



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION  
*of the United States of America*

**UNA-USA Newsletter-Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter**

P.O. Box 121745, Nashville, TN 37212 [www.una-nashville.org]

**Summer 2010**

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**Summer Meeting and Luncheon**

*Saturday, August 21, 2010*

11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**“The UN Charter:  
Blueprint for a Better World?”**

*Featuring*

**Ambassador Charles R. (Dick) Bowers**

**Belmont United Methodist Church**

**21st Avenue South at Acklen in**

**Hillsboro Village**

Reception 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon 12 noon

Program 1 p.m.

**Reservation Required**

Call (615) 870-8446 or email [unausa-event@usa.net](mailto:unausa-event@usa.net)

by noon, Wednesday, August 18

Cost: \$20.00 (student scholarships available)

(Note: persons canceling after Aug. 13 are liable for the costs of their meals)

(Program only is free)

Ambassador Bowers will discuss the United Nations Charter and explore the extent to which it remains relevant today, 65 years after its adoption in San Francisco. Charles R. (Dick) Bowers served as the U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia from 1991 to 1994. He became a career member of the U.S. Foreign Service in 1967, and served as a diplomatic officer in the American embassies in Panama, Poland, Singapore and Germany. He also served a number of tours of duty in the Department of State in several capacities, including as Executive Assistant to the Under Secretary for Management, Executive Director for the Bureau of European Affairs and special assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. He retired from the Foreign Service in 1995. In 1996, after hiking the full length of the Appalachian Trail, he decided to make Tennessee his home and has lived in Nashville since 2006.

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## President's Corner

Exciting changes are ahead for the UNA-USA. This year marks the beginning of a new strategic alliance between the UNA and the United Nations Foundation (UNF). For more than a decade, UNA-USA and UNF have collaborated to bring the US and the UN closer together, educating Americans and the US government about the good work of the UN and UN agencies and the role that the US plays in their work.

The UNA and UNF have agreed to formalize this cooperation, and, over the past six months, their boards of directors and staffs have discussed how to join together to create a stronger, more powerful base. At the June Annual Meetings of the UNA-USA Council of Chapters and Divisions, in which I participated, UNA chapter leaders had an opportunity to examine and question the potential alliance.

At the moment, the two organizations are drafting both a Transfer Agreement and an Affiliation Agreement. The latter will be put before each Chapter for approval in a Special National e-Convention, scheduled for mid-September. Well before that time, we will have a copy of the draft Affiliation Agreement for study and comments.

If all goes as planned, the transfer will become effective in October 2010.

This is a major change, but I believe a very positive one. UNA excels at delivering grassroots support, and the UNF provides a strong central organization, significant resources and well-structured campaigns.

In this newsletter I will try to provide answers to some of the questions that you may have concerning this merger. I am very excited about it. I hope that you will be, too.

Thank you.  
Mary Pat Silveira, President

## UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon addresses the UNA-USA national convention



## WHAT IS THE UNF?

The United Nations Foundation (UNF) was created as a public charity in 1998 when entrepreneur and philanthropist Ted Turner donated \$1 billion to support UN causes. The UNF channels these funds – and more – to activities that connect people, ideas and resources to help the UN solve global problems.

UNF's focus areas include human rights, children's health, women and population, sustainable development, climate and energy, technology and UN advocacy. Their ongoing campaigns range from the Better World Campaign; Global Leadership for Climate Action; the Energy Future Coalition; the youth-oriented The People Speak; Nothing But Nets (mosquito nets), to Girl Up, a new campaign which gives American girls the opportunity to raise awareness and funds for UN programs that help adolescent girls elsewhere become educated, healthy, safe, counted and positioned to be the next generation of leaders.

For more information, go to [www.unfoundation.org/](http://www.unfoundation.org/)

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO UNA?

If all parties agree to combine the UNA-USA and the United Nations Foundation (UNF), UNA members can expect the following:

**Name:** UNA Chapters would keep their UNA name and distinct identities.

**Servicing:** UNF and UNF's Better World Campaign (BWC) would provide the chapters with new tools to advocate on behalf of the US-UN relationship, raise funds for local activities, and recruit new members. UNA Chapters would also be able to keep a higher percentage of membership dues.

**Advocacy:** UNA membership will continue to receive alerts on issues relating to UN issues.

**Information and Publication:** UNF and BWC would provide to UNA members information related to UN issues, including: global health, human rights, women and population, environment and climate change, UN reform and US foreign assistance.

**Governance:** The UNA Council of Chapters and Divisions Steering Committee would continue to represent UNA members and work closely with the Executive Director of UNA Membership.

**New Affiliate Agreement:** UNA and UNF are drafting an affiliate agreement for UNA chapters that outlines the relationship between the two. An important goal of any new affiliation agreement is to ensure that chapters and divisions have the resources to bolster their numbers and capacity. Any changes will be subject to extensive consultation with the UNA membership.

**National UNA:** The national UNA would be sunset after all legal and financial issues have been resolved.

## UNA-USA Comments to US Department of State on Human Rights

UNA-USA submitted its recommendations to the State Department on what members view as important for the United States to address during the forthcoming Universal Periodic Review of the United States in the UN Human Rights Council in November 2010, in Geneva.

In its report, UNA-USA emphasizes the need for the US to ratify core human rights treaties. The US record is mixed. It has ratified the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, the Genocide Convention, the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture, among many others.

Yet, there are several important treaties that have not yet been addressed either in the US Senate or in the Executive Branch. The most widely known among these pending treaties include the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Moreover, in the area of workers' rights, the US has ratified only 14 of 162 International Labor Organization (ILO) treaties.

The report concludes: "In anticipation of the United States' appearance before the Human Rights Council, UNA-USA urges the United States Government to make every effort to secure ratification of outstanding human rights treaties such as those referenced above. If US ratification of any of these outstanding treaties is unable to occur prior to the UPR of the United States later this year, then UNA-USA urges the Obama administration to make clear during UPR deliberations its commitment to ratification of these outstanding international human rights treaties accompanied by a plan of action to achieve that goal. UNA-USA believes that human rights treaty ratification is perhaps the single most important action the United States can take to advance human rights through multilateral channels.

### US National is New UN Ethics Director

On June 21, the United Nations appointed US National Joan Elise Dubinsky, Director of the United Nations Ethics Office.

The UN Ethics Office administers financial disclosure and whistleblower policies mandated by the General Assembly during its 2005 World Summit. It also provides confidential advice to staff to help them avert conflict of interest problems.

## Participate in UN Video Contest on YouTube

The United Nations has launched a video contest inviting people from around the world – and particularly youth – to tell leaders what the anti-poverty Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) mean to them by uploading short films on the UN YouTube channel.

The deadline for uploading short videos on the MDGs is August 23, 2010. Six winners will be announced during the high-level MDG summit in New York, hosted by the Secretary-General on September 23 and will meet with him on UN Day 2010, October 24.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8hLpfQkPN3c>

## UN Creates New Structure for the Empowerment of Women

In an historic move, the United Nations General Assembly voted unanimously on July 2 to create a new entity to accelerate progress in meeting the needs of women and girls worldwide.

The establishment of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women— to be known as UN Women — is a result of years of negotiations between UN Member States and advocacy by the global women's movement.

UN Women merges and will build on the work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system which focus exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment: The Division for the Advancement of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women; the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women; and the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

It is scheduled to become operational by January 2011 and will be headed by an Under-Secretary-General. Funding will come from both regular budget and voluntary funds

"UN Women will give women and girls the strong, unified voice they deserve on the world stage. I look forward to seeing this new entity up and running so that we — women and men — can move forward together in our endeavor to achieve the goals of equality, development and peace for all women and girls, everywhere," said Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro.

## **TSU Model UN Delegation Participates in the National Conference in New York**

The Tennessee State University (TSU) International Affairs Society participated at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City March 30 to April 4, 2010. It was the tenth year in a row that TSU participated at this meeting, the largest Model United Nations Conference in the world. There were over 4,000 delegates from many different countries. TSU represented the country of Georgia.

By participating at Model UN conferences students learn about international relations, the United Nations, as well as skills such as coalition building, public speaking, and writing. In preparing for the Conference, the students studied a variety of topics such as peace and security, economic development, and environmental issues, among others.

Highlights of the trip for the students were attending the plenary session at the United Nations and visiting the Georgian Mission to the UN, where they had an opportunity to meet diplomats from Georgia and discuss the issues with them. TSU students who participated were Kimberly Chester, Phillip Cochran, S. Timothy Hatmaker, Elais Jackson, Nina Kiknadze, and Keenan Lewis. John Miglietta was faculty advisor. The Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter provided financial support.

## **International Criminal Court Review Conference**

The International Criminal Court review conference in Kampala, Uganda, ended June 12 with a long-sought agreement on an amendment that would bring the crime of aggression into the jurisdiction of the court. Up to 4,600 representatives from member and observer countries – including 20 members for the US government delegation – and nongovernmental organizations, among them UNA-USA, participated in the conference.

The US, at the conference as an observer nation with most rights but voting, participated in all aspects of the meeting and pledged to continue its re-engagement with the court. The US presented itself as a strong supporter of international justice at the conference, saying it would seek to cooperate more widely, albeit within US legal restrictions.



## **“New York Declaration” on Corporate Practices**

Corporate leaders from more than 135 countries concluded a two-day business-United Nations summit on June 25, in New York.

Recognizing that “the need for responsibility and leadership has been never greater,” participants approved the “New York Declaration by Business” by acclamation”. The Leaders Summit brought together business, civil society and labor participants of the UN Global Compact.

The New York Declaration cites 10 key principles covering human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption principles that benefit both business and the overall society. These ten founding principles of the Global Compact were augmented by a Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership, presented for the first time at the Leaders Summit. The Declaration also calls for business to contribute more substantially to peace and development, especially in conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

The Global Compact Leaders Summit marks the tenth anniversary of the UN initiative, launched in July 2000 to engage business to adopt universal human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption principles in their strategies and day-to-day operations.

US national Professor John Ruggie is the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Business and Human Rights.

## **Rio+20 Conference in 2010**

Preparations are underway for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development that will convene in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2010 (Rio+20). The themes of this Conference are (1) green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and (2) the institutional framework for sustainable development.

All information regarding preparation for the Conference is now available on a new UN website: <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/rio20/>

This 2010 Conference is a 20-year review of the landmark 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. Often referred to as the “Earth Summit”, it resulted in the adoption of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, a Statement of Principles for the Sustainable Management of Forests, and the opening for signature of the three “Rio” conventions dealing with biodiversity, desertification and climate change.

## UNA-USA Adopts MDGs as 2010 UN Day Theme

This year, on the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations, UNA-USA has taken as its national theme: “Engaging America in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)!” For this purpose, UNA-USA is partnering with the UN Millennium Campaign and the UN Global Compact to strengthen our voices and provide members with specific action items to help build support for the MDGs in the United States.

More information on what you can do will be made available as we draw closer to UN Day, October 24.

## UN to Convene Summit on the MDGs in September

With only five years left until the 2015 deadline to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has called on world leaders to attend a summit in New York on September 20-22 to accelerate progress toward the MDGs.

Coming amid mixed progress and new crises that threaten the global effort to halve extreme poverty, “the summit will be a crucially important opportunity to redouble our efforts to meet the Goals,” he said, referring to the targets adopted at the UN Millennium Summit of 2000, aimed at slashing poverty, hunger, disease, maternal and child deaths and other ills by a 2015 deadline.

## UN SG Establishes MDG Advocacy Group

To galvanize support for the MDGs, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has set up an MDG Advisory Group of eminent personalities who have shown outstanding leadership in promoting implementation of the Goals. The Advocacy Group will support the Secretary-General in building political will and mobilizing global action to make the MDG Summit a turning point in efforts to achieve the Goals by the 2015 target date.

Among the members of the Advisory Group are four Americans: Ray Chambers, the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Malaria; Bill Gates, Philanthropist, Co-Chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Chairman of Microsoft Corp.; Professor Jeffrey Sachs, UN Secretary-General’s Special Adviser on the MDGs; and Ted Turner, Philanthropist and Chairman, UN Foundation.

**Find more information on the MDGS and the 2010 Summit by visiting these websites:**

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>  
<http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/>

## The Millennium Development Goals & Targets

### Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1/day.

Target 2: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.

Target 3: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

### Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Target 1: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

### Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 1: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

### Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Target 1: Reduce by two-third, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

### Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Target 1: Reduce by 3/4 the maternal mortality rate.

Target 2: Achieve universal access to reproductive health.

### Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target 1: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Target 2: Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it.

Target 3: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

### Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 1: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target 2: Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss.

Target 3: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Target 4: By 2020, achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

### Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Target 1: Address the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries and small-island developing states.

Target 2: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.

Target 3: Deal comprehensively with developing countries’ debt.

Target 4: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.

Target 5: In cooperation with the private sector, make viable benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications.

## UN Association Seminars

Seminars will resume in September. They are normally scheduled for the third Thursday of the month, 4:30 p.m., at the Green Hills Public Library.

If you are interested in giving a seminar, please contact us at 615-870-8446 or by email, at [info@una-nashville.org](mailto:info@una-nashville.org).

All Seminars are free and open to the public. Please check our website, [www.una-nashville.org](http://www.una-nashville.org) for the latest information on location and times.

### In Memoriam

The Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter of the UNA-USA mourns the passing of two long-time active members: [Maryda Colowick](#), a former Board member, at the age of 87 on February 3, 2010, and [Oswald Schrag](#), on April 15, 2010, at the age of 93. We extend our condolences to their families.

### Membership Update

The Nashville Cordell Hull Chapter is happy to welcome new members Curt Garrigan, Warren Flatter, Jennifer Hall, Jan Hartman, Robert King, Jennifer Miller, Michael Puglisi, Mousa A. Sadreddini, Remziya Suleyman and Bernard Werthan.

Thanks to renewing members Dot Anderson, Donald & Judy Beisswenger, Dr. James Campbell, Charles Delzell, Ann Deol, Frances & Dick Duvall, Cornelia Faust, Dr. Henry Foster, Rebecca Freeman, Edwin Gleaves, Bill & Maureen Harkey, Dr. Robert & Elizabeth Holmes, Mrs. Henry W. Hooker, Laurie Kush, Stephen Mallett, Dr. Charles L. Moffatt, Gayle Morin, John Noel, Jacqueline Pope, Dr. James Quirin. Charles and Ann Roos, Rev. Dan Rosemergy, Carlos Sanz. Alix Weiss Sharp, Mary Pat Silveira, and George Vernardakis

A special note of appreciation to Johanna Sulser for her additional generous contribution to the Chapter.

**Please renew your membership when it comes due, or consider joining the UNA if you have not yet done so.** We also welcome your contribution in any amount. All funds provided UNA-USA are tax deductible.

You can join at our website by going to <http://www.una-nashville.org/contact.html>. You may also contact our office at (615) 870-8446 and we will send you a brochure.

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