



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States

Northern
Colorado
Chapter

November-December 2011

Volume 7, Number 5

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Unitarian-Universalists (UUs) for Justice in the Middle East. Friday, 3 November 7:00 p.m. at Foothills Unitarian Church, 1815 Yorktown Ave., Fort Collins. Eleanor Dwight will host Anna Baltzer's film, *Witness in Palestine*. Everyone is welcome.

UNA Newcomers Orientation. Saturday, 12 November, 2:30 p.m. Open to new and potential new members. See announcement on this page.

UNA Informal Discussion. Saturday, 19 November, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Heart of the Rockies Christian Church, 6501 Brittany Street, Fort Collins. Devon Tivona, a student at the University of Colorado at Boulder and committee director for the International Model United Nations Association (IMUNA), will discuss the Model United Nations. Everyone is welcome. See **Model UN** item, page 4.

UNA Human Rights Day Program. Sunday, 11 December, 3:00 p.m., Harmony Library, 4616 South Shields, Fort Collins. The award-winning actress Susan Marie Frontczak will present *Human Rights: Eleanor Roosevelt at the United Nations*. Everyone is welcome. See **Human Rights Day** item, page 4.

International Hour for Peace. The 26th Annual International Hour for Peace will be held at Blessed John XXIII University Center, 1220 University Avenue on Saturday, December 31 at 4:45 to 6:15 a.m. That time is chosen to join with simultaneous world-wide observances geared to Universal Mean Time. This year's theme is "*Make Peace: One Piece At a Time.*" Representatives of various faiths will speak. Additional details can be found at: <http://www.fortnet.org/hr4peace/>

UNA Annual Luncheon Meeting. Sunday, 14 January, at Christ Methodist Church, 301 East Drake St., Fort Collins, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Guest Speaker: Andrew Romanoff. Additional details will be provided next month.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

I hope that all of our members will place on their calendars and be present at the exceptional programs that we have planned during the next few months.

On November 19, our informal discussion will be held at Heart of the Rockies Christian Church at 10 AM with Devon Tivona as presenter--see article below for

details. On December 11, at Harmony Library, we will have our International Human Rights Day program with Susan Marie Frontczak, an Eleanor Roosevelt impersonator, presenting on "Hammering Out Human Rights." Stan Kidder and his program committee are to be commended for their preparatory work for this program.

Then, on January 14, we have secured Andrew Romanoff as our Annual Luncheon Meeting speaker at Christ Methodist Church. We will gather at 10:30 AM for greeting one another, hold our annual meeting, eat lunch at or about noon, and then hear Romanoff's presentation followed by Q&A. He plans to address some aspect of our nation's foreign policy in relation to the UN. What a great way to complete our chapter's year.

Tod Huckaby, instructor sponsor of the Fossil Ridge High School Model United Nations (MUN) student group, has invited Hugh Sanborn and Elissa Tivona to meet and speak to the students about the work of our Chapter. His group, which won five awards at the Regis Meet early in October, is seeking funds to help them attend the Chicago MUN Conference in February. Although Tod would like to meet with our board to discuss their need for financial assistance, he is already scheduled for other events the next two months on our meeting days.

Hugh Sanborn, Co-president



Thanks to Co-president Nasir Jalal, UNA Northern Colorado Chapter is now on Facebook! Join us at:

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

NEWCOMERS ORIENTATION

Newer members and people thinking seriously of joining our chapter will come together with some experienced members for an "Orientation Get-Together" on Saturday, 12 November at 2:30 p.m. We will get acquainted with the UN and with each other in an informal and relaxed setting. We are grateful to Eleanor Dwight and Norman Illsley for opening their home for this event. Invitations will be sent out early in November. If you'd like to come and haven't received an invitation by 4 November, please let me know at Macsmith36@aol or 970-493-3857.

Margaret Smith

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

Please welcome these new members and note their names and e-mail addresses in your membership booklet:

Daniel and Alice Owen daliceowen@yahoo.com

Jacquie Huhta jacquie_huhta@msn.com

Marie Schaffner jdms@frii.com

Please note that Nasir Jalal has a new e-mail address: nasirjal@gmail.com

(For reasons of privacy and space, we print in the Newsletter only names and e-mail addresses, not postal addresses nor telephone numbers.)

Fourth quarter membership renewal notices to go out in early November. To ensure that current members of UNA-USA retain their memberships in the organization, UNA-USA sends renewal notices to lapsing and lapsed members. The renewal letters for individuals lapsing at the end of this year will be sent out in early November.

I hope you will all renew right away; it's less confusing to everybody if you do. About 17 of our chapter's members have dues that will lapse the end of December. Recently there have been some renewal letters sent out in combination with requests for contributions. If you have a question about your dues and when they're due, please contact me: macsmith@aol.com, 970-493-3857. Thanks!

Bring a friend to our upcoming winter programs! We are all part of the membership recruitment effort.

Margaret Smith, Chair

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Most of you should have received a request from our National office to call our members of Congress asking them to vote against an anti-UN bill. This bill will cut US funding for the UN by half. Many, many very important programs would be cut as a result.

I wrote a letter to our Congressman, Cory Gardner, asking the same and hand carried it to his office here. If you did indeed call Congressman Gardner, you helped make this letter even more powerful. I am trying to get an appointment for us with Gardner now. Let me know if you care to participate (377-0863 or Eleanor@dwightcentral.com).

If you would like to let Congressman Gardner know your opinion on this issue, his local contact information is:

123 N. College, Suite 220
Fort Collins, CO 80525

970-221-7110 Cory.gardner@mail.house.gov

Eleanor Dwight, Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

The autumn contests--elementary school art and middle school writing--are over and results were seen and heard at our UN Day program. We were pleased to have 81 art entries this year on the topic "The Roots of Peace", with the usual individuality and creativity shown. The winning entries will be on display again at our January general meeting.

The middle school writing contest brought 37 entries on the topic, "Legs, Lives and Landmines: the Role of the UN." The entries showed the usual blend of academic effort and creative talent.

On 10 November, our committee will meet to make plans for the high school- and college-level essay contests to be held in the spring. The topic for both contests will be "The Responsibility to Protect," an issue that has assumed great relevance due to recent world events.

Our chapter has a nagging problem and that is the funding of our four contests, for which funds are now depleted. In a normal year, prizes total \$570, and they have been financed by the generous contributions of a few members. Our chapter board has discussed this situation and would like to encourage members to make small donations of \$5 or \$10, rather than relying on large donations from a few. A means of facilitating this is in the works. We hope the idea meets with your approval, as the community outreach and individual participant enrichment of these contests is a vital part of our UNA's mission.

Dick Rush, Chair

UN DAY CELEBRATION

Another amazing UN Day program! A full house at the Fort Collins downtown library were educated and awed by the poems, stories and essays of our middle school writing contest winners. The topic was "Legs, Lives and Landmines: the Role of the UN," to which was brought creativity, scholarship and writing of a very high level. Amidst all the facts regarding background of use, cost of planting and removing, techniques of detection and de-mining, statistics of maimed and killed and countries involved were wonderfully personalized accounts from the victims' perspectives. That the students received, felt and transmitted the message of landmine use was clear.

Our thanks go to teachers at Boltz, Leshner, Lincoln and Webber middle schools in Fort Collins who worked with their students and to the parents who encouraged them. An additional highlight of the afternoon was the music provided by guitarist and singer Bill DeMarco, whose selections were relevant and moving. We closed with pleasant visiting and a birthday cake to celebrate our winners and the United Nations at 66.

OUT AND ABOUT: UNA IN THE COMMUNITY

From time to time, UNA members are speakers at community events with an international perspective:

In early October, Eleanor Dwight and Margaret Smith made presentations to the Great Decisions group of the League of Women Voters and also CSU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute class on Great Decisions. The overall topic was *Making Sense of Multilateralism*, with subtopics on "Nuclear Nonproliferation," "Climate Change," and "Multilateralism," with emphasis on the MDGs and other humanitarian aid.

On 28 October, Margaret Smith spoke to Salon duc Tape, a public forum sponsored by *Strength Through Peace*. She described the recent Palestinian petitions to the United Nations, explained their relationships to different parts of the UN organization, and discussed US reactions to the petitions.

Eleanor Dwight has organized a series of programs on the Israel/Palestine situation. These are sponsored by the *Unitarian-Universalists (UUs) for Justice in the Middle East*, which she leads. The next program will be on November 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Foothills Unitarian Church, 1815 Yorktown Ave., Fort Collins. It will feature Anna Baltzer's film, *Witness in Palestine*. Everyone is welcome...

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.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY PROGRAM

This year we will celebrate Human Rights Day on Sunday, December 11, at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Harmony Library, 4616 South Shields Street, Fort Collins. The centerpiece of the celebration will be a performance by the award-winning actress, Susan Marie Frontczak titled *Hammering Out Human Rights: Eleanor Roosevelt at the United Nations*.

The performance is described thusly on her Web site, <http://storysmith.org/>: "*Witness the compassion, the humor, the angst, and the wit of Eleanor Roosevelt. She speaks of the ground-breaking, grueling, and tempestuous, eventually triumphant development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a Magna Carta for humankind. No wonder President Truman dubbed Mrs. Roosevelt 'First Lady of the World.'* Find out why Human Rights matter to you, and to the potential longevity of the United States."

Everyone is welcome. Don't miss it!



THINKING AHEAD TO 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 start brainstorming for 2012, calling to mind a person or an 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 facilitate the selection process, the IHA committee has developed a Nomination Form, which is given on page 5 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.

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



EYE-OPENERS AT EXPERIENCES IN SUDAN

At our September Informal Discussion, we learned a great deal about the current situation in Sudan and its background. Rhonda Parmley of Fort Collins brought together representatives from the following groups:

- **HealthKind Foundation** provides health care education and services focused on child and maternal health in southern Sudan (www.healthkind.org/).
- **Nuba Water Project** helps develop sustainable clean water sources (www.nubawaterproject.org/),
- **Project Education Sudan** helps build primary and secondary schools and train teachers in rural villages in South Sudan (www.projecteducationsudan.org/).

We heard a brief history of Sudan, *the Land of the Blacks*. Long ago, Muslims there were slave merchants and slavery is still going on. And so is civil war. In the Nuba Mountain region, 50 tribes are in a federation. Some tribes have been eradicated by genocide. Sudan has the largest number of refugees in the world. At times their own government destroys whole villages.

George Tutu of the *Nuba Water Project*, who came here as a refugee in 1998, said the “Arabs messed up everything.” The north wants to push the Nuba people out and take control of the area. He described the war as a ‘Holy War’ but emphasized that the war is about color, not religion—many of the Nuba people are Muslim. Millions of both religions have been killed. He told how the Nuba people have been disallowed from the peace talks over the years. Although the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement brought about the separation of North Sudan from South Sudan, the ‘Holy War’ continues.

The *Project Education Sudan* spokesperson told about her group’s work to build primary and secondary schools and to train teachers. The primary schools are co-ed. The secondary schools are all-girl boarding schools. This way, girls can be freed of the home chores and can spend time on studies. UNICEF provides supplies for the schools. Some of the students are the “Lost Boys of Sudan.” One of the Lost Boys was present and spoke briefly of his experiences.

The presenters felt that the United Nations was not doing well for the region. They cited that UN cars were used for bombing and that there was not enough accountability for the troops there.

Several books were recommended as well as a film and internet site: *What is the What*, by Dave Eggers; *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, by Nicholas Kristof; Ricki Stern’s and Anne Sundberg’s documentary film, *The Devil came on Horseback*, on the continuing Darfur Conflict in Sudan; and <http://endnubagenocide.org/>.

MODEL UN IN NORTHERN COLORADO

Great news Northern Colorado! High School Model United Nations (MUN) is back in the “news” in Poudre School District.

As we’ve been learning over the past year, there are two types of MUN programs, and we are fortunate to have experienced coaches and staff right here in our backyard participating in both.

Fossil Ridge High School, under the skilled leadership of Tod Huckaby, has an active group that participates in Conferences up and down Colorado’s Front Range, including Boulder, Denver and Colorado Springs. Also, Paul DeMaret, coach of the Rocky Mountain HS Forensics team, has taken enthusiastic teams to the RHSMUN Conference (Regional High School Model United Nations).

On **Sunday, 19 November at 10:00 a.m. at Heart of the Rockies** (6501 Brittany Street in Fort Collins), the NCO UNA chapter is hosting an informal presentation and discussion about Model United Nations Programs. Leading the discussion will be Devon Tivona, a former Rocky student and three-time MUN participant.

In high school, Devon participated in both Model United Nations and Speech and Debate during High School. As a sophomore at CU Boulder, he is a committee director for the International Model United Nations Association (IMUNA.) and serves on the RHSMUN staff. He loves nothing better than promoting the benefits of MUN participation for high school students

Devon will be discussing a wide range of Model UN opportunities, including the UNA-USA’s Global Classrooms and IMUNA’s national conferences. He hopes to elucidate the myriad of opportunities available to high school students, as well as foster discussion on how the Northern Colorado Chapter of the UNA can aid Poudre Schools in this pursuit.

We have extended invitations to local educators and their students to join us and share insights into their school’s programs and some of the challenges they face keeping those programs afloat.

This is a unique opportunity to gain insight into how Model United Nations works. Find out how the program fosters the highest level of experiential learning, transforming students into UN delegates who take part in simulations of real time United Nations sessions, grappling with real world challenges.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

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 _____

CAN 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.



Universal Children's Day.

20 Nov—First proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1954, Universal Children's Day was established to encourage all countries to institute a day, to promote the mutual exchange and understanding among children and to initiate action to benefit and promote the welfare of the world's children. It was also chosen as the day to celebrate childhood. Since 1999, Universal Children's Day has been preceded by *International Men's Day*, creating a 48-hour celebration of men and children respectively during which time the positive roles men play in children's lives are recognized.

Universal Children's Day was first celebrated worldwide in October 1953, under the sponsorship of International Union for Child Welfare in Geneva. The idea of a Universal Children's Day was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1954.

November 20 is also the anniversary of the day when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the *Declaration of the Rights of the Child* in 1959. The Convention on the Rights of the Child was then signed on the same day in 1989, which has since been ratified by 191 states.

Mexico: Angélique Kidjo lauds efforts of UN-backed centre helping abused children.

20 October —Internationally renowned singer Angélique Kidjo has lauded the efforts of a facility in Mexico City supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) that provides medical, psychological and legal assistance to children who have suffered violence.

The Integrated Child Protection System, known by its Spanish acronym "SAPII," operates in the Iztapalapa neighborhood and has provided care to almost 600 children. Iztapalapa is one of the most disadvantaged neighborhoods in Mexico City, where almost half of its 2 million residents live in poverty.

UNICEF and its partners, working closely with Government institutions, have helped the facility through advocacy and technical support, as well as by proposing and developing policies and programs to assist children and adolescents who suffered violence. The facility provides a "one-stop shop" where children can receive medical attention and psychological support, and can be interviewed by the prosecutors handling their cases. Assistance is designed in a way that uses innovative and sensitive techniques for taking legal testimonies from children, and seeks to prevent family separation where possible.

FOR THE U.S., A FORCED WITHDRAWAL FROM UNESCO. *excerpts from 24 October LA Times.*

The Palestinian bid for statehood recognition by the UN is almost certain to be rejected if it is taken up by the Security Council. But as early as this week, the governing assembly of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) could grant the Palestinians membership in that organization. If this happens, the US would have to resign from UNESCO because of a 20-year-old law forbidding the payment of dues by the US to any UN body that accepts Palestine as a member.

And the consequences wouldn't end there. UNESCO's acceptance of Palestine would automatically trigger Palestinian membership in the UN's World Intellectual Property Organization, which plays a key role in the international safeguarding of intellectual property, including patents, copyrights, and trademarks belonging to US companies and individuals. And, it could smooth the way for membership in other UN entities, such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization.

It is clear that whatever happens at UNESCO, Palestinians will continue to seek membership in the U.N.'s many specialized agencies. Each time Palestine is accepted by one of the UN's specialized agencies, the law will force the US to resign from it, thereby losing influence and input on international issues. . . the US could find itself shut out of a great many international decisions that have a direct impact on American jobs, lives, safety and security.

To read the entire article, select **CTRL** and **Click** on [Withdrawal From UNESCO](#).

Timothy E. Wirth, President, UN Foundation

THE UN AT WORK

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

UN-backed peace talks seek to end violent ethnic clashes in South Sudan. 21 October—Two ethnic communities that had previously engaged in violent attacks in South Sudan took part in a series of UN-backed peace talks this month to put an end to conflict in the country's Jonglei state.

The UN peacekeeping mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) aims to establish a dialogue between the Lou Nuer and Murle communities and boost security in the region. UNMISS responded to the first attacks by deploying troops to the two counties to deter a counter-attack and has been working with local police forces and the military to strengthen security in the area. They continue fly air surveillance over the territory daily to monitor the situation.

UN supports training for DR Congo police ahead of elections.

20 October—More than 700 police officers are being trained by the United Nations and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to provide better policing in the country's province of South Kivu during next month's elections. Officers will receive joint training on the maintenance and restoration of law and public order as well as on technical and professional interventions. The training will be both theoretical and practical, and will include hands-on training on crowd and public protest management techniques.

The initiative is part of an ongoing UN mandate to provide stability and support for the restoration of the Government. Since 1999, the UN peacekeeping mission in the DRC – with some 19,000 uniformed personnel currently on the ground – has overseen the vast country's emergence from years of civil war and factional chaos, culminating most notably in 2006 with the first democratic elections in over four decades. But fighting has continued sporadically in the east, where the bulk of UN forces are deployed.



Kenyan farmers receive UN help to withstand drought, prevent food crisis.

13 October—The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is helping farmers in eastern Kenya make the necessary investments today to withstand drought and prevent food security crises tomorrow.

The agency is assisting over 5,000 farming households terrace their fields to conserve rain water for crop use and prevent the soils from eroding, and to build simple dams for harvesting rain water. In return for their labor, the farmers receive vouchers to redeem for food and building materials for the community-owned dams.

Such efforts help farmers “hold the line” and get back on their feet quickly amid bad weather. This area of Kenya is subject to intense bursts of rainfall, which can strip away fertile topsoil. Rainwater is lost through run-off, leaving river beds bone dry the rest of the year.

FAO also noted that seed stocks in the region are almost depleted and high food and fuel prices have placed an additional strain, forcing families to eat fewer meals a day or to sell off livestock.



Angélique Kidjo, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, and a girl sign a passport in Cotonou, Benin

Mexico: Angélique Kidjo lauds efforts of UN-backed centre helping abused children.

20 Oct—Internationally renowned singer Angélique Kidjo has lauded the efforts of a facility in Mexico City supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) that provides medical, psychological and legal assistance to children who have suffered violence.

The Integrated Child Protection System (SAPII) operates in the Iztapalapa neighborhood of Mexico City, where almost half of its 2 million residents live in poverty, and has provided care to almost 600 children.

The facility provides a “one-stop shop” where children can receive medical attention and psychological support, and can be interviewed by the prosecutors handling their cases. .

Veteran war crimes jurist elected President of UN tribunal for Balkans conflicts.

19 October—Judge Theodor Meron of the United States was elected to his second term as President of the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Since 2001, Judge Meron has served on the appeals chamber for both the ICTY and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). He served as ICTY President from March 2003 to November 2005.

A leading scholar of international humanitarian law, human rights, and international criminal law, Judge Meron spearheaded a series of reforms during his first term to increase the efficiency of court proceedings and establish a war crimes chamber in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He will begin his term as the ICTY prepares to hear cases against two of the most important defendants ever brought before it, the former Bosnian Serb political leader Radovan Karadžić and military chief Ratko Mladić.

UN agency honors four students for innovative environmental projects. 25 October—Four projects—all designed by young students—have been awarded the 2011 Young Environmental Leader Award by the UN Environmental Program (UNEP).

—Ms. Rudianto of Indonesia developed a bioreactor that can process farm and household waste to make renewable energy that can be used for cooking in Indonesia’s West Java province, but also serve as an alternative source of fuel.

—Ms. Acosta of Ecuador designed a process to treat water that has been contaminated by mercury, a toxic element that has usually resulted from gold mining.

—Mr. Muli of Kenya is implementing a green energy project that aims to lower carbon emissions by using clean fuel briquettes made of foliage and waste paper rather than charcoal.

—In the Philippines, Ms. Gabanes has set up an environmental education program for children with special needs that includes art therapy sessions, a musical variety show and photo exhibitions.

They will each receive €3,000 and technical support in their home countries to make their projects sustainable.

UN and partners scale up malaria response for two million Somalis at risk. 17 October—The UN and its partners are escalating their response measures to prevent a malaria outbreak in Somalia. Malaria kills nearly 800,000 people around the world every year.

To protect the population, UNICEF, World Health Organization (WHO) and partners have engaged in a large-scale campaign which consists of distributing protection kits according to each region’s needs and educating people on the ways to prevent and treat the disease.

In drought-affected regions such as Hiran, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Lower Juba and Middle Juba in south-central Somalia, 280,000 long-lasting insecticide treated nets will be distributed in the next weeks to over 140,000 households in addition to the 79,000 nets which have already been distributed since July. In Mogadishu, where nets are not practical, 45,000 households will receive indoor spraying which will protect them for three to four months, and will be re-sprayed in March and April next year.

Health facilities throughout high-risk areas will be equipped with 560,000 doses of anti-malaria drugs as well as with the ability to provide one million rapid diagnostic tests and the capacity to treat cases. The campaign is financially supported by the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFTAM) and the United Kingdom Department for International Development.

Online game that helps UN fight hunger launches Chinese version. 26 October—

Freerice.com, the online game

that allows players to improve their vocabulary while fighting world hunger by making donations to the United Nations World Food Program (WFP), launched its Chinese-language version today.

“*Freerice* has been a global phenomenon in English, French, Italian and Spanish and is now reaching a critical and influential part of the global population,” said Nancy Roman of WFP. “China has more Internet users than any other country.”

On *Freerice.com*, players face increasingly difficult vocabulary questions and for every correct answer, they earn 10 grains of rice, which are donated to WFP and paid for by advertisers on the site.

Originally launched in English in 2007, the online game had within a month raised enough rice to feed over 50,000 people for a day. The game attracts 1.3 million players per month and has raised almost 100 billion grains of rice, enough to feed 4.8 million people for a day in countries in need of food aid.



Timor-Leste and the UN step up efforts to dispose of unexploded ordnance. 18 October—

Specialized teams from United Nations Police (UNPOL) and the Timor-Leste National Police (PNTL) have been collecting unexploded ordnance (UXO) and disposing of it. The UNPOL team is currently the only organization in Timor-Leste to provide expertise in UXO removal and offer training to PNTL officers in the procedure. While most of the ordnance in the country dates back to the Second World War, its disposal only began in 2006.

UN invites young people to create HIV/AIDS strategy. 25 October—

Young people will be able to create and shape the new UN strategy on youth and HIV/AIDS through an online collaborative project, which will use social media platforms to facilitate the development of new policies.

CrowdOutAIDS.org will run for a period of two months in which anyone aged 15 to 29 will be able to submit and share ideas and proposals for the strategy. The name alludes to the popular concept of *crowdsourcing*, which consists of letting large undefined groups collaborate on innovative solutions for tasks traditionally performed by individuals.

Participants to use a range of social media platforms to connect, share and collaborate on a new strategy that speaks to them and addresses key HIV/AIDS issues. According to Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of the Joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), “It is absolutely critical that we engage young people – not as recipients of our message but as the actors and creators of change.”

**UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION, NORTHERN COLORADO (NOCO) CHAPTER LEADERSHIP
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WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

UNA, Northern Colorado Chapter:

www.unanortherncolorado.org .

UNA national: www.unausa.org .

UN Foundation: [http://www.unfoundation.org/](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: ourworld.unu.edu/en/. Supported by video on YouTube and Vimeo.

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

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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\$):

- \$40 Regular
 \$100 Sponsor
 \$500 Patron
 \$1,000 Lifetime
 \$25 Introductory/Limited Income
 \$10 Student

Is this a membership renewal? YES NO

Billing Information:

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone or Cell Phone _____

Business Phone _____

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Chapter: _____

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

Yes, I would like to receive communications from UNA/USA.

Payment Method:

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

Credit Card Type:    

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

Membership in UNA-USA is open to any citizen or resident of the USA who is committed to the purposes of UNA-USA.

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