



United Nations Association of Australia WA Division



UN Matters

September 2024 –
December 2024



UNAAWA President Randhir Amoganathan at the Remembrance Day ceremonies 2024



Speakers and Representatives at UN Day 2024



SDG Forum on "Innovation in the Public Sector" at The Platfo

Inside This Issue:

From the President	2
UN Day Gala	3
Annual General Meeting	5
Remembrance Day	7
SDG Business Forum	8
AI for Good Global Summit	9
Young Professionals Committee	11
UN Youth 2024 Reception and Awards Ceremony	12
13 th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights	13
Community Partners	14
Special Editorial	18
UN Observances	20
Upcoming Events	21



Chief Editor: Amorith Tan

From the President

The UNAAWA has had an eventful few months, to say the least!

On 11 October 2024, we held our Annual General Meeting. The AGM was well attended. Attendees were welcomed and observe our administrative processes in action, meet other members, volunteers, committee members and Executives. Our Annual Report was presented, financial statements were read and each Office Holder and Convenor described and accounted for the activities of their office over the past year. Elections were held, and the elected team of Executives assumed their responsibilities for the 2024-25 year, and to work together for the challenges ahead.

Then on 18 October 2024, we held our premier event for the year, our 79th UN Day Gala. The event was held at The Duxton Hotel, and we welcomed Ministers, Members of Parliament, Mayors, local government authority representatives, academics, senior members of government departments and members of the consular corps. Speakers included Kelly Tranter from DFAT and a former refugee, Ms Peace Musi, who held everyone's attention with her account of how much the UN assisted her by providing her refuge from war. Winners of the UN Day Awards for Human Rights, Environment, Gender Equality, Young Professionals and the SDG Challenge stepped up onto the stage to receive their well-deserved awards. Attendees were also treated to an impressive strings performance from Guildford Grammar School junior students, and dance performances from the Chinese Orchestra and Hanfu Showcase and the Korean Traditional Children 'Sogo' Drum Dance group. We made a particular effort to engage children into our performances, as a reminder that our work is for them ultimately, as they are our future. The event was well-received, with much positive and encouraging feedback.

Not to rest on our laurels, our Convenors have been at working hard for Committees' events. On 7 October, the

Human Rights Committee held its event on *Health Access & Equity*. On 30 October, the SDG Forum held their event on *Driving SDG Progress: Public Sector Innovations*. On 6 November, the Young Professionals Committee held their event, *Empowering Sustainable Start-Ups*, a very current topic and important for Australia's growing economy. Expert panelists shared invaluable insights, empowering attendees to engage in businesses, on issues of accessing health care and on how the public sector can drive innovation and growth, all of which align with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for a fairer, greener future. We invited subject matter experts as speakers, which provided much information and raised awareness with the attendees on the topics, which is part of our mission.

On the theme of recognition of service to society, I represented the UNAAWA on Remembrance Day, held on 11 November 2024. In attendance were the WA Premier the Hon. Roger Cook MLA, the WA Governor the Hon. Chris Dawson AC APM, Perth Mayor Basil Zempilas, the Hon. Senator Michaelia Cash and members of the consular corps.

The UNAAWA's attendance at this event is not to seek to glorify war, but to raise awareness of and to encourage multilateralism in an effort to prevent wars. Wars have a tragic cost in lives and no effort ought to be spared to prevent wars. We recognises that service to one's country and society is a great force for good, and we always honour and acknowledge such service. Lest we forget.

In all the different activities we do, whether engaging at our Committees' events presentations or UN Day or Remembrance Day, the theme is always to raise awareness of how much we share together, and that we are all served by working together to build a better society for everyone, that will bring out the best humanity in all of us.

Randhir Amoganathan
President of the UNAAWA

UN Day Gala

The 79th United Nations Association of Australia (WA Division) Gala, held on Friday, 18 October, was a resounding success. Attended by distinguished guests, including DFAT WA Deputy Director Kelly Tranter, Christine Tonkin MLA, Mayor Logan K. Howlett, and members of the Consular Corps, the event celebrated the UN's vital contributions and honored local leaders dedicated to global initiatives.



The evening began with a moving Welcome to Country by Kerry Ann Winmar, followed by cultural performances from Guildford Grammar School, The

Zing Arts Group, and Korean Traditional Culture and Arts Incorporated. These presentations highlighted the importance of diversity and unity in our global mission.

UNAAWA President Randhir Amoganathan shared insights on the organization's impactful work, culminating in the presentation of five prestigious awards recognizing achievements in Environment, Gender Equality, Human Rights, Young Professionals, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Challenge. Keynote speaker Peace Musi, a former Rwandan refugee, offered a powerful account of her journey through UN refugee camps, underscoring the UN's transformative role in lives affected by conflict and food insecurity.

The awards recognized outstanding contributions:

- **Environment Award:** Vern Newton, for leadership in environmental restoration in Western Australia's biodiversity hotspots.



- **Gender Equality Award:** Maryann Tsai, founder of Reach Her Inc., for empowering migrant women and advancing gender equality.
- **Human Rights Award:** Shuang Li, for her commitment to the rights and integration of Chinese skilled workers in WA.
- **Young Professionals Award:** Karma Wangchuk, for inspiring young leaders in sustainable practices.
- **SDG Challenge Award:** A team of youth leaders creatively addressing SDG issues through innovation.

Special thanks to UN Day Chair Lucia Chen and her team for their dedication in organizing an unforgettable event.



Lucia Chen
UN Day Chair

We extend gratitude to our sponsors, especially SC Brokers, Westindo Group, and Pearl On the Point, whose support made this impactful evening possible.



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Annual General Meeting

The UNAAWA held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in October, marking a milestone in our ongoing commitment to promoting the UN’s global goals. With the election of new executives, the organisation is poised for continued growth and positive impact.

The UNAAWA is a non-profit organisation entirely driven by a passionate and diverse group of volunteers. Our members, both longstanding and new, bring invaluable dedication and energy, allowing us to serve our community and create meaningful connections. Together, we work to raise awareness



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and advocate for vital issues in alignment with the United Nations' mission.



Our commitment to fostering collaboration and supporting critical causes remains steadfast. Through the efforts of our volunteers and supporters, we continue to build stronger relationships and make a

tangible difference across a range of key focus areas. These include:

- Environment
- Gender Equality
- Human Rights
- Young Professionals
- SDG Forums
- UN Day Celebrations

We are excited to announce an opportunity to meet our newly elected executives this Friday at our special event in celebration of the 79th anniversary of UN Day. Join us in commemorating this significant occasion and get involved with our mission to further the reach of the UN's global goals.

Stay updated and learn more about how you can get involved by visiting our website at: <https://www.unaa-wa.org.au>. Together, we can continue driving positive change in our community and beyond.



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Remembrance Day 2024



11 November 2024 saw Remembrance Day ceremonies held at the King's Park War Memorial. I represented the UNAAWA in attending the Remembrance Day which commemorates Australian veterans.

In all of these conflicts, the men and women who served did so honourably and with the highest ideals of service and sacrifice. The ceremonies were attended by people of all ages, and included the WA Premier the Hon. Roger Cook MLA, the WA Governor the Hon. Chris Dawson AC APM, Perth Mayor Basil

Zempilas, the Hon. Senator Michaelia Cash and members of the consular corps.

The UNAAWA seeks to raise awareness of, and to encourage multilateralism in an effort to prevent wars. Wars bring a tragic cost in lives and no effort ought to be spared to prevent wars. Lest we forget.

Randhir Amoganathan
President of the UNAAWA



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SDG Business Forum Series: Driving SDG Progress – Public Sector Innovations



The United Nations Association of Australia Western Australia (UNAAWA) hosted an inspiring SDG Business Forum at The Platform, Perth, on 30th October 2024, uniting thought leaders and innovators to explore the role of public sector innovation in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event focused on fostering collaboration and driving practical strategies to achieve these global objectives by 2030.

Dr. Sandy Chong, Founding Chair of the SDG Forum, opened by reflecting on the forum’s six-year history, emphasising the importance of bold governance, innovation, and collaboration in areas such as healthcare, infrastructure, and sustainable growth. She urged attendees to work together to inspire collective action and accelerate progress.

Hon. Klara Andric MLC, representing Minister Dawson, reaffirmed the Cook Government’s commitment to innovation in Western Australia. Highlighting initiatives like the Australian Innovation Management Institution and the WA Public Sector Innovation Network, she detailed how the government is tackling climate challenges and driving economic growth

through technological advancement. The use of AI and enhanced digital infrastructure was underscored as key to delivering inclusive and impactful solutions.

Assoc. Professor Martin Brueckner from Murdoch University outlined the university’s sustainability strategy, "Building a Brighter Future Together," which focuses on participatory, bottom-up approaches. With ambitious targets like zero waste, carbon neutrality, and nature-positive outcomes by 2030, he stressed the importance of collaboration between academia and the public sector to deliver joint solutions that address social, environmental, and economic challenges.



The panel discussion, chaired by Dr. Chong, featured expert insights from key speakers. Andrew Dolling of the Department of JTSI highlighted the need for structured innovation time, leadership support, and co-design to overcome barriers in the public sector. Bill Scalan of EY Perth shared lessons from the private sector, focusing on the importance of clear objectives, sustained effort, and balancing risk and reward. Brian Carter of Microsoft discussed how AI and digital tools can enhance public sector inclusivity and accessibility. Dr. Peter Devereux of Murdoch University championed evidence-based decision-making and

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community science to empower collective action and sustainability.

Recurring themes included the importance of cultural change to foster innovation, the transformative potential of AI, the necessity of reliable evidence to counter misinformation, and the power of public-private partnerships. Grassroots advocacy and education were also identified as critical in enabling communities to contribute meaningfully to the SDGs.

The forum concluded with a call for unity and systemic collaboration. Advocacy, education, and technological innovation were emphasised as essential drivers of progress, enabling governments, businesses, and communities to work together in building a more sustainable and equitable future.



Lisha Liang
SDG Forum Organising Committee Secretary

UNAAWA SDG Forum Chair shared vision at AI for Good Global Summit at United Nations, Geneva

The AI for Good Global Summit, hosted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), a United Nations agency, gathered thousands of global leaders, innovators, and experts in Geneva to explore the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in addressing pressing global challenges. Among the distinguished speakers was our UNAAWA Chair of the SDG Forum, Dr Sandy Chong, who was invited to share her unique perspectives on building a more inclusive AI future.



As part of a high-profile panel featuring José Ramos, Caroline Gans Combe, Jérôme Duberry, and Stéphanie Camaréna, Dr Chong spoke about the critical need to differentiate between digital and AI inclusion. She emphasised the importance of adopting nuanced approaches to ensure equitable representation and urged attendees to consider how AI can embody the best of humanity.

In her address, the Chair proposed that traditional cultures, including Indigenous and Asian perspectives, hold invaluable contributions to the development of AI. They advocated for integrating principles that emphasise harmony with nature, ethics, and compassion, creating a model of AI that not only mitigates risks but also fosters long-term social and environmental stewardship.

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Dr Sandy Chong with Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Doreen Bogdan-Martin

The Summit also provided opportunities to engage with global leaders, including the Director-General of ITU, representatives from UN agencies like WIPO, ILO, and FAO, Microsoft's Corporate VP and Chief Data Scientist Juan Lavista Ferres, and IMF's First Deputy Managing Director Gita Gopinath. These discussions reinforced the collective vision of leveraging AI as a game-changing tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Reflecting on the event, the Chair noted, "True progress in AI is not just technological but profoundly human. It is about building a future that leaves no one behind."

With the commitment of thought leaders and experts present at the Summit, the discussions marked a significant step forward in shaping AI as a force for global equity and sustainability. The SDG Forum remains committed to fostering partnerships and advancing inclusive solutions that align AI innovation with humanity's shared goals.

Stay tuned to the UNAAWA SDG Forum in 2025 for more focus on AI in achieving SDGs.

Dea Effendi
SDG Forum Comms Coordinator



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YP Committee Event - Empowering Sustainable Development Start Ups

UNAAWA's Young Professionals (YP) Committee recently held a well attended event which explored the intersection of entrepreneurship, sustainability, and community impact. A panel of experts shared valuable insights, inspiring attendees to engage in entrepreneurship with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for a more equitable future.



UNAAWA President, Rhandir Amoganathan, opened the event by outlining UNAAWA's mission to inform, inspire, and mobilise the community to contribute towards a sustainable future. The YP Committee Convenor, Louise Tomlin, and Events Lead Sarah Keresztely, introduced expert panelists with a background in business and SDGs.

Chris O'Hare, Business Advisor from the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) emphasised entrepreneurs need to have a handle on all parts of the business and be tenacious. Entrepreneurs must develop solid market testing and have a clear business plan. A solid business plan starts with the overall long-term strategic vision, leading to short-term, 3 month plans. O'hare commented that while ideas may not always be unique, finding ways to solve a customer problem by offering greater accessibility or convenience creates a competitive advantage.

Robyn Ouschan, Senior Lecturer at Curtin University, discussed gaps in the sustainability market that young entrepreneurs could investigate for opportunities, and the skills that existing businesses seek, including important soft skills that are undervalued in business. Ouschan introduced several frameworks, like the circular and doughnut economies, which advocate reducing waste and adopting responsible consumption practices. They finished by highlighting that sustainable businesses must learn to operate within ecological limits.

Simon Renwick from WaveX shared experience in engineering design and attracting customers interested in wave energy as an alternative to fossil fuels and offshore wind technology. As an entrepreneur, you should be prepared to put yourself outside your comfort zone to find customers and investors. Renwick outlined their company's funding journey, and said that beyond sweat equity, not all money is good money. Entrepreneurs must undertake sufficient due diligence on investors and carefully consider investor offers. The choices entrepreneurs make early will shape the long-term viability of their ventures.

Michelle Rhodes, from Decarbonology, addressed the critical issue of carbon emissions, explaining how Decarbonology supports businesses in managing their emissions and offsets. Rhodes discussed experiences in managing founder mental health challenges of balancing family and entrepreneurship, emphasising the need for enlisting people to support and learn to balance looking after yourself, your family, and your employees.

Michael Wear, from Tidal Moon, offered a community-driven approach to sustainability. By engaging with Mulgana (Shark Bay) and neighbouring traditional custodians, he designed his business strategy based on thousands of years of aquaculture practices, to harvest sea cucumbers and restore seagrass for the Blue Carbon Economy. Wear highlighted the long-term business value of investing in local communities and aligning existing

export industry with new environmental markets as a successful business strategy.

The event concluded with a Q&A, where attendees asked about ethical business trends and AI, and explored opportunities for collaboration and networking. Thanks to all those who joined in on the informative night, and we hope you felt empowered in your entrepreneurial SDG journey. Subscribe to the UNAAWA Eventbrite or newsletter, or join as a member to find out more about our upcoming events.



Louise Tomlin
Young Professionals Convener

UNAAWA Vice President Attends UN Youth 2024 Evatt Competition Reception & Awards Ceremony

As Vice President of the United Nations Association of Australia Western Australia (UNAAWA), it was an honor to attend the UN Youth 2024 Evatt Competition Reception & Awards Ceremony, held at the prestigious WA Government House Ballroom.

This year's event was truly inspiring, as we celebrated the remarkable achievements of Western Australia's brightest young minds. The Evatt Competition challenges high school students to engage with the complexities of diplomacy, negotiation, and international relations, embodying the values and principles of the United Nations. It was a privilege to witness the dedication, teamwork, and skill that these students displayed throughout the competition.

We extend our warmest congratulations to all the participants for their hard work and determination. Special congratulations to those students who will represent Western Australia at the national level later this year—an exciting and well-deserved opportunity to showcase their talents on a broader stage.

UNAAWA would also like to commend UN Youth Australia for their commitment to empowering young people and creating platforms for them to actively engage with global issues. Your tireless efforts continue to inspire the next generation of leaders, and we are proud to support you in this mission.

To all the students, we wish you the very best as you take your next steps in the national competition, and we look forward to seeing the bright future you will shape.

Melanye Wawrik
UNAAWA Vice President



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Advancing Human Rights and Sustainability at the 13th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights

The UNAAWA is proud to highlight the participation of our Past President and Chair of the SDG Forum, Dr Sandy Chong, at the 13th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, held in early November at the United Nations HQ in Geneva. This pivotal global platform brought together experts and leaders to address the critical intersection of business, human rights, and sustainability.



Over 3000 delegates participated in key discussions at the Forum that revolved around pressing global challenges, including corporate responsibility in conflict zones, safeguarding Indigenous rights during the energy transition, and advancing the UN Guiding Principles (UNGPs) amid rising global inequalities. These themes underline the urgent need for ethical frameworks and collaborative solutions to ensure human dignity is upheld.

A particularly pressing topic was the transformative yet disruptive potential of artificial intelligence (AI). Sandy contributed to two working group sessions, offering insights into AI governance, trade, and ethical inclusion. Drawing from cross-cultural perspectives, especially from the Asia-Pacific region, the discussions emphasised the importance of diverse voices in

building robust, equitable and inclusive governance frameworks for AI adoption.

The Forum also called for global leadership in an era of geopolitical volatility and polarisation. Companies and investors have a unique responsibility to uphold both corporate ambition and human dignity, rather than a race to the bottom. Sustainable investment and responsible business practices are not just moral imperatives but strategic necessities. By championing these values, businesses and investors can lead the way to a future where innovation and equity are mutually strengthened.

She also shared how inspiring it was to witness the dedication of individuals and organisations working tirelessly behind the scenes to create meaningful change. "Their efforts serve as a powerful reminder of what can be achieved through collective action, perseverance and shared purpose", she remarked.

As we reflect on the insights gained from the Forum, UNAAWA reaffirms its commitment to advancing initiatives that champion dignity, sustainability, and responsibility. Together, we can work towards a future where no one is left behind in this age of transformation.

Dea Effendi
SDG Forum Comms Coordinator



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Ruah Community Services

Ruah Community Services is dedicated to building a safer, more supportive community for everyone. As a proud supporter of the Department of Communities' 16 Days in WA campaign, Ruah stands with those impacted by family and domestic violence—a crisis affecting an estimated 430,000 Western Australians, primarily women and children.

For women aged 18 to 44, family and domestic violence is a leading contributor to illness, disability, and premature death, costing WA nearly \$3 billion annually and remaining the top cause of homelessness in the state. Domestic violence is never acceptable, and Ruah believes it can be prevented through a

united approach from government, businesses, and the community.

If you'd like to help Ruah continue supporting those affected, please consider donating here: <https://donate.ruah.org.au/>

Hayley Boneham

General Manager – Marketing, Engagement & Partnerships



Valuing Children Initiative

The United Nations Association of Australia, Western Australia (UNAAWA) is proud to announce its acceptance of the Pledge to End Child Poverty Certificate from the Valuing Children Initiative (VCI), reaffirming its commitment to improving the lives of children across the region.

The Valuing Children Initiative is dedicated to ensuring that all children are treated with dignity and respect. Their mission centres on addressing the systemic barriers that hinder children's well-being, particularly child poverty, child abuse, mental health struggles, and educational inequity. Through advocacy, research, and community engagement, VCI works to raise awareness of these issues and promote a cultural shift where prioritizing children's needs becomes the norm.

In accepting the Pledge, UNAAWA aligns itself with VCI's mission to challenge harmful societal attitudes and policies that affect children's lives. By committing to this pledge, UNAAWA joins a broader movement aimed at creating a society where children are valued, their voices are heard, and their potential is fully realized.

This partnership underscores the importance of continued collaboration to tackle child poverty and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive in a supportive and nurturing environment. Together, we can work toward a future where all children are given the love, protection, and opportunities they deserve.

Dr Sandy Chong
Ambassador of the Valuing Children Initiative



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Pledge to End Child Poverty

presented to

United Nations Association of Australia WA Branch

for valuing children and committing to the
End Child Poverty Campaign

Adj. Prof. Tony Pietropiccolo AM
Founder, the Valuing Children Initiative
Director, Centrecare



It's time to legislate an End to Child Poverty in Australia.

#LegislatetoEndChildPoverty #ValuingChildrenInitiative #Nochildinpoverty

www.endchildpoverty.com.au

<http://www.unaa.org.au/divisions/western-australia/>

City of Melville Reviews Urban Forest Strategic Plan for a greener future

The City of Melville has taken additional steps towards enhancing its green spaces by adopting the Review of the Urban Forest Strategic Plan 2017-2036 at the October 2024 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Core focuses of the Urban Forest Strategic Plan include renewing the aging tree population, increasing canopy cover, and integrating urban forest protection into planning instruments.

This comprehensive review assessed the progress made since the original plan's adoption in 2017 and established new goals to bolster the City's urban canopy and protect its natural environment.

An ambitious new target aims to increase City-wide canopy cover from 12.5% to 15% over the next decade, with a progress check to be undertaken during the next aerial tree survey in 2027.

These targets directly support the City's Council Plan for the Future 2024-2034, in protecting and enhancing our natural environment, and increasing urban forest tree canopy on City-managed land.

Challenges such as urban growth, pests and diseases, climate change, and a diminishing tree population on private land have underscored the need for a collaborative effort between the City and our community, with residential tree canopy cover targets set to no less than 4% as part of the review.

The City is currently seeking community input on the management of trees on private land through its community engagement, **Trees on Your Land**, which aims to gather public opinions and preferences regarding tree management strategies.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the engagement before midnight on **Sunday, 17 November 2024**. For more

information on how to get involved, please visit www.melvillecity.com.au/treesonyourland.

To learn more about the City of Melville's urban forest and this review, please visit our website www.melvillecity.com.au/trees.

Comments attributed to City of Melville Mayor Katy Mair:

"The City of Melville is dedicated to protecting and enhancing our natural environment and this review is not just a reflection of our past efforts, but a roadmap for a clean, green and sustainable future." said Mayor Katy Mair.

"Since the adoption of our Urban Forest Strategic Plan, we've made notable strides in protecting and enhancing our urban forest.

"However, we recognise that sustaining our tree canopy requires a community-wide effort and we're currently asking residents to take part in our current community engagement, Trees on Your Land, before midnight on Sunday, 17 November, in order to share their ideas on the best approach for maintaining and improving residential canopy cover."



Aaron Corlett
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Reflections from UNAAWA Global Representative

For 79 years, the United Nations (UN) has stood as a beacon of hope, guiding the world toward a brighter, more unified future. Founded in 1945, the UN was established with the collective aim of promoting international collaboration, justice, and lasting peace. Its creation was supported by major global powers, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, who together laid the foundation for an institution designed to foster diplomacy and resolve global conflicts.

United Nations Day 2024

Every year, on October 24, we observe United Nations Day, commemorating the day in 1945 when the UN Charter officially came into effect, marking the birth of the organization. This day serves as a reminder of the UN's ongoing mission to advance peace, security, and human rights worldwide. It's a moment to reflect on the achievements of the UN, its specialized agencies, and the critical role they play in shaping a better world for all.

Across the globe, UN Day is celebrated through a variety of events. Key UN offices in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, and The Hague host numerous activities, ranging from debates on the UN's role in modern times to concerts, educational programs, and the symbolic flying of the UN flag. The day celebrates the importance of the organization's mission in advancing peace, security, and human rights, and its work in addressing global challenges, such as conflict, poverty, climate change, and human rights violations.

The UN does not work alone. It collaborates with a vast network of specialized agencies that address a range of issues affecting people around the world. These include the World Health Organization (WHO),

the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), among others. Through these agencies, the UN has made significant strides in eradicating disease, supporting refugees, promoting education, and tackling hunger. These efforts have been vital in improving lives and creating a more just, equitable world.

2024 United Nations Day Theme: "The Future We Want, the UN We Need"

The theme for United Nations Day 2024, "*The Future We Want, the UN We Need*," underscores the essential partnership between the UN and its member states. It emphasizes the need for global cooperation and collective action to address the pressing challenges of our time, such as climate change, inequality, and geopolitical tensions. The theme reminds us that the UN is not only a vital institution for international peace and security but also a reflection of the values we share as a global community.

2024 International Year of Camelids

In a unique addition to this year's celebrations, the UN has declared 2024 the International Year of Camelids. It highlights the importance of camelids—camels, llamas, and alpacas—in the livelihoods of millions of people across 90 countries. Adapted to arid conditions and high-altitude environments, camelids play a crucial role in desert regions and mountainous areas, providing transportation, wool, milk, and even food. The International Year of Camelids reminds us of the diverse ways in which human communities and the natural world intersect, and how the UN supports

sustainable development efforts in even the most remote areas.

UNA Ambassadors: A Local Commitment to Global Values

Now, more than ever, the mission of the United Nations is critical. In an era marked by global instability, economic challenges, and environmental crises, the UN continues to play a pivotal role in ensuring that peace and human rights remain at the forefront of international discourse. The UN's work in conflict resolution, humanitarian aid, and sustainable development has never been more important in safeguarding the future of humanity.

Here in our community, as UNA Ambassadors, we strive to uphold the values and mission of the United

Nations. Through local advocacy, education, and outreach, we continue to promote the principles of peace, cooperation, and human dignity, supporting the broader UN vision of a world where all people can live in harmony and prosperity. At no greater time in history has the mission of the United Nations been as critically important to peace and human livelihood.

On United Nations Day 2024, let us all take a moment to reflect on the progress we have made and reaffirm our commitment to the values that the United Nations represents. Together, we can build a future that is not only more peaceful but also more just and sustainable for generations to come.

Joseph Caruso
UNA AWA International Representative



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UN Observances

January

- 4: World Braille Day
- 24: International Day of Education
- 26: International Day of Clean Energy
- 27: International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

February

- 1-7: World Interfaith Harmony Week
- 2: World Wetlands Day
- 4: International Day of Human Fraternity
- 6: International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
- 10: International Day of the Arabian Leopard
- 10: World Pulses Day
- 11: international Day of Women and Girls in Science
- 12: International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism
- 13: World Radio Day
- 17: Global Tourism Resilience Day
- 20: World Day of Social Justice
- 21: international Mother Language Day



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*Wishing all Members
a festive holiday
season*



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