 2008 was named as a "Public Official of the Year" by *Governing Magazine*,

now serves as a senior advisor to International Development Enterprises (iDE)—a Denver-based international nonprofit organization that equips rural households in Africa, Asia and Latin America with the technology they need to climb out of extreme poverty.

According to Romanoff, the engaging insight by Dr. Polak, "the notion of decreasing poverty by increasing income," became the basis for the orientation and work of iDE. Instead of giving away needed technological devices, iDE educates rural farming populations on the advantages of securing sprinkler and water storage systems, innovative water pumps, ceramic water purifiers and the like, and then helps new businesses to form (in the communities themselves) to build, sell and repair these products. The result is that entire communities become invested in improving their economic conditions and ending poverty. In Romanoff's words:

*"iDE focuses on water, because it generates the biggest bang for the buck. Irrigation allows farmers to grow crops during the driest months of the year. That doubles or triples the growing season.*

*We are capitalists. Instead of giving our products away, we work to create local supply chains, industries and markets and work with micro-lenders to help customers get loans."*

You can read more about the accomplishments of iED in its attempt to meet the UN's Millennium Development Goals at its website, [www.ideorg.org](http://www.ideorg.org); or connect with iDE on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/37357030336>) or Twitter (<http://twitter.com/#!/ideorg>).

Hugh Sanborn, Co-President



## PEACE AND DIGNITY IN FORT COLLINS



Every four years, *Peace and Dignity Journeys*, an indigenous first nations organization, invites native peoples and allies in the western hemisphere to participate in a reunification prayer by running. This year the theme of the run is *Water is Sacred*.

Beginning in April 2012, runners will start simultaneously from both ends of the continent—in Chickaloon, Alaska and Tierra Del Fuego, Argentina—and traverse the continent by foot from community to community, joining together for a final gathering in Central America, Panama. Fort Collins has been selected as one of the communities that the runners will visit.

In August, the runners will be stopping overnight in Fort Collins. The Indigenous Concerns Committee of our UNA Chapter is joining with *Tiyospaye-Winyan Maka* and other organizations to welcome them with food, ceremony, and overnight housing. And our UNA Chapter is sponsoring a fundraising dinner to honor them before they continue their journey south. The funds raised will be used to help pay for gas, phone cards, food and necessities during their journey.

In the meantime, Tiyospaye-Winyan Maka and others will be organizing monthly fundraisers to support the Journey. Members of our Chapter are invited to participate--Anyone with creative ideas for raising funds or who can help in any way between April and August is invited to call or e-mail *Christinia Eala* at [christiniawin@yahoo.com](mailto:christiniawin@yahoo.com) (970) 494-0700.

### OUT AND ABOUT: UNA IN THE COMMUNITY

Erika Sloat addressed students in the CSU course, Education for Global Peace on International Peacekeeping Missions. She shared her experiences of having worked as a contractor in both the UN Mission in Kosovo and the non-UN, Operation Iraqi Freedom. She identified some of the shortcomings of the UN Missions, as well as their strengths. She emphasized the difficulties of resourcing such projects and the need for a multidisciplinary staff. Ms. Sloat's goal was to provide a realistic idea of International Peacekeeping Missions. "If these students head enthusiastically into new careers, mindful of the challenges, based on anything I said, I will know that my own work continues."

*Do you belong to a group that would enjoy a speaker from the UNA? Have you made any UN-related presentations recently? Would you like to make presentations related to UN? Call Eleanor Dwight at 970-377-0863 or Margaret Smith, 970-493-3857.*

## WHAT IS AGENDA 21?

Every few years some people who are fearful of the United Nations bring up "Agenda 21" as a reason to question seemingly helpful recommendations. I would like for our members to know what Agenda 21 is and how some folks are needlessly fearful of it. Below is a quote from a UN fact sheet;

"Agenda 21 is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which humans impact the environment."

"Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the Statement of principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests were adopted by more than 178 Governments at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992." (Hence, the Rio + 20 conference is taking place this year)

The Agenda is nothing more than a long, long list of suggestions that nations and others can take **voluntarily** which will help us all to be better stewards of our planet. It is meant to be a cooperative effort. It is thought that through cooperation by all we will be more effective in our efforts and that we can learn from each other. It emphasizes those efforts which are sustainable. The Agenda in no way dictates what nations will do. Over and over throughout the documents it states that work needs to be done in consultation with the various governments and effected parties.

You may recall that a couple of years ago there was an effort by a woman here in Fort Collins to remove Councilwoman Lisa Poppaw because she suggested that perhaps Fort Collins could take an idea for better managing bicycles from one of the Agenda 21 documents. The woman was not successful in her efforts to remove Lisa, but recently others have been successful in defeating anything that even hints at cooperative, sustainable efforts.

The *High Country News* reported that,

*In November, La Plata County CO Commissioner Kellie Hotter called local land-use planning "a blood sport." She wasn't kidding. Since last spring, as this southwestern Colorado county considered a new comprehensive land-use plan, carnage has piled up. By mid-December, casualties included a fired planning commissioner, a resigned county planning director and the plan itself -- a 400-page document that took two years, \$750,000 and 137 public meetings to produce. Even planning veterans in the rural West -- where it's not uncommon for mind-numbing meetings to erupt into verbal fisticuffs -- were shocked by the bloodshed in La Plata County. But perhaps most surprising was who emerged the untarnished victors: Activists who believe that smart growth, clustered development, smart meters and even bike paths are all part of a nefarious United Nations plot to rob citizens of their liberties.*

I urge you to go on line and read about Agenda 21 in the official UN records (e.g., <http://www.un.org/en/> then type Agenda 21 in the search window at the top right) and you will see that there is no hidden agenda, just a series of suggestions and recommendations for making the world a better place. Or check the Better World Campaign, (<http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/news-room/web-articles/agenda-21.html>). Then check out the activists who are trying to keep us from implementing any of its suggestions, regardless of how innocuous or reasonable they are. Fear can drive some to unreasonable conclusions. We must be aware of this activist "agenda."

Eleanor Dwight

### UNA MEMBER IN SENEGAL

The following is an excerpt from a letter from UNA member Meredith McKee who has been working in Senegal.

*"My life in Senegal is still wonderful. I am posted at a teacher training center in Tambacounda, Senegal (the middle of the country). I work with English teachers. I run workshops and conduct classroom visits with feedback sessions. I teach a Business English class for local business professionals, plus I have an English radio broadcast.*

*I have been "adopted" by a local family with whom I share meals every day. I have been to the beach a couple times to enjoy the white sandy beaches with palm trees, as well as Dakar to partake in the nightlife and cultural events there..*

*My contract in Senegal is up in July. I'm thinking of coming back to Senegal for a second school year, or even switching to Ghana, where my organization, International Foundation for Education and Self Help (IFESH), also works. I have a Ghanaian friend who went to CSU (you may know him--Reuben Addo) and we are talking about teaming up to do a school renovation project in his home village in Ghana. We may do the project under the umbrella of IFESH. After we flesh out the details, I'll certainly be getting more details to you on this because Reuben may coordinate his end of the project based out of Fort Collins.*

Best regards,  
Meredith McKee

### KUDOS TO FOSSIL RIDGE MUN TEAM

The Fossil Ridge High School MUN Team reports they had a GREAT time at the MUN seminar at the University of Chicago, where they represented the nation of Fiji. One of their members received a *Vocal Commendation* in the General Assembly Economic Committee. They are preparing a slide show presentation, which will be presented to our Chapter at a later date.

## THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Each spring our chapter honors an individual or group who has demonstrated an outstanding track record of service to global citizens. Past recipients of this award include:

2009, *Maury Albertson*, Peace Corps Pioneer

2010, *Binh Rybacki*, founder and director of Children of Peace International

2011, Co-winners for work in Africa: the *Dille/Dunbar Fund* and the *Murulle Foundation*

I invite you to submit nominations for 2012--any person, or organization, from Northern Colorado, who has provided exemplary service to an international humanitarian effort over time. All nominees must meet the following criteria:

- They currently live and work, or have lived or worked, in Northern Colorado
- Their initiatives support one or more points of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (See <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/> for the complete list)
- Their work represents a sustained effort in the service of humanitarian causes over time
- There is an identifiable or measurable impact in terms of benefits to the target international population(s)
- Their work is not a function of their principal means of employment, but rather performed voluntarily or in the interest of sustaining not-for-profit initiatives.

**To be considered for the 2012 Award, nominations must be received by 21 March.**

To facilitate the process, the IHA committee has developed a Nomination Form, which is given on page 8 of this newsletter. We feel confident that in the course of your own productive work on behalf of the UN and other international programs, you have met at least one and probably several individuals you feel deserve UNA recognition. Send your nomination(s) to:

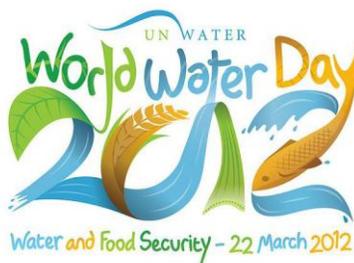
Elissa Tivona  
4236 Westshore Way  
Fort Collins, CO 80525

or email to: [etivona@harmonydesigngroup.com](mailto:etivona@harmonydesigngroup.com)

There are no limits on the number of nominations you can submit but please complete a separate nomination form for each. We will keep all nominations on file for consideration annually.

Thank you for helping to make our International Humanitarian Award a combined effort of our entire UNA Northern Colorado Chapter membership.

*Elissa Tivona, IHA Program Chair*



## WORLD WATER DAY 2012 AT CSU

There will be booths, speakers, a live band, and a great opportunity to talk to organizations about the conservation of

food and water!

**When: March 22 10am-6pm**

**Where: Lory Student Center, CSU Campus**

*Kids' activities will be in the Natural & Environmental Sciences*

Live Band Performance: Three Shots

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jim Tindall

Co-author of *Water Security: Threats, Conflicts, Policies* and professor at University of Colorado, Denver

**This event is free and open to the public.**

See <http://www.globalwater.colostate.edu/> for more information.

## CONGRATULATIONS ELEANOR !!!

Eleanor Dwight has been appointed as the UNA/USA's International Women's Day Representative for the Rocky Mountain Region.

In recognition of International Women's Day on March 8, UNA-USA identified a female Chapter member from each region who has done an outstanding job in one of the following three areas: building Chapter capacity and membership; Chapter advocacy in support of a strong UN; and fundraising in support of Chapter programs and development.

UNA/USA will feature a profile of Eleanor along with her photo on UNA-USA's International Women's Day page, and through their social media outlets.



## THE UN AT WORK

The following are excerpts from UN News Centre (<http://www.un.org/News/>) and other authoritative news sources

**UNICEF builds temporary classrooms in cyclone-hit Madagascar.** 23 Feb –The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) is helping build hundreds of temporary classrooms to replace those destroyed during Cyclone Giovanna. Schools were disproportionately damaged by the cyclone because many are wooden with thatched roofs and many pre-date 2004 regulations on minimum anti-cyclone standards. By mid-March, UNICEF hopes to have 650 temporary classrooms up and running (half the 1350 destroyed).

**INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY** has been observed on 21 February every year since 2000. The date represents the day in 1952 when students demonstrating for recognition of their language, Bangla, as one of the two national languages of the then Pakistan, were shot and killed by police in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.

The objective of this day is to promote linguistic and cultural diversity, multilingual education, and to develop awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

In commemorating this day, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova observed that *'languages are the most powerful instruments for preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage . . . They are a key component in the fight against discrimination'*. She noted that over 50% of the 6,700 spoken languages are in danger of disappearing by the end of the century. She added that languages "are who we are; by protecting them, we protect ourselves."

Some of ways this day was observed include:

—Microsoft announced upcoming 14 new display languages in Windows 8, and Windows Live will increase the number of languages it supports to 93.

—Students of different aboriginal backgrounds gathered together at Tanan Elementary School in Taitung County, eastern Taiwan.



—The Turkish website *bianet* published articles in all 20 different languages spoken in Turkey today. Many of them are on the verge of disappearing and have been included in the UNESCO World Atlas of Languages in Danger.

—But perhaps most significantly, in India and Bangladesh—**where it all started**:



*Indians and Bangladeshis lay wreaths at the memorial to Bangladesh's 'Language Martyrs' at Akhaurah on the India-Bangladesh border.*

With hundreds and thousands of people from either side of the Indian-Pakistan border present and vivid functions and commemorations of the language martyrs, India and Bangladesh Tuesday jointly organized and celebrated their International Mother Language Day.

**UN AND PARTNERS HELP TO POWER EDUCATION WITH SOLAR PANEL DONATION.** 17 February --The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) has partnered with religious institutions to provide solar panels that will power much-needed electricity to schools as well as promote the use of renewable energy.

The first solar panels were donated to the Ebrahim Hamim Madrasa and the Islamic Centre of Social Welfare outside of Jalalabad, in the eastern province of Nangarhar, last week. The solar panels and related equipment will benefit around 570 students, including 350 girls.

**MILLIONS OF PEOPLE TO RECEIVE SOLAR ENERGY ACCESS THROUGH UN-BACKED INITIATIVE.** 16 Feb --A Mauritius-based company announced today that it will provide access to low-cost solar energy for 33 million people in Africa and Asia for the next four years, as part of a United Nations-backed initiative to fight poverty. The company's efforts are part of Business Call to Action (BCTA) a global initiative supported by the UN Development Program (UNDP) that encourages private sector efforts to develop inclusive business models that can have both commercial success and a positive impact in development.

**SOUTH SUDAN: JAPANESE ENGINEERS JOIN UN MISSION TO BUILD ROADS AND BRIDGES.** 21 Feb – A Japanese engineering contingent has arrived in South Sudan to join the UN peacekeeping mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and help build roads and bridges. The group of 120 engineers from the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) follows an advance team of 34 logisticians. By next month a full contingent of 330 engineers will be in place, as will road rollers, excavators, bulldozers and water tankers.

**UN ADVOCATE MICHAEL DOUGLAS URGES YOUNG ARTISTS TO DRAW FOR PEACE.** 21 February 2012 – The UN Messenger of Peace and Academy Award winner Michael Douglas appealed to children from around the world to bring to life their artistic impressions of what a world without nuclear weapons would look like. He called upon young artists from 5 through 17 to use their creative talents and draw, paint or sketch their visions of a world without nuclear weapons, bombs or wars for an international art contest. Contestants are to upload their artwork to the initiative's website, [www.unartforpeace.org](http://www.unartforpeace.org). The flyer campaign has already been translated into 22 languages and more will be released soon.

## NOMINATION FORM, 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

**NOMINATOR** Name and Contact Information:

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**2012 NOMINEE** Name and Contact Information:

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HAS YOUR NOMINEE EVER LIVED OR WORKED IN NORTHERN COLORADO?

Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

IS YOUR NOMINEE AWARE OF THIS NOMINATION?

Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

MAY WE CONTACT THEM FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RESPOND TO ALL THE FOLLOWING. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE REQUESTED AS NEEDED.**

1. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE WHAT MAKES YOUR NOMINEE AN EXCELLENT CANDIDATE FOR THE 2012 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD. DESCRIBE THEIR WORK AS SUCCINCTLY AS POSSIBLE.

2. DESCRIBE ONE OR MORE POINTS OF THE UN'S UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORTED BY THIS WORK.

3. HOW LONG HAS YOUR NOMINEE BEEN INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AND IN WHAT SPECIFIC CAPACITIES?

4. DESCRIBE THE POPULATION(S) SERVED BY THESE EFFORTS.

5. DESCRIBE THE MOST IDENTIFIABLE IMPACTS OF THIS WORK IN TERMS OF BENEFITS TO THE TARGET POPULATION(S).

6. IS THIS WORK A FUNCTION OF THEIR PRINCIPAL MEANS OF EMPLOYMENT? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

IF **NO**, DESCRIBE HOW THEY HAVE SERVED VOLUNTARILY OR IN THE INTEREST OF SUSTAINING A NOT-FOR-PROFIT INITIATIVE.

**SEND YOUR NOMINATION TO: ELISSA TIVONA, 4236 WESTSHORE WAY, FORT COLLINS, CO 80525 OR EMAIL TO: [ETIVONA@HARMONYDESIGNGROUP.COM](mailto:ETIVONA@HARMONYDESIGNGROUP.COM)**

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**WEBSITES OF INTEREST:**

**UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter:**

[www.unanortherncolorado.org](http://www.unanortherncolorado.org) .

**On Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/225640767454752/>.

UNA national: [www.unausa.org](http://www.unausa.org) .

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United Nations information: [www.un.org](http://www.un.org) .

UN Information Center, DC: [www.unicwash.org](http://www.unicwash.org) .

**Our World 2.0**—a web-magazine produced by the UN University: [ourworld.unu.edu/en/](http://ourworld.unu.edu/en/). Supported by video on YouTube and Vimeo.

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**UNA-USA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:**

For prompt local acknowledgment of your membership, please mail this form and your payment to:

**UNA of Northern Colorado,  
Margaret Smith, Membership Chair  
1980 Welch St. #31, Fort Collins CO 80525**

Margaret will forward your form and payment to the national office after recording the information locally.

**Select Your Annual Dues Amount (US\$):**

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Would you like to Participate in the Young Professional Program (YPIC)?  YES  NO

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