



## UNAA PACIFIC PROJECT

Since 2009, the United Nations Association of Australia has been working on a community development project in the Pacific. David Purnell, the previous National Administrator of UNAA and current UNAA ACT Committee Member has been the Project Manager and his involvement has kept the ACT Division very involved in the project.

The project is being funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and aims to develop UN Associations in the Pacific. Currently we are working with community groups in PNG, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands.

Most recently, David Purnell and Beth Philipson (UNYA) travelled to Samoa to begin negotiations around the development of a UNA based in Apia. They were able to secure many high level meetings including the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, CEO of Foreign Affairs and a range of UN officials and community sector representatives.

More information about this project is available at [www.unaa.org.au](http://www.unaa.org.au)

## COVER IMAGES:

*Clockwise L to R: Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Stephen Smith MP launching the UN Parliamentary Group with the Chair of the Group, Melissa Parke MP; Robert Hill, Former Australian Ambassador to the UN and now National President of UNAA; Margaret Moreton; and Switch to Green Expo participants.*

## WITH THANKS TO

### Executive Committee Members

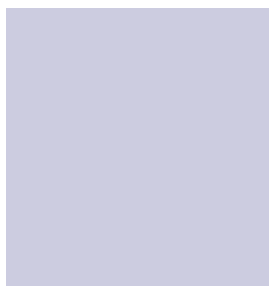
President	Russell Rollason
Vice-President(s)	Harold Wilkinson Julie McKay
Secretary	Margaret Moreton
Treasurer	Warren Hoye

### Immediate Past President

Helen Disney

### Corporate Members

Quakers	Margaret Bearlin
UNIFEM Australia	Libby Lloyd
PSEAWA	Calmar Annandale/ Doreen Hurst



## THANK YOU TO OUR PRESIDENT

The United Nations Association of Australia would like to acknowledge the contribution of Russell Rollason, during his four years as President of the ACT Division.

Over the past four years, Russell has developed several major projects which have benefited UNAA nationally. In 2008, Russell organised the inaugural Switch to Green Conference, bringing together Business, Government and the community to discuss progress towards a 'Carbon Neutral Capital'. After the success of this conference, the National Conference was held in Canberra in 2009, continuing the theme of 'Switch to Green'.

In 2008, Russell coordinated the UN Report Card, a major national publication detailing the Australian Government's performance on a range of UN related issues including education, gender, poverty and the environment.

Russell's leadership of the ACT Division has supported the growth of the committee, built strong links with the Australian Government and increased awareness about the UN in the ACT community.

We wish Russell, his wife Tracey and daughter Bella all the very best with their move to India. They will all be greatly missed by the ACT Division.

### Committee members

David Purnell	Mike Hettinger
Julia Wheeler	Chris MacDonald
James Reid	

### ACT Coordinator

Christine Vincent

NCW	Helen Raymond
Baha'i	Maryam Bell
UNYA	Anthony Antico



ABN: 13 720 340 622  
[www.unaa.org.au](http://www.unaa.org.au)



2009 - 2010  
ACT Division  
Annual  
Report

## President's Report - Russell Rollason AM

There is little doubt that the international community missed an opportunity at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009. The 'moral challenge of our lifetime' brought world leaders together under the UN flag but all that could be agreed was a series of voluntary commitments. A great disappointment, but was progress made?

Yes: the international community accepted the advice of scientists to keep global temperature increases to within 2 degrees. Yes: because leaders from the US, China, India and several other leaders from the world's major economies were prepared to personally negotiate for an outcome. World leaders accepted that climate change required their commitment to act. Progress was made but much more was expected and needed.

The global disappointment has been reflected in Australia with the Government shelving the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme. It is clear that the Government was not prepared to fight a double dissolution election over a scheme that the Greens did not support and the Opposition labeled as a "great big new tax".

Few doubt the urgency for international action to curb carbon emissions. However, Governments must balance strong vested interests and community reluctance to pay more for energy against the common good of the world community and future generations. Copenhagen is a reminder that governments, whether at the UN or at home, will only take action if the public is informed and demands action. Organisations like the UNAA must continue to help explain the reasons and urgency for action.

As I write this, governments are at the UN in New York reviewing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, another "historic opportunity" for the international community to move towards nuclear disarmament.

The commitment of President Obama to a world free of nuclear weapons and the steps he took at the U.N. Security Council meeting he chaired last September and the April Nuclear Security Summit he hosted, helped create this historic opportunity to advance nuclear disarmament. At the April summit, forty-six countries joined the U.S. in signing a pact to secure the world's nuclear materials against the threats of proliferation and terrorism within four years.

Australia too has contributed to the "historic opportunity" through convening in cooperation with Japan, the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND) which reported late in 2009. At the New York Review Conference, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Smith reaffirmed "Australia's firm commitment to the goal of a world without nuclear weapons" and recognized that "The goal of a world without nuclear weapons can only be achieved with commitment to action by both nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states".

Recently, Joint Standing Committee on Treaties recommended Australia actively support a nuclear weapons convention (NWC) and invest research and consultation resources in its development. Let's hope (and take action to ensure) this historic opportunity to advance nuclear disarmament is not missed.

After four years as President, it is time to step down. Thank you to members and especially the members of the UNAA Executive Committee for your support and encouragement over the past four years. I am taking up a posting in New Delhi with AusAID and am sorry that I will not be around to take a lead in organizing Switch to Green in 2010. However, my role in India for AusAID will focus on climate change, so it will be same challenge, new context.



Australia, NZ, PNG and the Pacific) and Dr Susan Harris Rimmer, ANU, spoke about the important links between human rights and seeking asylum.

### Walk Against Warming Saturday 12 December 2009

UNAA (ACT) co-sponsored the Walk Against Warming event in Canberra. This event marked a national and global day of climate action – declared at the most important point during the Copenhagen meetings.

### What's the UN up to now? Tuesday 23 February 2010

This event was hosted by Mary Porter (MLA) and included an up to date account of the critical international issues on the agenda for the UN and debated in the UN General Assembly. Annette Ellis (MP) and Craig McLachlan (DFAT) spoke about their experience attending the 2009 General Assembly – Mary as a Parliamentary representative and Craig as a government representative with the Australian delegation.

### Nuclear Disarmament: Is the Holy Grail within reach? Wednesday 28 April 2010

This event was hosted by Simon Corbell (MLA). Professor Tilman Ruff and John Tilemann discussed the International Campaign for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

## Audited Financial Statements 2009

Independent Audit Report to The Members of  
United Nations Association of Australia (ACT Division)  
Incorporated.

I have audited the Financial Statements of United Nations Association of Australia (ACT Division) Incorporated for the year ended 31 December 2009. The association's directors are responsible for the financial statements. I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the association.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other Mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the association's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Qualification

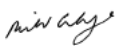
The Association, in common with similar non-profit making associations, does not have a comprehensive system of internal control over income and I am therefore unable to confirm that all amounts receivable have been properly accounted for. However, I was able to sight adequate support for income and expenditure recorded in the books of account. As an audit procedure it is not practicable to extend our testing income and expenditure beyond the details recorded in the books of account of the Association.

### Audit opinion

Subject to the above qualification, in my opinion, the financial statements of United Nations Association of Australia (ACT Division) Incorporated are properly drawn up:

- I so as to give a true and fair view of:
  - A. the association's financial position as at 31 December 2009 and income and expenditure for the year end 31 December 2009;
- II to satisfy the requirement so subsection 72(2) of the Association Incorporated Act to be dealt with in financial statements.

Signed on:

  
Michael Cubbage CPA  
3 Bracker Place  
Macarthur ACT 2904



## 2009 - 2010 Activities

### UNAA ACT AGM and Afghanistan Event

Monday 22 June 2009

This event was hosted by Mary Porter (MLA). Professor Amin Saikal and Professor William Maley were our guest speakers and spoke about the situation that continues in Afghanistan.

### Switch to Green – for a Carbon Neutral Canberra National Conference

10 – 12 September 2009

UNAA (ACT) held the second "Switch to Green" expo and conference bringing together business, government and the community – to consider Canberra's movement towards a green and sustainable future.

### International Peace Day – WMD – We must disarm

Saturday 26 September 2009

Members, families and friends commemorated Peace day by gathering at the Baha'i Centre in Weston to make origami cranes to send to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima, Japan.

### Human Rights Day

Thursday 10 December 2009

This event was hosted by Caroline Le Couteur (MLA). Richard Towle, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Regional Representative (UNHCR Office for

United Nations Association of Australia (ACT Division) Incorporated				
COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - 31 DECEMBER 2009				
	2009	2008	2007	2006
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>82,438</b>	<b>154,230</b>	<b>32,413</b>	<b>3,762</b>
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>78,276</b>	<b>145,249</b>	<b>32,527</b>	<b>5,338</b>
<b>CASH SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>4,161</b>	<b>8,981</b>	<b>-114</b>	<b>-1,576</b>
<b>CASH AT BANK - 31 December 2009</b>				
<b>Operating account:</b>	5,675	9,953	1,055	2,481
<b>Special events account:</b>	13,253	4,813	4,730	113
<b>CCMT account:</b>	8,010	7,878	7,590	10,510
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,938</b>	<b>22,644</b>	<b>13,375</b>	<b>13,104</b>

\*Due to space restrictions, the full audited accounts have not been printed in this report. For a copy of these accounts, please email unaaact@cyberone.com.au