



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

*A peoples' movement for the United Nations*

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**Resolutions Issued by the 39th Plenary Assembly of  
the World Federation of United Nations Associations**

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**Resolution on the Responsibility to Protect**

Deeply concerned at the inability of the international community and the United Nations to prevent or react to large-scale loss of life of civilians;

Noting that UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, as well as his predecessor Kofi Annan, have urged the international community to address this issue urgently;

Acknowledging that the Independent Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS), the UN High Level Panel of Threats, Challenges and Change, as well as the UNSG report "In Larger Freedom", proposed the concept of the Responsibility to Protect as a means to begin to deal with the issue of large-scale loss of life including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes;

Pleased that the concept was established in the outcome document of the UN Summit 2005 and that it was decided to be further discussed and developed.

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The World Federation of United Nations Associations

Pledges its full support for the concept of the Responsibility to Protect in its entirety, including the three aspects of the responsibility to prevent, the responsibility to react and the responsibility to rebuild;

Will actively work, in collaboration with individual UNAs involved in this work, to raise awareness on the concept among UNAs as well as other civil society organizations;

Will seek to help strengthen this emerging norm by promoting references to it in UN texts and resolutions.

### **Resolution on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament**

Noting that the Charter of the United Nations specifies “disarmament and the regulation of armaments” as a core element of the maintenance of international peace and security (Article 11), links international peace and security to “the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources” (Article 26), and provides for high-level military advice on “the regulation of armaments, and possible disarmament” (Article 47);

Recalling that before the Charter even entered into force, the invention and wartime use of the first generation of atomic weapons had added a hitherto unimaginable annihilative power to military arsenals, such that the very first resolution adopted by the very first session of the General Assembly of the infant United Nations called for the total elimination of nuclear weapons (Resolution 1(I));

Lamenting the continued spread of nuclear weapons, despite the nuclear nonproliferation treaty, to now several countries, each of which has a nuclear weapons establishment with a deep interest in their perpetuation;

Reaffirming the cornerstone principle of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty that nuclear-armed states have the concomitant obligation to implement elimination of their own nuclear weapons arsenals as non-nuclear-armed states undertake in not developing nuclear weapons capabilities—an obligation that the NPT’s nuclear-weapons states explicitly recognized at the NPT review conference of 1995, and for which they committed themselves to a 13-step implementation plan at the NPT review conference of 2000;

Welcoming the recommitment of the first nuclear weapons state to these weapons’ complete elimination worldwide, announced by the new American president Barack Obama in Prague this year, and the agreement between president Obama and Russian president Dmitri Medvedev to conclude a treaty this year making substantial reductions in the nuclear stockpiles of the United States and Russian Federation;

Applauding the achievement of agreement in the long-deadlocked U.N. Conference on Disarmament on a work program including negotiation of a treaty to end production of fissile material and a working group on banning weapons from space;

Applauding also the announced intention of the Security Council to meet at the summit level this fall to act on plan to advance nuclear disarmament, paving the way for a successful NPT review conference in 2010; and

Recognizing that achievement of a nuclear weapons-free world will require verification, transparency, and guarantees of a robust global response to any state or entity that seeks “break-out” capability to acquire nuclear weapons in the future,

The World Federation of United Nations Associations:

Endorses the political priority that leaders of several nuclear-weapons states now publicly place on reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons;

Calls on the nuclear-weapons states parties to the NPT to move quickly to implement previously agreed measures to achieve a nuclear-weapons free world in the near future, and calls on states that are not parties to the NPT, even though nuclear weapons-capable, to commit to joining an international regime of build-down, transparency, and weapons elimination;

Appeals to all states that have not yet done so to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty without delay;

Reaffirms the need, in the interim before complete elimination of nuclear weapons, for all nuclear-armed states to commit themselves unequivocally to “no first use” of nuclear weapons, and for each to commit itself to the Security Council’s negative security assurances to non-nuclear-armed states;

Calls for the universal application of International Atomic Energy Agency Additional Protocols;

Urges member states to work promptly in the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate a treaty to end verifiably the production of fissile materials;

Calls for creation of an international nuclear fuel bank that guarantees access to civil nuclear power generation without increasing the risks of weapons proliferation;

Urges the United Nations Security Council to create effective multilateral means for giving full effect to Resolution 1540 on controlling the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-state actors;

Calls on all U.N. member states to support and implement energetically decisions taken by the Security Council to discourage, deter, or disrupt development by states of nuclear weapons capabilities; and

Urges the Security Council to respond vigorously and effectively to any such emerging nuclear threat to international peace and security, in order to assure in perpetuity a nuclear weapons-free world.

## **Resolution on Nuclear Testing by the DPRK**

The Plenary Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to maintain peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and beyond and to strengthen the international non-proliferation regime,

Being mindful of the determination that the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as well as their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Stressing its support for the NPT and global efforts toward nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,

Expresses serious concern over the recent nuclear tests and missile firing by the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (DPRK), which poses grave danger to peace, stability and security in the region as well as to the regime of nuclear non-proliferation

Welcomes the unanimous adoption of UN Security Council resolution 1874 and supports full implementation of the resolution by all member states.

Stresses that peaceful resolution of the DPRK's nuclear issue is essential to maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

## **Resolution on International Peace Operations**

Whereas, international peace operations have been crucial to halting violent conflicts, underpinning fragile peace agreements, restoring confidence in the possibility of a peaceful future in war-torn countries, and empowering peoples long intimidated by the violence of armed elements to choose their own future democratically;

Whereas, peace operations deployed by the United Nations, with reliable financing from assessments on all member states and troop contributions from a wide range of states, have established the best track record for cost-effectiveness and success of the many different forms of international intervention in areas of strife;

Whereas, the weaknesses of U.N. peace operations are nonetheless manifest, even with numerous improvements over the past decade -- including slowness to deploy, reluctance of governments to commit the personnel needed, and frequently delinquent payment of assessments; and

Whereas, the infirmities of the system have been amply documented in a number of thoughtful reports and recommendations of high-level commissions, including just in this decade those of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (“Brahimi Report,” 2000) and of the High-Level Panel on Threat, Challenges and Change (2004);

The World Federation of United Nations Associations:

Urges militarily capable states that have in recent years supplied few if any troops to United Nations peace operations to declare their willingness to participate in U.N. peacekeeping in the future;

Calls on the Security Council to develop a plan for a reliable rapid-deployment capacity, including pre-commitment by all Council members of contingents for such rapid-deployment forces;

Urges the member states of the General Assembly to provide adequate financial and human resources to assure adequate training and preparation of states’ military and civilian personnel for international peace operations;

### **Resolution on the situation in Sudan**

The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) at its 39th Plenary Assembly:

Referring to the lofty principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter which calls for peace, security and respect for sovereignty of all its member states,

Recalling its PA38 Resolution on the Creation of a Harmonious World in which it appeals to all members states to make joint efforts to promote a harmonious co-existence of all nations and to realize tolerance and solidarity of all civilizations and religions,

Living in a global world, a companionate multilateralism includes not only the security of states but also the security of humans,

In the words of the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, when addressing the opening plenary of WFUNA’s 39th plenary Assembly, “... the international community has a moral obligation and a pragmatic duty to step in and to help when governments cannot, or will not protect their people”

Commends the African Union (AU), the IGAD and the Friends of IGAD for their indispensable role and efforts, which had culminated in the achievement of a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005 in the Sudan which was approved and supported by the United Nations and all its specialized bodies which resulted in the creation of the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to ensure and assist in the implementation of (CPA) in Sudan, hence ending one of the longest continuing wars on the African continent and thereby contributing to regional peace, and called on donors to fulfill their commitments made in Oslo in 2005 and 2008 to help implement that agreement. They welcome the signing on 5 May 2006 of the Darfur Peace Agreement in Abuja, Nigeria as a historic step towards durable peace in Darfur, and further commended the AU for its leading role and efforts in sustaining

peace and stability in the Darfur region. They encourage the political process as a priority and emphasize the need to focus on developmental assistance in Darfur as peace and development are mutually reinforced.

Welcomes further the final Award of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) on the issue between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/ Army on delimiting Abyei Area and urges the two parties to consolidate and comply fully with the Final Award and all provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

We strongly urge the world community to support the vulnerable population in Darfur, and continuing ensuring full and unrestricted humanitarian access; and the work and mandate of the United Nations and the African Union must be strengthened.

The Member States must enable the United Nations to fulfill its mandate by living up to their obligations, and urge the donors' community to honor its commitments ensuring the United Nations has the resources needed to do its job.

## **Resolution on Climate Change**

Climate change affects us all. Nine out of every ten disasters recorded are now climate related. Rising temperatures and more frequent floods, droughts and storms are impacting millions of people's lives. Science has documented the human impact on climate; therefore it is also for humans to remedy the situation. This is the reason for the United Nations 15th conference of the parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP-15), to take place in Copenhagen, December 2009.

Convinced that, as United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has declared, "Climate change, and how we address it, will define us, our era and ultimately the global legacy we leave for future generations" we as the World Federation of United Nations Associations wish the outcome of COP-15 to include decisions to:

Reduce carbon emissions by 25%-40% by 2020 compared to the 1990 levels, requiring major and enforceable reduction targets particularly on industrialized countries, as well as commitments by major developing countries to limit their growth, in order to ensure that global emissions peak and begin to decline by 2015 in order to reduce the average temperature growth rate so that it does not rise above 2 Celsius;

Ensure significant financial resources to developing countries to ensure that they can meet obligations to limit their own emissions while achieving economic growth needed to raise living standards and lift their people out of poverty;

Create an efficient institutional mechanism for disbursing these funds and an equitable and accountable governance structure;

Enhance climate adaptation programs to reduce the negative impact of climate change and protect lives and livelihoods, particularly in small island developing states and least developed nations, especially in the marginalised communities and indigenous groups;

Promote global co-operation on the development, financing, transfer and diffusion of sustainable technology;

Scale-up programs and initiatives to deliver environmental outcomes that benefit rather than burden the poor;

Provide investments to bring electricity and cleaner cooking fuels to large segments of world population still deprived of such essential services;

Promote climate-friendly and climate-change adaptation technologies;

Promote selective bio-fuel development based on global comparisons of energy ratios and impacts on land, water, deforestation and food prices of different options;

Ensure effective conservation to reverse the loss of natural resources and significantly reduce biodiversity loss.

To this end we as the World Federation of United Nations Associations in the months leading up to COP-15:

Calls upon member nations of the United Nations, civil society organizations, commercial entities, and citizens of planet earth to join together at this momentous period in human and planetary history to take all possible steps to arrest the downward drift in global climate conditions;

Urges government leaders at the September 22nd UN Summit on Climate Change to declare their commitment to, and negotiators at the Copenhagen conference to agree on a comprehensive program to combat CC with specific and enforceable measures to;

Gives our support to UNEPs “Global Green Deal”, which aims to inspire and enable governments to begin the shift towards a global economy driven by massive job creation from the growth of resource- and energy-efficient construction, transport, agriculture, energy and waste management;

Will rally support behind the UNs “Seal the Deal”-campaign, including prompting people to sign the “Seal the Deal”-petition;

Urges the UN, the UNFCCC-secretariat and the host-country to make proper provisions for meaningful NGO-involvement in the COP-process, building on the experiences of major groups’ involvement in the UNs Commission on Sustainable Development;

Urges the participating countries in the COP-process to maintain a close dialogue with the NGOs, as well as include NGO in the national delegations COP-process-meetings;

Commends the Secretary-General of the United Nations for providing continuing personal leadership and giving high priority to Climate Change related issues on the UN System agenda.

### **Resolution on Desertification**

The Plenary Assembly,

Taking note of the existence of desertification and its adverse effects on the environment.

Noting as well the adoption at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the establishment of the UNCCD secretariat in Bonn; and

Recognizing further the need to seek durable solutions for the problems identified,

Stresses the need to promote cooperation at the global, regional and sub-regional level to seek durable solutions to the environmental problems caused by desertification

Calls for redoubled support for the work of the UNCCD secretariat in dealing with the threat of desertification

Encourages governments and relevant international organizations to adopt appropriate global, regional and national actions for combating long-range environmental problems posed by desertification, inter-alia, in the field of exchange of information, consultation, research and monitoring;

Recommends that member UNAs regularly review the progress of this resolution, and to take appropriate action if necessary

### **Resolution on Gender Equality Architecture Reform (GEAR)**

The 39th WFUNA Plenary,

Recognizing that the United Nations in recent years has undertaken a series of important initiatives to strengthen and renew its commitment to actualize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including the creation of the Peace Building Commission, the inauguration of the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the establishment of the Human Rights Council and financial management reforms;

Noting that the initial implementation of these actions has been uneven;

Bearing in mind that efforts to strengthen the delivery of UN services within each specific country depends significantly upon organizational structures, high-level leadership and adequate resources within the UN organization and administration;

Aware that for the past three decades, women have viewed the United Nations as a galvanizing force for their efforts to define a comprehensive global agenda for peace and security, human rights, gender equality, access to education, women's empowerment, eradication of poverty and sustainable development.

Considering that the United Nations has four separate, under-funded entities focused on women's issues and lacks a systematic and effective mechanism to realize the implementation of programs that emerged from United Nations world conferences;

Believing that there is a world-wide desire to confront more effectively the problems of poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, disease, sexual violence committed/perpetuated by civilian and military populations/personnel, rape and trafficking in women and children;

Affirming that a central mission of the World Federation of United Nations Associations is to encourage effective support among its member associations in their efforts to build a stronger United Nations;

Therefore the 39th WFUNA Plenary

Urges its member UNAs to commit to work vigorously for the endorsement and approval of Gender Equity Architecture Reform (GEAR) through the creation of an effective, consolidated and adequately funded United Nations secretariat for women.

### **Resolution on Invigorating the United Nations through better management and a revitalized General Assembly**

Strongly believing that the United Nations is indispensable for dealing with an expanding range of problems that must be addressed globally,

Concerned that the United Nations today is not functioning at full effectiveness, due in part to management inefficiencies and uncertainty about the role of the General Assembly,

Welcoming the steps that have been taken in recent years to remedy these inefficiencies and to revitalize the General Assembly, but believing that additional action is needed,

Noting that the slow pace of management reform largely reflects differences among member states, particularly between developed and developing nations, with respect to the powers of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;

Convinced that these differences can be resolved to the benefit of all by increasing the ability of the Secretary-General to manage the organization's resources more efficiently while simultaneously reinvigorating the role of the General Assembly, through such actions, inter alia as loosening the micro-restraints on the Secretary-General on personnel matters while assuring accountability to the Assembly

for actions taken, and expanding the influence of the General Assembly by making it the acknowledged centerpiece of international debate on major global issues, such as food, water, and gender.

The 39th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations

Calls upon the WFUNA Secretariat to take the lead in CONGO, the coalition of international NGOs in consultative relationships with the United Nations, of which WFUNA is now secretary, to mobilize civil society organizations to encourage member states to move rapidly to strengthen the United Nations by resolving their differences on UN management and the role of the General Assembly along the lines suggested above; and

Recommends strongly that UN Associations in all countries emphasize to their governments the urgency of prompt action to increase the United Nations' effectiveness.

### **Resolution on Promotion and Reporting by Governments to their People**

In view of

A, the importance of public awareness of government's involvement in and commitment to UN activities in supporting continued government commitment,

B, the need to increase public awareness and engagement in UN and other multilateral activities, and

C, the power of governments in signaling to their public the issues of importance,

The Plenary Assembly,

Calls on WFUNA to undertake an initiative to promote substantive reporting by governments to their people following the opening of the UN General Assembly session each year.

Requests each UNA to lobby its government to comply with this request, and to forward any relevant material to WFUNA. They would also highlight the importance of such reports to the media.

Seeks further ways of promoting the engagement of government with its people on UN-related activities.

### **Resolution on Harnessing Information and Communication Technologies for more effective collaboration between the United Nations and WFUNA**

Welcoming WFUNA's inclusion on the Strategy Council of the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID), [www.un-gaid.org](http://www.un-gaid.org) whose mission is to demonstrate how ICTs and innovation can be harnessed to meet global challenges such as poverty eradication, the financial crisis, climate change, governance and mainstreaming gender within the broader United Nations Development Agenda.

Endorsing the United Nations Innovation Initiative, a collaboration between WFUNA, Ashoka Innovators for the Public [www.ashoka.org](http://www.ashoka.org) and the James P. Grant Trust, to use open source

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competitions to build a robust, transparent community of innovators, working in concert with the United Nations, to tackle a select set of problems affecting large populations that demand broad consensus, accelerated innovation, and sustained investment.

Noting the initiative of the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to create the Global Impact and Vulnerability Alert System (GIVAS) [www.un.org/sg/GIVAS/background.pdf](http://www.un.org/sg/GIVAS/background.pdf) to provide real time data and analysis from a variety of reliable sources to enable decision makers to respond in a more effective and timely manner when a global crisis impacts vulnerable populations.

Confirms that close working co-operation among UNAs, optimizing ICT platforms and networking tools, in key areas of mutual interest, such as education, health, climate change and community building for achieving the MDGs, can be the basis for stronger WFUNA contributions to the policy making bodies of the UN, particularly the 2010 Summit to review the Progress of the MDGs.

Decides to coordinate WFUNA's engagement with UN innovative initiatives relating to the promotion of ICT and Development and to be represented at the meetings of the GAID Strategy Council.