2012 Year of Decision: The UN in American Foreign Policy

UNA-USA Members’ Day at the UN and the 2012 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference
General Assembly Hall, UN Headquarters
New York, NY
February 10, 2012

Presented by
The United Nations Association of the United States of America
and the Mid-Atlantic Region of UNA-USA
ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE USA

The United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), a program of the UN Foundation, is a membership organization dedicated to inform, inspire and mobilize the American people to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations. UNA-USA works to accomplish its mission through its national network of Chapters, advocacy efforts, education programs and public events. UNA-USA and the UN Foundation have created the single largest network of advocates and supporters of the United Nations in the world. For more information on UNA-USA, visit www.unausa.org.

ABOUT THE UNA-USA MID-ATLANTIC REGION

The Mid-Atlantic Region is comprised of Chapters and Divisions in New York and New Jersey. Contact information can be found on the UNA-USA website, www.unausa.org/chapters.

The Southern New York State Division of UNA-USA is comprised of all Chapters and members at large in the five boroughs of New York City, and from Columbia County in the north to Suffolk County on Long Island. The Division leaders are eager to work with individuals and organizations interested in starting new UNA Chapters. For more information, visit www.unasouthernny.org, or e-mail unasouthernny@gmail.com. The Energy Project can be reached at www.unaenergy.wordpress.com, or by email unaenergy@unasouthernny.org. For information on Young Professionals, visit: www.unasouthernny.org/YPIC.

UNA-USA in New York
Brooklyn Chapter: www.unabrooklyn.org
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New York City Chapter: www.unanyc.org
Queens Chapter: www.unaqueens.org
Rochester Chapter: www.unar.org
Westchester Chapter: www.unawestchester.org

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February 10, 2012

On behalf of the Conference Planning Committee, welcome to Members’ Day at the United Nations and the Fourth Annual UNA-USA Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference. We especially welcome those who have traveled across the country to participate, members of the Council of Organizations, participants of Global Classrooms® Model UN, and faculty and students from colleges and universities throughout the area.

We have arranged a day of presentations on issues of great importance to the U.S., the United Nations, and people around the globe. Many high-level speakers have dedicated their time to share their knowledge. From their insights, we hope that you will acquire new information, ideas, and passion to strengthen positive U.S. leadership at the UN.

We offer our appreciation to our fellow Conference Planning Committee members and UNA-USA staff for their energy, and to our volunteers for the time they invested to make this event possible. If you are not already a member, this is a great time to join UNA-USA and the UNA-USA Mid-Atlantic Region Chapters in New York and New Jersey. Visit www.unausa.org/join to enjoy programs and events year-round, network with like-minded individuals, and continue your support of and interest in the UN.

Cordially,

Jeffrey Laurenti, Senior Fellow, The Century Foundation

Patrick M. Madden, Executive Director, UNA-USA

Jeanne Betsock Stillman, President of the UNA-USA Southern New York State Division

Conference Co-Chairs

Conference Planning Committee: Allison Barker, Joseph Catapano, Tanisha Dyall, Julia Ewing, George A. Garland, Win Win Kyi, Monika Johnson, Padmini Murthy, Mudra Patel, Donna Rosa, David Stillman, Catherine D. White
Friday, February 10

8:30 am  Registration

9:30 am  Introductions and Welcome
Jeanne Betsock Stillman, President of the UNA-USA Southern New York State Division, Conference Co-Chair
Patrick M. Madden, Executive Director, UNA-USA, Conference Co-Chair

9:45 am  Remarks from the U.S. Mission to the United Nations

10:00 am  Keynote Address and Q&A: The UN in an Era of Global Instability
Dr. Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management, Columbia University

Moderator: Jeffrey Laurenti, The Century Foundation
Rosemary A. DiCarlo, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, United States Mission to the United Nations
Abdullah Hussain Haroon, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN
Colum Lynch, UN Correspondent for the Washington Post and writer of the “Turtle Bay” blog for Foreign Policy

11:55 am  Lunch (optional)

11:55 am  20th to 21st Century: Evolution of Peacekeeping
Moderator: Peter Yeo, Vice President for Public Policy, United Nations Foundation and Executive Director, Better World Campaign
Susana Malcorra, United Nations Under Secretary-General of the Department of Field Support
Ugo Solinas, Senior Political Affairs Officer for Europe and Latin America Division, UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations

1:00 pm  Keynote Address: The Importance of Strong U.S. Engagement with the UN
Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey, (D- NY)
1:25 pm  The Future We Want: Emerging Issues around Rio+20 and the Millennium Development Goals Beyond 2015
  Moderator: Dr. Padmini Murthy, Global Health Program Director, New York Medical College
  Eleanor Blomstrom, Program Coordinator, Women’s Environment and Development Organization
  Ann M. Starrs, President, Family Care International
  Corinne Woods, Director, UN Millennium Campaign
  Andrew Yager, Officer in Charge, Water, Energy and Strategies Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2:20 pm  Conference Wrap-Up
  Gillian Sorensen, Senior Advisor and National Advocate, UN Foundation
  Jeanne Betsock Stillman, President, UNA-USA Southern New York State Division, Conference Co-Chair

2:30 pm  Conference Ends

Conference participants are invited to tour the United Nations at an additional cost. For details, please see the Information Desk in the Visitor’s Center Lobby.
DR. JEFFREY D. SACHS is the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is also Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. From 2002 to 2006, he was Director of the UN Millennium Project and Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals, the internationally agreed-upon goals to reduce extreme poverty, disease and hunger by the year 2015. Sachs is also President and Co-Founder of Millennium Promise Alliance, a nonprofit organization aimed at ending extreme global poverty. He is widely considered the leading international economic advisor of his generation. For more than 20 years Sachs has been at the forefront of the challenges of economic development, poverty alleviation and enlightened globalization, promoting policies to help all parts of the world benefit from expanding economic opportunities and well-being. He has written hundreds of scholarly articles and many books, including the New York Times bestsellers The End of Poverty (Penguin, 2005), Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet (Penguin, 2008) and The Price of Civilization (Random House, 2011).

CONGRESSWOMAN NITA M. LOWEY is currently serving her 12th term in Congress, representing parts of Westchester and Rockland Counties. She was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988.

As a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, on which she is the Ranking Democrat on the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, and a senior member of the Homeland Security and Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Subcommittees, Lowey is an extremely effective, committed legislator with a substantial record of accomplishment.

She has been called “courageous” by the New York Times and recognized by the New York Daily News as one of “New York’s key members of Congress.” Newsday called her “terrific” and said “she delivers for New York.” And Congressional Quarterly cited her as one of the 50 most effective members of Congress, saying she “maneuvers skillfully through the appropriations process.”

Few members of Congress have taken key leadership positions on so many vital public policy issues. Lowey has led the effort to make our nation more secure by improving first responders’ preparedness and equipment and preparing for a possible avian flu pandemic. She has worked to increase health-care access and biomedical research and spearheaded the effort to more than double funding for breast cancer research. A strong proponent of education, she has successfully fought efforts to cut funding for public broadcasting and has supported fully funding the federal government’s commitment to education at all levels. Because she understands that instability abroad undermines security at home, she is a fierce advocate for increasing developmental assistance abroad on the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee.

Lowey served in the House Democratic leadership in 2001 and 2002 as the first woman and first New Yorker to chair the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Lowey was born in the Bronx, graduated from the Bronx High School of Science, and received a bachelor’s degree from Mount Holyoke College. She served as Assistant Secretary of State for the State of New York before being elected to Congress.
ELEANOR BLOMSTROM coordinates programs on sustainable development and climate change at the Women’s Environment & Development Organization (WEDO). She leads WEDO’s activities on Rio+20. Prior to WEDO, Eleanor worked on climate change projects with the Earth Institute, the Clinton Foundation, and the World Bank. She has community development experience in agriculture and women’s empowerment with organizations in Nicaragua and Nigeria. Her current work is informed by her background in bilingual elementary education with a focus on race and gender equity in public schools. Blomstrom holds a master’s degree in International Affairs in urban and environmental policy from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, and a bachelor’s degree in environmental sciences.

AMBASSADOR ROSEMARY A. DICARLO was sworn in as the U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations on July 8, 2010.

A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, she previously served as U.S. Alternate Representative for Special Political Affairs to the United Nations, and as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. DiCarlo has also served as the Director for United Nations Affairs at the National Security Council, and Washington Deputy to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

DiCarlo’s overseas assignments included tours at U.S. embassies in Moscow and Oslo. She is a recipient of the U.S. Department of State’s Sustained Superior Achievement, Superior Honor, and Meritorious Honor Awards. Before joining the Foreign Service, she was a member of the Secretariat of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). She holds a B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from Brown University, and speaks Russian and French.

JEFFREY LAURENTI is Senior Fellow and Director of Foreign Policy Programs at The Century Foundation. He is the author of numerous monographs on subjects ranging from international peace and security to terrorism, UN reform, and narcotics policy. He was Executive Director of policy studies at UNA-USA until 2003, and then served for seven years on the association’s Board of Directors. He also served as Deputy Director of the United Nations Foundation’s United Nations and Global Security initiative from 2003 to 2005.

Laurenti is a Regional Representative of the Mid-Atlantic Council of Chapters and Regions Steering Committee of UNA-USA. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He earned an AB magna cum laude in government from Harvard College and a master’s degree from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He speaks Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese.

PATRICK M. MADDEN was named Executive Director of UNA-USA in February 2011. Before assuming the UNA-USA position, Madden served as President and CEO of Sister Cities International (SCI) for four years, building a network of U.S. cities partnered with more than 2,000 international communities that worked to implement economic development, humanitarian, cultural, and educational programs and exchanges. During his time at SCI, he was responsible for attracting the organization’s largest grant, a $7.5M donation from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to work on urban poverty issues in Africa.

Before SCI, he served in senior level external affairs positions at the Association of Performing Arts Presenters and the Smithsonian Institution’s National Portrait Gallery. Madden is an adjunct faculty member at George Mason University where he teaches graduate seminars in fundraising. He holds two degrees from Ohio University.

SUSANA MALCORRA assumed her duties in May 2008 as Under Secretary-General and Head of the Department of Field Support, overseeing daily field support operations to mount, direct and sustain United Nations’ field-based peace operations world-wide. Malcorra joined the United Nations Secretariat from the World Food Programme, where she served as Deputy Executive Director (Administration) and subsequently served as Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operations Officer. In this capacity, she was responsible for daily emergency and humanitarian operations in more than 80 countries. During her tenure at WFP, she led the initial phase of operational response to the Tsunami emergency in December 2004.

Malcorra is a founding member of the Argentine chapter of the International Women’s Forum (IWF) and a member of the Advisory Board of the Business School for the University of San Andres, Buenos Aires and that of Equidad, an NGO aimed at eliminating the digital gap among underprivileged children in Argentina.

Malcorra graduated as an engineer in electronics from University of Rosario in Argentina.

DR. PADMINI (MINI) MURTHY is a trained OB/GYN and an activist. She holds a master’s degree in public health.
and in management from New York University. She is Assistant Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management and Global Health Program Director at New York Medical College School of Health Sciences, and Practice and Assistant Professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine. Her book, *Women’s Global Health and Human Rights*, was published in April 2009. Murthy serves as Chair of the Women’s Rights Committee of the American Public Health Association.

**UGO SOLINAS** is currently Team Leader for Haiti and the officer in charge of the Europe and Latin America Division of the Department of Peacekeeping and Operations (DPKO) Office of Operations.

Solinas has worked as a consultant for the World Bank, focusing on post-conflict reconstruction issues, and was involved in the planning of a human resource development project for Rwanda funded by a $50 million grant from the World Bank’s International Development Agency (IDA). From 2001 to 2002, Solinas worked as a political analyst at the African Union (AU).

From 2002 to 2004, Solinas worked as a political affairs officer in the United Nations Mission in the DRC (MONUC). He has worked in the Africa Division in the Best Practices Section (PBPS) of DPKO. He was responsible for developing the UN’s peacekeeping doctrine.

**GILLIAN SORENSEN** is Senior Advisor at the United Nations Foundation, and is a national advocate on matters related to the UN and the U.S.-UN relationship.

From 1997 to 2003, she served as Assistant Secretary-General for External Relations on appointment by Secretary-General Kofi Annan. She was responsible for outreach to non-governmental organizations and was the contact point for the Secretary-General with parliamentarians, the academic world, religious leaders, and other groups committed to peace, justice, development, and human rights.

From 1993 to 1996, Sorensen served as Special Advisor for Public Policy on appointment by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. She is an experienced public speaker and has often represented the UN in the U.S. and abroad.

Sorensen served for more than 12 years (1978-1990) as New York City Commissioner for the United Nations and Consular Corps.

She is a graduate from Smith College and studied at the Sorbonne. In the fall of 2002, on leave from the UN, she was a fellow at the Kennedy School of Government (Institute of Politics) at Harvard University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Fellow at the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy. Previously, she served as a board member of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting on appointment by the president of the United States.

**ANN M. STARRS** is co-founder and president (since 2008) of Family Care International (FCI), a non-government organization dedicated to making pregnancy and childbirth safer in the developing world. Since FCI’s founding in 1986, Starrs’ experience has included organizational and strategic development; on-the-ground program design and capacity-building, in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia; and global advocacy and policy-making on reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health.

Starrs has authored or co-authored numerous technical papers and commentaries on global health policy issues.

Before joining FCI, she worked with the International Planned Parenthood Federation and Carnegie Corporation of New York. She holds a master’s degree from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and a certificate in demography from Princeton’s Office of Population Research. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

**JEANNE BETSOCK STILLMAN** is President of the UNA-USA Southern New York State Division and Co-Chair of UNA-USA Members’ Day at the UN and the 2012 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference. She consults in non-profit management, international public health, and program development. She is President of Strategies for Development, Inc., a consulting firm. She represents the Public-Private Alliance Foundation to the UN Department of Public Information. She has also produced a video, *Population and People of Faith*, and the video series *Going Global with the UN*, and edited the second version of the self-instructional *Training Course for Women’s Health*.

Stillman designed and led training programs for health professionals in the U.S., many sub-Saharan African countries, Tunisia, Haiti and Pakistan, and for Afghan refugees. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the American University School of International Service and an MSPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and completed doctoral coursework at Columbia University.
ANDREW YAGER is Senior Economic Affairs Officer in the Division for Sustainable Development at UN DESA in New York. He works on energy access, energy efficiency, alternative energy, and “smart city” issues. He is heavily involved in the preparations for the Rio+20 Conference.

Yager moved to New York from Nairobi, Kenya in 2003 where he managed a major energy efficiency project, aimed at increasing sustainable industrial development and decreasing global carbon emissions.

Prior to joining the UN he was Head of International Development at the Institute for Energy Technology in Norway where he developed the climate change portfolio.

He spent three years in Luanda, Angola as Renewable Energy and Rural Electrification Advisor to the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Energy Sector.

Yager is a Norwegian resident and a Canadian citizen. He received his Ph.D. in energy engineering from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1984.

PETER YEO is the Vice President for Public Policy at the United Nations Foundation and Executive Director of the Better World Campaign. He joined the Foundation and the Better World Campaign in February 2009 after more than 20 years of legislative, analytical, and management experience. Prior to arriving at UNF, Yeo served for 10 years as the Deputy Staff Director at the House Foreign Affairs Committee chaired by Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and Rep. Howard Berman (D-CA). He has worked on a broad range of foreign policy and foreign aid issues. He led the successful negotiations for the landmark HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003, commonly known as PEPFAR, and the successful $50 billion reauthorization of the law in 2008.

During the 2008 U.S. presidential campaigns, Yeo served as an advisor to the foreign policy campaign teams of President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Yeo holds a bachelor’s degree in East Asian Studies from Wesleyan University and a master’s degree in East Asian Studies from Harvard University.
Become a member of the United Nations Association of the USA!

Membership Benefits

• Access to news and information on the UN, including original reporting at www.TheInterDependent.com
• Opportunities to meet and mobilize like-minded people and be active in a local Chapter that focuses on important global issues
• Local benefits provided by your Chapter/Division (e.g., newsletters, invitations to activities, and more)
• A personalized membership card
• Online and local events celebrating International Women's Day, Rio+20, UN Day and Human Rights Day
• Monthly Nationwide Conference Calls with UN experts on issues such as global health, empowering women and girls, and sustainable development
• Engagement with UN Foundation Campaigns for global health, adolescent girls, the environment and more
• Student alliances for high school and college students
• Young professional groups and events for those between 21 and 40 as part of your local Chapter

To become a member, visit www.unausa.org/join.

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