



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION of the United States of America

SPOKANE CHAPTER

"ALOCAL VOICE FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION"

Spokane Chapter Vision Statement

May 2005 Newsletter

Vol. 5 No. 5

MAY PROGRAM

7:00 pm, Monday, May 9, '05

Unitarian Universalist Church in Spokane
4340 West Fort Wright Drive

*"Economic Development and Diversity:
Building Our Social and Cultural
Capital!"*

Mr. Ben Cabildo

*Executive Director of AHANA Business and Professional
Association*

Ben Cabildo is the founder and Executive Director of AHANA Business and Professional Association. AHANA is a grassroots organization of African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Native American businesses and professionals in the Inland Northwest Region.

AHANA's role is: 1) To grow, transform and empower AHANA businesses through counseling, training, accessing capital, creating networks, and partnerships with other businesses; 2) To advocate for the inclusion of minority business development to the economic development agenda of the region; and 3) To connect minority businesses and professionals with the mainstream businesses and leaders.

Through Mr. Cabildo's leadership, AHANA stands in the forefront of connecting community leaders, employers, and minority businesses and professionals.

AHANA was instrumental in bringing together different ethnic organizations to collaborate in developing and voicing communities' political concerns. This year Cabildo led the minority alliance in a successful dialogue between the communities of color and the majority of State and local political candidates.

*National
Association
for the
Advancement
of Colored
People
(NAACP)*

"---united to awaken

*conscientiousness of a
people, and a nation.
This is the legacy of
the NAACP!"*

*Northwest Woman
Magazine*

*"More than a Magazine-
It's a Friend."*

www.ahanabusiness.org



President's Message

Jo Stowell

One thing UN detractors and supporters both agree on is the need for UN reform. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has probably been the most vocal in a call for reform. He took action by creating a high-level panel of 16 members from as many countries, which met six times over the course of 2003 and 2004 to propose reforms for the UN.

This was not the first time Secretary-General Kofi Annan has directed reforms for the UN. Since taking office in 1997 Annan has made many changes at UN headquarters which have done much to make the operations of the UN more efficient and effective.

There's no doubt, however, that the proposed reforms in a report released by Kofi Annan on March 20, 2005, are the most far-reaching in the 60 year history of the United Nations.

The success of the reforms called for in the March 20th report depends on the support and cooperation of the major powers, especially the United States. This will be difficult to achieve. Upon release of the report detractors in the United States immediately branded it as "a panicked response to the UN's problems." The Bush administration appears to be taking a "ho-hum" attitude. It is not likely the United States will be interested in sharing any of its privilege and power to strengthen the United Nations, although it is very quick to condemn the United Nations for its inability to deal more quickly and effectively with global issues. The nomination of John Bolton as U.S. Ambassador to the UN does not bode well for the UN reforms proposed by Kofi Annan and the 16-member committee. We'll have to wait and see what happens in September when the General Assembly meets for the 60th session.

One of the major proposals I do hope the 191 United Nations member states will be able to agree on is the creation of a human rights council, perhaps as a principal organ of the UN like the Security Council or General Assembly. This is an exciting idea, and hopefully, a place of coming together.

It is important that we, as members of the United Nations Association-USA, educate ourselves regarding these reforms (log on to www.unasusa.org) and discuss them among ourselves and our families, friends and neighbors. We can educate our community by writing letters to the editor. We can notify our congressional representatives and President Bush of our support for the UN.

This is such a crucial time for the United Nations and for the future of our civilization. We have no viable alternative except to do whatever we can do to live our lives each day in such a way as to contribute to the ideals of the United Nations and all it stands for.

In Larger Freedom: Secretary-General's March 20 Report
The full report and supplemental information can be accessed at
www.un.org/largerfreedom.

Spokane Chapter Calendar

May 9, '05 Monday
Ben Cabildo
AHANA
7 p.m. Unitarian
Church

There are no meetings
in June, July and
August.

Sept. 12 '05 Monday
Golie Jansen and Rod
Stackelberg
"Millennium Goals and
UN Reform"
Unitarian Church

Oct. 24, '05 Monday
UN DAY 60th
Anniversary
CELEBRATION
Mukogawa Commons,
Fort Wright

Nov. 14, Monday
Adopt a Minefield
Dinner
Unitarian Church

December 12, Monday
Golie Jansen
"Fundamentalism vs
Universalism"
Unitarian Church

In Larger Freedom: Secretary-General's March 20 Report

This information is from the home page of the UNA-USA website at www.unausa.org

On March 21, 2005, Secretary-General Kofi Annan released a report—"In Larger Freedom: Toward Development, Security and Human Rights for All"—that puts forward a comprehensive deal for tackling poverty, security threats and human rights abuses while overhauling the United Nations through a set of recommendations slated for action by national leaders when they gather to mark the world body's sixtieth anniversary later this year.

The report is drawn from two wide-ranging reviews—one from the 16-member High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change that made proposals to strengthen the collective security system; the other from the 250 experts who undertook the Millennium Project, which required them to produce a plan of action to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. If acted on, the proposals, ranging from a nine-member increase in the Security Council's membership to the establishment of a new Human Rights Council, would mark the most dramatic change in the UN's functioning ever achieved at once.

The report also contains recommendations to address terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, civil conflict, international atrocity crimes, extreme poverty, disease and environmental degradation.

Check out the UNA USA website (www.unausa.org) Talking Points on the report.

The full report and supplemental information can be accessed at

www.un.org/largerfreedom.

Welcome!

Spokane Chapter welcomes Ron and Lindy Cater.

UNA-USA Spokane Chapter Officers and Board of Directors

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UNA-USA Spokane Chapter Newsletter is published monthly, September through May. Your communication is appreciated. Unless otherwise noted, please direct your comments to: President Jo Stowell, 1118 E. 34th Ave., Spokane, WA 99203. 509 624-3608 jck@georgetown.edu

Get informed and Speak Up!

E-ACTION NETWORK

www.unausa.org

UNA-USA uses the E-Action Network to alert members and other UN supporters via e-mail when action is needed on important UN issues. The E-Action Network allows users to "take action" quickly and easily by providing them with a sample letter which they can personalize and send to their elected officials by fax or regular mail.

As always, you are strongly encouraged to print the letter, sign it, and send it via regular mail. The next most powerful option is to send the letter by fax. Of course, you may also e-mail your message if you would like. Finally, to have maximum effect, please follow-up by calling and/or visiting your Senate offices (Senate operator: 202-224-3121).

REMINDER: Make sure you're registered with the E-Action Network to receive action alerts throughout the year on these important UN issues. To join, visit our web site where you'll be able to send letters to elected officials with just a few clicks of your mouse. The E-Action Network allows you to take action quickly and easily, but nothing can substitute for the effectiveness of a personal visit to your legislators' offices!

Yes! I want to join UNA-USA Spokane!

Membership Category Levels

- \$10. Student
- \$25. Introductory (first year only)/ \$25. Fixed Income.
- \$40. Individual or Household Member.

Yes! I want to make a contribution of \$ _____ to help carry on the work of the UNA Spokane Chapter!

Name(s) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Make Check payable to UNA - USA.

Mail to Betty Banks, 2429 W. Sanson Ave., Spokane, WA 99205.

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