

1. Afghanistan's assets

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting that in February 2020, the US Trump administration and the Taliban signed the *Agreement for Bringing Peace to Afghanistan*, also known as the Doha Agreement,
- b. Noting that the US completed its withdrawal of its armed forces from Afghanistan on 30 August 2021, marking the end of the nearly 20-year-long war in Afghanistan since 9/11,
- c. Regretting the decision taken by the US Biden administration on 11 February 2022 to allocate \$3.5B or 50% of Afghanistan's foreign currency reserves to cover lawsuits by US 9/11 families,
- d. Reminding the US that the Afghan people themselves were victims of 9/11 and according to UNHCR, 24m Afghans are in need of vital humanitarian relief of at least \$8B,
- e. Concluding that the US position is fuelling Afghanistan's humanitarian crisis, making an already serious situation, almost catastrophic,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To use its 'special relationship' with the US to release the currency reserves of Afghanistan in full without delay;
2. To raise a motion to table a UN resolution to return the full \$7B foreign currency reserves to Afghanistan.

Agreed 23rd April 2022

2. Arms Trade impacts on the lives of women and children

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Recognising that women and children suffer disproportionately through armed conflicts which depend heavily on the arms trade, and the proliferation of small arms,
- b. Deeply concerned that the UK may be in breach of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), by continuing to sell arms to authoritarian regimes such as Turkey and Saudi Arabia who directly and indirectly target women,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To cease all arms sales to countries (such as Turkey, Saudi Arabia) who violate international humanitarian law;
2. To ensure that women comprise at least half of the UK parliamentary committees monitoring arms exports: International Development (currently 4/11); Foreign Affairs (2/11); Defence (2/11); International Trade (1/11)), and of the Department for International Trade's Export Control Joint Unit;
3. To re-establish regular and thorough scrutiny of Arms Export through the Committee on Arms Export Control or a new select committee devoted to the task;
4. To support judicial review of UK arms sales to regimes wherever there is firm evidence of very serious violations of human rights, in particular violence against women and girls or sexual violence;
5. To work with international and UK Women's NGOs on the impact of UK arms exports on women and girls;
6. To cease co-hosting UK Arms Trade Fairs with states that violate international humanitarian law in conflicts.

Agreed 27th February 2021.

3. Atrocity prevention

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Welcoming the UK government's advocacy for the principle of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) in relation to mass atrocities,
- b. Welcoming the existence of a Focal Point within the Foreign Office to co-ordinate the government's approach,
- c. Welcoming the call by Foreign Affairs Select Committee for the government to set out an atrocity prevention strategy,
- d. Welcoming the government's Integrated Review published on 16 March 2021 with atrocity prevention and strengthening fragile countries' resilience to external interference being one of the highest priority actions,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To develop a strategy for preventing atrocities detailing the measures and indicators that would lead the R2P Focal Point to declare that there is an imminent risk of atrocity crimes occurring in a given country and what mechanisms and actions this would trigger;
2. To elevate the role of R2P Focal Point to ministerial level to ensure full engagement with political decision making (including on military action);
3. To champion the doctrine of R2P across Government, making atrocity prevention a 'lens' to analyse and review policy in all areas including peacekeeping, arms exports, immigration and asylum policy.

Agreed 24th November 2018 and amended 23rd April 2022.

4. Climate

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Noting the Climate Governance Commission’s statement that “The world faces a deepening planetary emergency—and is on a reckless path toward runaway, catastrophic climate change—having already over-shot six of nine scientifically-identified Planetary Boundaries”,
- b. Noting that 2023 was the hottest year on record and that several irreversible tipping points may occur between 1.5 and 2 degrees,
- c. Noting that the worst climate effects are felt in developing countries, who have historically been the least responsible for its causes, and that climate ‘refugees’ are increasing,
- d. Bearing in mind the opportunities from sustainable production and consumption, and risks of increased insurance costs and stranded assets,

Calls on all governments at COP 29

1. To focus on 2030 targets and actions to “keep 1.5 degrees alive”;
2. To ensure voices of the most vulnerable including Indigenous people and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), are heard and responded to;
3. To prioritise stewardship of freshwater resources, forests and protection of ecosystems as huge carbon stores of benefit to the biodiversity, climate, communities and wildlife;
4. To ensure calculations don’t overlook substantial emissions, such as military emissions;

Calls upon the UK government:

5. To publish plans to reduce (cf 1990 emission) by 68% in 2030, and 78% in 2035 and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) on track to net-zero by 2050, that are judged credible by the UK Climate Change Committee;
6. To meet the £11.6bn climate finance commitment for 2021-2026 including loss and damage grants, without reducing other ODA spending or increasing the debt of the poorest countries;
7. To support a Just Transition ensuring that the substantial benefits of a green economy transition are shared widely, while also supporting those who stand to lose economically;
8. To ban new fossil fuel licences and investments.

Agreed 9th March 2024 to replace previous resolutions on the topic

5. Collective Punishment in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT)

UNA London & South-East Region notes that:

- a. Non-combatant Palestinians in the OPT are being considered guilty by association with the Palestinian resistance who attack Israeli Jews or resist attacks from occupation forces or from illegal Jewish settlers. Despite not being charged with any offence such non-militant civilian Palestinians are suffering collective punishment including eviction and house demolitions. UK Ambassador to the UN Barbara Woodward condemned such collective punishment by Israel in the Security Council in March 2023,
- b. Since 7 October 2023, many Palestinians have lost their jobs in Israel, others have been prevented from praying in Jerusalem or Bethlehem, and 7,200 have been arrested in raids across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Some of those seized are women and children and few have been charged under credible legal procedures,
- c. Around the time the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued orders to Israel to prevent or punish any genocidal acts in Gaza, Israel reported that twelve employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNWRA) were involved with the HAMAS-led raids into Israel on 7 October 2023. In response to Israel's report the UK withdrew its funding for UNWRA, as have other national donors, thereby causing grievous collective suffering to millions of Palestinians, and giving support to Israel's campaign to end UNRWA,

Calls on the UK government:

1. To restore UK support for UNWRA immediately and to work to ensure the survival of the agency and its work and the protection of the right of return for Palestinian refugees unless and until such rights are addressed in a permanent settlement of the conflict;
2. To condemn in the strongest terms direct and indirect collective punishment of innocent civilians in militarily occupied areas;
3. To require Israel to comply with its responsibilities as an Occupying Power, with the Geneva Conventions and the ICJ's orders in respect of Israel, including:
 - i) providing access to sufficient nutritious food, clean water and sanitation, energy, shelter, health and medical care (including vaccines and medicines);
 - ii) protecting hospitals and other healthcare facilities, medical, humanitarian, and media staff; and
 - iii) ensuring the availability of support from relevant agencies such as UNWRA and the Red Cross and Red Crescent;
4. Until Israel complies with these requirements and ceases collective punishment of innocent civilians, to stop the sale and transfer of weapons, vehicles, materials and equipment that Israel could use in the OPT, including via the Navy or RAF base in Cyprus;
5. To use its influence with the US government to support Security Council resolutions calling for a ceasefire and to suspend weapons sales where they are used in contravention of International Humanitarian Law.

Agreed 9th March 2024 and replacing resolution on Covid vaccines for Palestinians

6. Cybersecurity

UNA London & South East Region:

- d. Noting that UN Secretary-General António Guterres, in introducing his priorities for 2020 to the General Assembly on 22 January 2020, referred to the dark side of the digital world and to the work of the two UN ongoing initiatives, the Open-Ended Working Group on information and telecommunications in the context of security (OEWG), and the Group of Government Experts on advancing responsible behaviour in cyberspace and within the General Assembly (GGE),
- e. Noting further that the next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in June 2022 intends to review policies developed since the Commonwealth Cyber Declaration (2018),
- f. Fearing that the coexistence of the OEWG and the GGE points to rival ideologies more than to a concerted effort to reach agreement to benefit all UN Member States, large and small,
- g. Welcoming recent initiatives by forty states to end 'dual track discussions' and establish a permanent UN forum to consider the use of ICTs by States in the context of international security',

Calls on the UK government:

- 1. To support the proposed Permanent UN Forum;
- 2. To take a stance in UN-led negotiations which primarily seeks to protect the victims of aggressive cyber-attacks;
- 3. To provide effective assistance to all Commonwealth Nations implementing national cybersecurity capacity reviews in order to become more cyber secure.

Agreed May 16th 2020 and amended 23rd April 2022

7. Financial levy for clean water

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Concerned that every day international financial transactions and markets generate millions of dollars in profit, a large proportion of which is entirely speculative, and does not create real wealth,
- h. Deeply concerned that such transactions create little income for the wider population,
- i. Noting that a 0.05% levy on such transactions would yield enough income to ensure that every man, woman and child on the planet had access to clean water and sanitary provision,
- j. Conscious of the need to control international health issues that can exacerbate global pandemics,

Calls upon the UK government:

- 1. To work for the adoption by the UN of an international agreement to impose such a levy on all financial transactions over £100,000, including high frequency transactions;
- 2. To set up, with the income thus generated, a special fund to ensure that every man, woman and child on the planet gains access to clean water and sanitary provision.

Agreed 27th February 2021 and amended 9th March 2024

8. Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR)

UNA London and South-East Region:

- a. Noting the introduction of a National Security Law on 30th June 2020 and the establishment of a Committee of Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong,
- b. Noting further the new security law signed by President Xi Jinping criminalised four offences of secession, subversion, terrorism and collusion with foreign and external forces to jeopardise national security,
- c. Recalling that, since the UK government enabled British Nationals (Overseas) status holders to come to the UK under a Visa Scheme, more than 120,000 Hongkongers have arrived in the United Kingdom to seek a peaceful life here with their children,

UNA London and South-East Region expresses deep concern:

- d. That hundreds of pro-democracy legislators and activists were arrested and charged under the new National Security Law,
- e. That Chinese mainland agents have power to operate freely in Hong Kong and outside any supervision of local law enforcement, while a mainland Chinese security office will be set up in Hong Kong,
- f. That Beijing set up a liaison office to influence Hong Kong elections by approving “patriots” as Legislative Council candidates, by refusing opposition candidates their right to stand and coordinating key aspects of the elections in December 2021, such as by trying to make it easier for residents with Hong Kong ID cards living across the border in mainland China to vote,

Urges the UK Government:

1. To call on the Chinese government to honour the promises it made in 1997, under the *One Country, Two Systems* model;
2. To call for the right of all candidates to stand for Legislative Council seats, without being falsely accused of not being a “patriot”;
3. To restate the moral and legal responsibility of the UK and Hong Kong governments to support processes to ensure that democracy, the rule of law and human rights are upheld in Hong Kong;

Calls on the UN and all Member States:

4. To ask the authorities in Hong Kong and China to enact gradual reform of the electoral system towards universal suffrage in the election of the Legislative Council;
5. To call for election-monitoring by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in all future elections of the Chief Executive or the Hong Kong Legislative Council.

Agreed 23rd April 2022 and amended 9th March 2024

9. How did Dag Hammarskjold die?

UNA London & South-East Region

Notes that:

- a. The UN General Assembly, in 1962, reached an open verdict, pending further information, on the causes of the plane crash in which UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold died in 1961, while on a peace mission in the Congo,
- b. Following publication of further information, the UN General Assembly in 2014 opened a new inquiry led by Justice Mohamed Othman, appointed by the UN Secretary General,
- c. Following each of his interim reports, support in the UN General Assembly has grown,

Regrets that the UK government has:

- d. Declined access to – or denied the existence of – documents believed by Judge Mohamed Othman to be in its possession,
- e. Refused to provide documents dated between February and November (2018) specified by Westminster UNA in its Freedom of Information Request (March 2019),

Urges the UK government:

To extend full cooperation to Judge Othman's inquiry and to grant him access to documents held for over 60 years by MI5, MI6 and GCHQ, all active in the region at the time of the event.

Agreed 9th March 2024 to replace the previous resolution on the same topic

10. Human Rights

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Mindful that in 75 years the UN has created an impressive body of law between nations greatly contributing to world peace and to fundamental human rights for all,
- b. Recognising that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is widely respected, and is given enhanced status by customary international law, and that all international human rights treaties take their source from the UNDHR,
- c. Seriously concerned that not all UN member states ratify or accede to all human rights treaties and that many make reservations to a number of specific provisions of the treaty on becoming a party,
- d. Welcoming the UK's past leadership at the UN Human Rights Council on issues such as violence against women and girls, modern slavery, Sri Lanka and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Iran and congratulates the UK on its election to the Human Rights Council for the period 2021-2023,
- e. Welcoming the UK's contribution of \$9.2m to the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights in 2020,

Calls on the UN:

1. To intensify efforts to achieve ratification of all human rights treaties by all member states;
2. To encourage the withdrawal or removal of all reservations made to human rights treaties, and work towards the prevention of any reservations upon future ratification of, or accession to, existing and future human rights treaties;
3. To strengthen the Human Rights Council and human rights treaty bodies and to increase their capacity to ensure full implementation of human rights treaties and the protection of human rights worldwide;

Calls upon the UK Government:

4. To honour the declarations of government ministers to "help strengthen the Council, and to support countries working to improve their human rights record" including by engaging constructively with all UN human rights mechanisms and Special Procedures, responding positively (and with respect) across government to UN expert investigations and enquires and by ensuring that the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies are given all the means necessary to fulfil their mandates;
5. To ensure that any future changes to UK human rights law strengthen, rather than weaken, the protection of universal human rights (including social and economic rights) in the UK and to refrain from introducing exemptions for acts taking place outside the UK;
6. To adopt an ethical foreign policy which prioritises the advancement of human rights as an aim in itself;
7. To desist from shielding allies where criticism is justified;
8. To ensure that aid spending takes account of human rights concerns;
9. To refrain from withdrawing from existing human rights commitments.

Agreed 24th November 2018 & amended 27th February 2021

11. Kashmir

UNA London and South-East Region:

- a. Concerned about the recent decision by India's Supreme Court to uphold the Indian government's decision to strip Jammu and Kashmir of its special status,
- b. Deeming unacceptable the Indian government's Revocation of Article 370 of the Indian constitution, and the subsequent media blackout and security lockdown,
- c. Condemning the prevention of international journalists from visiting Indian controlled Kashmir,
- d. Condemning the Indian Media Policy of 2020, which monitors and allows local government to censor output,
- e. Condemning the militarisation of Indian controlled Kashmir,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To encourage both Pakistan and India to uphold UNSC Resolutions and Simla Agreement;
2. To condemn any brutal treatment of Kashmiri citizens and media control.

Agreed 9th March 2024

12. Maximising the impact of the UN's work

UNA London & South East Region:

Recognising the value of a continuous focus on good practice, and alignment of efforts across the UN system to maximise the impact of its work,

Calls on the UN to maintain a focus on:

1. Identifying and combatting the root causes of problems globally;
2. Encouraging in-country projects to be community-led;
3. Establishing global reward and recognition schemes to incentivise change and embed goals such as the SDGs in economic systems (for example the food system);
4. In work requiring social transformation, working with all members of civil society, particularly marginalised groups, to build a social revolution that promotes shared ownership and responsibility;
5. Ensuring that youth is represented even in the highest fora, despite local and national cultural obstructions;
6. Adopting multi-stakeholder approaches to new challenges (such as digital issues) including a wide range of actors such as companies, civil society, NGOs and human rights watchdogs.

Agreed 27th February 2021

13. Nuclear weapons

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Expressing its satisfaction about the entry into force in January 2021 of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) which prohibits a full range of nuclear-weapon-related activities including prohibiting the production, testing, use, threat of use, and assisting other groups in such actions,
- b. Congratulating the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) on being awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its work towards this end,
- c. Regretting that despite being committed, since 1968, to negotiating the elimination of all nuclear weapons "in good faith" by Article VI of the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, the UK Government refused to participate in the multilateral negotiations leading to the TPNW treaty and has been dismissive of any suggestion that this country should sign up to it, thus setting a poor example to other nations,
- d. Noting that the UK government plans to replace our own nuclear weapons that will continue to be wholly dependent on a regular supply of missiles from, and regular maintenance by, the United States at a cost, including construction and running, of over £200 billion,
- e. Noting that disarmament and non-proliferation are both important aspects of the NPT
- f. Noting the declaration by the P5 in January 2022 that a Nuclear War cannot be won and must never be fought,

Urges the UK government:

1. To constructively participate in future UN-led meetings to take both the TPNW and NPT Treaties forward;
2. To give full support to the TPNW treaty: to sign and then ratify as soon as possible;
3. To cancel the current Trident replacement contracts and publicly reactivate its commitment to the NPT;
4. To commit to No First Use of its nuclear weapons.

First agreed 25th November 2017, amended 24th November 2018,
May 16th 2020, 23rd April 2022 & 9th March 2024

14. Oceans

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Acknowledging the call for ambitious co-ordinated action to protect the world's oceans in the Commonwealth's 2018 Blue Charter to protect and improve our oceans,
- b. Acknowledging the importance of SDG 14 *Life below water*,
- c. Welcoming and supporting the Sussex Blue Charter launched in October 2021 at the Ocean Symposium,

Calls on the UK Government:

1. To work more forcefully at the UN, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the Security Council for a sustainable future for the world's oceans and to strengthen international law against pollution, and the negative effects of armed conflict,
2. To create Marine Conservation Zones covering at least 30% of UK Waters,

Calls on the UN to work with member states:

3. To create Marine Protected Areas including at least 30% of the World's Oceans;
4. To carry out environmental impact assessments of all fishing fleets; stop activities damaging ecosystems; ensure that fish quotas are sustainable, strictly observed, and exclude endangered and protected species;
5. To require that all ocean-going commercial fleets be pollution free and CO2 neutral, whenever possible;
6. To curb and regulate industries contributing to the acidification of the world's rivers and oceans;
7. To tackle all sources of ocean pollution especially plastic;
8. To progress SDG 14 significantly by 2030, reporting back annually.

Agreed 24th November 2018 and amended 23rd April 2022

15. Our world after the pandemic

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Aware badly designed lockdowns are economically ruinous and disproportionately impact poor and vulnerable people,
- b. Mindful WHO reported 14.9 million excess deaths associated with COVID-19 between January 2020 and December 2021,
- c. Aware only 16% of people in lower income countries were fully vaccinated by 30th June 2022,
- d. Acknowledging ill-preparedness for pandemics and regretting Member States prioritised national action over a co-ordinated international response,
- e. Regretting that the EU and UK delayed waiving COVID-19 patents forcing other nations to develop their own vaccines,
- f. Conscious WHO's mandate is to inform, rather than direct, global health policy,
- g. Recognising world leaders' decisions in September 2023 including creating a Pandemic Fund, and WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Tolerance,
Aware the draft WHO Pandemic Treaty was criticised by NGO's for not compromising on use of patents for diagnostics and therapies,

Calls on the UN:

1. To encourage the Inter-governmental Negotiation Body to fully submit the new WHO Pandemic Treaty for debate at the 77th World Assembly in May 2024;
2. To encourage Member States to invest in and strengthen WHO to fulfil its mandate, including more effective monitoring and evaluation;
3. To audit Member State's pandemic responses to explain origins, causes and spread, and propose ways of preventing similar catastrophes;
4. To urge the IMF to ensure equitable funding between rich and poor countries in relation to pandemic expenditures in future;
5. To encourage Member States to:
 - i) ensure access to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics for all;
 - ii) strengthen national healthcare systems, especially in lower and middle income countries to withstand pandemics;
 - iii) conclude negotiations on the Pandemic Treaty by May 2024;
 - iv) identify pandemic control measures that better respect people's human rights;

Calls on the UK Government:

6. To fully support the endeavours of the Pandemic Treaty;
7. To ratify and comply with recommendations from the Pandemic Treaty.

Agreed 9th March 2024 to replace the previous resolution on the same topic

16. Palestine 100 years after the Balfour Declaration

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting the 1917 Balfour Declaration for the future of pre-1948 Palestine to be a shared Jewish and Arab homeland under a “dual obligation” involving:
 - i. the establishment within Palestine of a national home for Jewish people,
 - ii. nothing to be done to prejudice the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities in Palestine,
- b. Noting the dual obligation’s failure as the land now remaining to Palestinians has dwindled to less than 22 per cent of pre-1948 Palestine including more than 750,000 settlers in illegal settlements,
- c. Denouncing the discriminatory regime codified by Israel’s Nation-State law,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To oppose the occupation, settlement activity and annexation by Israel of any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) as defined by the cease-fire ‘Green Line’ of 1967;
2. To call on all parties to renounce the use of violence as a means to resolve this conflict and to renounce any current or previous commitments to the destruction of other parties;
3. To require the Israeli government to give Palestinians now living in Israel the same rights as their Jewish neighbours, and to fulfil its duties – according to international law as an occupying power – for those Palestinians living in the OPT by respecting their fundamental rights, as a first step towards a viable resolution of the conflict either through the establishment of a two states solution or through a single democratic state, based on the equality of individuals, regardless of religious, ethnic, or national background;
4. To recognise Palestine as a full UN member state based on the 1967 ‘Green Line’ borders, as a contribution towards advancing the negotiations;
5. To call on Israel to allow full access for UN staff and special rapporteurs, respect all UN resolutions, International Court of Justice (ICJ) rulings, relevant treaties, including agreements relating to the treatment of occupied peoples;
6. To oppose comprehensively any attempt by Israel or individuals to remove Palestinians from Israel or the OPT or to relocate Palestinians within Israel or the OPT;
7. To encourage the referral of relevant aspects of proposed solutions to international bodies including the ICJ and to urge the implementation its decisions.

First agreed 26th May 2018 and amended May 16th 2020, 27th February 2021,
23rd April 2022 & 9th March 2024

17. Promoting peace

UNA London & South East Region:

Recognising the importance of the UN Culture of Peace programme as reinforced through the UN General Assembly adoption of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010,

Calls on the UN:

1. To encourage nations to strengthen the capacities of education institutions and other civic society bodies to raise awareness of conflict prevention and peacebuilding;
2. To encourage negotiators in all settings to respect, understand and take account of each others' interests, and share publicly evidence to that effect as part of reaching mutually acceptable outcomes;
3. To encourage media regulatory reform which promotes post-conflict peace settlements and their implementation, and which restricts the use of the media for non-inclusive factionalism.

Agreed 27th February 2021

18. Proposed laws restricting boycotts, divestment or sanctions

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Believing that Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) actions by public bodies or individuals with a legal or moral motivation may be justifiable whether directed at the Israeli government, other countries or at private corporations,
- b. Believing that honourable precedents exist, including apartheid South Africa/ Rhodesia and Nestlé (over breast milk substitutes),
- c. Believing that Laws that outlaw such actions may be incompatible with the right to freedom of speech and expression,
- d. Believing that many opponents of the Israeli government's actions towards Palestinians (including Palestinians and their Jewish supporters) are responding to well-documented human rights infringements identified by the UN and others as incompatibility with international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Chapter VII of the UN Charter and that they should not be labelled as anti-Semitic for doing so,
- e. Noting that the present Bill contains a specific exemption for Israel, preventing the Secretary of State from adding them to a list of countries that can be the subject of economic action by public bodies in future, while the UK government has begun to use sanctions in this conflict in relation to settler violence in the OPT,
- f. Noting also that the recent International Court of Justice (ICJ) decision means that Israel may be in breach of the Genocide Convention which requires all state parties to prevent and punish the Crime of Genocide rather than exempting states who may be committing Genocide from censure by public bodies,
- g. That the Bill as currently drafted exempts decisions made in relation to bribery, a limited list of labour offences (which may not include Uighur forced labour), competition law offences, harm to the environment, plants or animals or action that would place the UK in breach of its obligations under international law,

Urges the UK Government:

1. To withdraw plans to prohibit public bodies from supporting BDS campaigns in relation to any country or specifically to exempt decisions made on the basis of the risk of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity or breaches of International Humanitarian Law and to widen the definition of labour offences that may be considered to include all International Labour Organisation (ILO) Core Labour Standards;
2. To avoid defining opposition to Israeli government policies or actions as automatically anti-Semitic;
3. Not to infringe the rights to freedom of speech and self-expression on international issues that have a legal or moral basis.

Agreed May 16th 2020 and amended 9th March 2024

19. Protection of journalists

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting that the murder of Jamal Khashoggi is a shocking reminder that journalists worldwide are frequently victims of governments and other hostile forces who resent criticism and exposure,
- b. Noting that since 1990, 3,000 journalists have been killed. In addition many have been kidnapped for ransom and hundreds are “detained” by governments e.g. Turkey,
- c. Believing that honest journalism and freedom of the media is part of the lifeblood of any state and that even autocrats need to know what is going on, what policies are effective, which public servants are corrupt and which ordinary criminals are still at large,

Calls on the UK Government:

To insist on the protection of journalists and their work in bi-lateral diplomacy with offending states, and also in the UN whose Plan of Action for the Safety of Journalists has been endorsed by UNESCO, the Human Rights Council and throughout the UN system.

Agreed 24th November 2018

20. Recognising Ecocide as an international crime

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Recognising that the nations of the world have a collective duty to protect the natural world,
- b. Believing that long term damage to the environment of planet Earth is caused by actions seeking short-term economic benefits by both corporations and governments,
- c. Concerned that irreparable and long-term damage is being done to soil, forests, atmosphere, oceans, and fresh water threatening to make much of the world uninhabitable for all forms of life,
- d. Concerned also that the damage is rendering all development unsustainable and is causing long term harm to the world population and biodiversity by contributing to the pollution of the air, land and water as well as to the food chain,
- e. Welcomes the development of legal precedents by Courts all over the world including rulings that governments' efforts in fighting climate change are inadequate, as in the case of Urgenda Foundation vs the State of Netherlands and the ruling of the Paris administrative court against the French Government,
- f. Noting proposals to establish an International Court for the Environment,

Calls on the UN:

1. To adopt a new international legal instrument and to encourage the adoption of national legislation which provide for personal civil and criminal liability of corporate executives and government ministers for damages made to the eco-system;
2. To set up monitoring and prevention procedures and legal enforcement mechanisms.

Agreed 27th February 2021

21. Resourcing to strengthen the UN for current global challenges

UNA London and South-East Region:

- a. Recalling the UN Charter and the extensive role envisaged for the UN system in peace and security, development and human rights,
- b. Mindful that UN finances have fallen well behind inflation since 2008, and it needs more, not less, to meet the ambition,
- c. Noting that only 16% of the SDG are on track, and more is demanded and needed of the UN to meet Agenda 2030,
- d. Noting the gaps between UN humanitarian annual appeals (like those of the United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and those of the World Food Programme (WFP)), and the funding pledges and then the money actually delivered,
- e. Noting the ambition of the Summit of the Future,

Calls on the UK Government

1. To keep its pledges by fully funding what it pledges to pay;
2. To double its funding to UN and UN Agencies over the next five years, and encourage other member states to do likewise;

Calls on the UN

3. To setup a High Level Panel to report back in 2026 on mechanisms like a Tobin Tax to enable a more stable UN system funding.

Agreed 9th March 2024

22. Second Voluntary National Review of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Bearing in mind that, in 2015 and in the 2019 UK Voluntary National Review (VNR), the UK government committed to implement, internationally and domestically, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their 169 targets,
- b. Noting that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has emphasized a bottom-up localization of the SDGs, using a multi-stakeholder approach, involving civil society, local government, academia and the private sector, and that the UK government has committed to follow this approach,
- k. Noting that the UK Parliament's International Development Committee (IDC) stated in 2019 that it is essential that an appropriate mechanism be created—at the heart of Government, in the Cabinet Office—to lead on communication and implementation of the SDGs,
- c. Noting that the UK government published its Outcome Delivery Plans (ODPs) in 2021, which set out each government department's SDG priority outcomes, their strategies for achieving them and the metrics that will be used to track performance,
- d. Alarmed that it has now been three years since the UK government presented its Voluntary National Review (VNR) and little information is available about meaningful progress on the goals,

Calls on the UK government:

1. To consult and engage with actors such as civil society organisations, including youth organisations, ensuring a whole-of-society approach to implementing the SDGs;
2. To commit to prepare its second VNR by the beginning of 2025, following the anticipated General Election;
3. Alongside the formal report, to publish an accessible report aimed at the general public;
4. To provide financial resources to local SDG initiatives in the UK and globally, and to ensure the localization of SDGs, including by promoting the use of Local Voluntary Reviews (LVRs) and consistent approaches to LVRs, such as are given in the European Handbook for SDG Voluntary Local Reviews (2020);
5. To publish a whole-of-government action plan with clear guidelines on how it will monitor progress on the ODPs.

Agreed May 16th 2020 and amended 23rd April 2022 & 9th March 2024

23. Sri Lanka

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting that it is 13 years since the end of the war in Sri Lanka,
- b. Welcoming the adoption by the UN Human Rights Council of resolution 46/1 in March 2021 which mandates the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to collect, analyse and preserve evidence of human rights violations in Sri Lanka, for use in future prosecutions,
- c. Recognising that Sri Lanka is being rocked by protests, police violence, curfews, and political turmoil, while the fallout from the economic crisis and the President's declaration of a state of emergency on 1 April 2022 is ongoing,
- d. Noting that on 4 and 7 March 2022, the OHCHR presented damning [reports](#) on the state of human rights, accountability, and rule of law in Sri Lanka,

Calls upon the UK government:

1. To encourage the continuation of engagement and dialogue between the government of Sri Lanka and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, calling upon Sri Lanka to implement the recommendations made by the Office;
2. To help ensure that the Office on Missing Persons and the Office for Reparations have adequate support and that their independence is safeguarded;

Calls upon the UN:

3. To support a comprehensive accountability process for all violations and abuses of human rights committed in Sri Lanka by all parties;
4. To refer Sri Lanka to the International Court of Justice, and President Gotabaya Rajapaksa of Sri Lanka to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate the crime of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

First agreed 25th November 2017, amended May 16th 2020, 27th February 2021
& 23rd April 2022

24. Strengthening training and leadership for UN peacekeeping and peace-building missions

UNA London & the South East Region:

- a. Firmly believing that effective UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding is the best and most cost-effective way to maintain international peace and human security
- b. Noting that the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres (IAPTC) has members in 45 countries but none in the UK,
- c. Further noting that the UK has agreed to the UN Action for Peace (A4P) Declaration of Shared Commitments on Peacekeeping Operations,

Calls upon the UK government:

1. To increase its contribution to UN Peacekeeping duties, both troops and police, with an increased number of women, consistent with the latest National Action Plan; and to improve the sharing of expertise;
2. To increase support for the UN's Integrated Training Service (ITS);
3. To establish a dedicated Peacekeeping Training Centre in the UK which would be open to UK troops, police and civilians of all ranks/grades, and to those from other countries contributing to UN Peacekeeping deployments, and would include training in working with local and international NGOs and in awareness of the positive role of women in peace and security.

Agreed 27th February 2021 and amended 23rd April 2022

25. Stripping foreign fighters of their citizenship: International human rights & humanitarian law

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Aware that some countries have abandoned their nationals involved in foreign conflicts, sometimes stripping them of their citizenship,
- b. Fearful that stateless individuals could represent a dangerous long-term threat to international security,
- c. Noting Article 8, paragraph 1 of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, states that “[a] Contracting State shall not deprive a person of its nationality if such deprivation would render him stateless”,
- d. Also noting UN Security Council Resolution 2178 that states “Member States must ensure that any measures taken to counter terrorism [such as deprivation of nationality] comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law”,

Urges the UN to call on all states:

1. For compelling moral, legal, and pragmatic reasons, to accept responsibility for all individuals who claim citizenship;
2. To repatriate and bring to justice those accused of crimes, to rehabilitate where possible, and to treat humanely those who are innocent.

Agreed 23rd April 2022

26. Syria

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Deeply concerned at the on-going suffering and misery of the Syrian people in the eleven year civil war and the scattering of many Syrians to other countries,
- b. Noting that in 2018 an agreement was reached to form a 150-member committee to write a new constitution, leading to free and fair elections supervised by the UN,
- c. Further noting that after the October 2021 round of talks the UN special envoy Geir Pedersen expressed great disappointment that the committee's members had not yet found a common path, commenting that "a military solution is an illusion" while a political solution is "perfectly doable if the will is there",
- d. Noting that Syria is among the countries in the world worst affected by the COVID pandemic with less than 8% of the population vaccinated,
- e. Further noting that, according to the UN in February 2022, 14.6 million people inside Syria required humanitarian assistance, with 5 million being in extreme or catastrophic need,
- f. Further noting that more than 12 million people are struggling to find enough food each day - a 51% increase since 2019 - and half a million children are chronically malnourished,
- g. Particularly concerned at the intolerable position of those currently living in the Idlib province,
- h. Regretting the continuing stalemate in the UN Security Council which, throughout this period, has only adopted two resolutions on Syria (UNSCR 2533 (2020), UNSCR 2585 (2021), both equally weak and inadequate,
- i. Expressing its satisfaction at the progress made by the International, Impartial, and Independent Mechanism (IIIM), established by UN General Assembly Resolution 71-248 (of 21 December 2016), to assist in the investigation and prosecution of the most serious crimes under international law, in particular the crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes,
- j. Welcoming the IIIM's recent opening of new case files related to unlawful attacks involving use of chemical and conventional weapons, including attacks against medical facilities,

Demands that the Security Council, led by the P5 working in partnership:

1. Instructs the re-opening of all necessary crossing points into the Idlib region;
2. Demand the end of attacks on medical centres, in line with Security Council Resolutions 1674 and 2286, whereby it not only condemns attacks but also demands compliance with international humanitarian law in armed conflict;
3. Convene a meeting of its members before the end of June, within the Idlib region, to demonstrate to the global community that, after 75 years, its members continue to honour and uphold the principles underpinning the creation of the United Nations as set out in the Preamble to its Charter;

Urges the UK government:

4. To press for a further meeting of the UN GA in which the Head of the IIIM can report on the Mechanism's progress;
5. To provide further humanitarian assistance to the 5 million in dire need within Syria, as well as supporting Lebanon, Turkey and Jordan in their current hosting of nearly 6 million Syrian refugees.

Agreed May 16th 2020 and amended 23rd April 2022

27. The role of women in the UN

UNA London & South East Region calls upon the UN:

To take practical enabling action to address the issue of the representation of women at all levels in the UN (including the highest) as a matter of urgency.

Agreed 25th November 2017 and amended 23rd April 2022

28. The UK's diminished role in the UN's Human Rights treaty bodies

UNA London and South-East Region:

- a. Recalling that in 2020, despite representations made by UNA London and South-East Region and UK-based human rights organisations, the UK government stated that it would not nominate a candidate for any one of the 172 seats on the ten Human Rights treaty bodies due for election that year,
- b. And in 2023 marking the 75th anniversary of the adoption of *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, noting:
 - i) a weakened international human rights framework, increasingly open to exploitation by those seeking to rein in its oversight role, and
 - ii) *Human Rights and Democracy*, the 2022 FCDO report (July 2023), refers to human-rights-linked initiatives it supports but without reference to any of the UN Human Rights treaty bodies,
- c. And believing that the UK's influence in the UN's Human Rights structures has greatly diminished,

Call on the UK government:

1. To immediately revise its current stance on UK membership of UN Human Rights bodies;
2. To re-engages with them, nominating candidates for election as soon as possible.

Agreed 9th March 2024

29. Treatment of refugees and asylum seekers in the UK and Europe

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Recalling our concerns about the treatment of Refugees and Asylum seekers in London hotels and the impact of NHS charging upon them in resolutions passed in 2021 and 2022,
- d. Concerned that, not only in the UK but throughout Europe, the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers have fallen short of acceptable human standards,
- e. Noting that LASER has joined the Europe-wide Campaign to Stop the Inhumanity on Europe's Borders, launched in London on 30 January, and which has gathered wide support throughout Europe,

Urges the UK government to:

1. Align its policies relating to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants with the seven-point Collective Demand of the Campaign to Stop the Inhumanity on Europe's Borders:
 - i) Ending Pushbacks on land or sea;
 - ii) Ending any prevention of rescue at sea;
 - iii) Operating humane borders;
 - iv) Providing justice and compensation for harms;
 - v) Providing safe routes;
 - vi) No externalization of refugee responsibilities;
 - vii) Reform of the EUs Frontex force;
2. Return to providing NHS care to asylum seekers and refugees on the basis of need, rather than challenging their immigration status.

Agreed 9th March 2024 to replace the previous resolution on the same topic

30. UK Aid budget

UNA London and South East Region:

- a. Noting that the UK is one of the P5 at the UN and should lead by example,
- b. Further noting that the Covid pandemic has decimated progress achieved by the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals and has increased poverty,
- c. Noting that the Russian invasion of Ukraine has created an additional humanitarian crisis and is putting severe strain on the world's food and energy supplies, adding to the risk of famine in a number of vulnerable countries.
- d. Noting that in its Voluntary National Review (VNR) of progress towards the SDGs in 2019 the government restated its commitment to allocate between 0.15% and 0.2% of GNI to support the least developed countries, (LASER Aid Group)
- e. Agreeing with statements of the chair of the UK Foreign Affairs Select Committee in March that there is now a very urgent need to step up UK assistance,

Calls upon the U.K. government:

1. To honour its legal commitment to 0.7% of its GNI for aid spending and seek to resume its pre-pandemic spend;
2. To direct aid to where it is most needed rather than to pursue national interest;
3. To fully support the continued existence of a robust review committee on aid;
4. To improve the capability and capacity to deliver aid effectively by FCDO as was the mandate of DFID;
5. To improve communication and co-operation with NGOs in order to enhance efficient, effective and equitable delivery of aid;
6. To reverse cuts in the UK support of UN agencies and programmes and dramatically increase their contributions to UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, UNAIDS and the World Food Programme and the other UN agencies concerned with development and victims of conflict and natural disasters, at this time of great escalation of humanitarian need;
7. To meet new needs from new funds, rather than becoming a further pressure on the current 0.5% GNI aid budget;
8. To immediately rectify the drastic cuts in aid spending announced in 2021 with special reference to humanitarian spending in Yemen, Afghanistan, and Africa, Education of Girls in Bangladesh and family planning (under the umbrella of United Nations Population Fund) and the Global Polio Initiative.

Agreed 27th February 2021 and amended 23rd April 2022

31. Ukraine

UNA London & South-East Region:

- a. Notes that it is now 2 years since Russia invaded Ukraine in flagrant breach of international law with attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure as well as other international crimes and threats to European and global security and food supplies,
- b. That the front lines appear static but the casualties and suffering continue to mount,

Calls on the UK government:

1. To remain resolute in its support for Ukraine and for international law and in working with partners to maintain international support;
2. To use our diplomatic capabilities to promote co-operation between the African, Chinese and Ukrainian peace initiatives to build a global consensus;
3. To continue supporting international legal initiatives on accountability for war crimes, the crime of aggression and challenging Russian claims of genocide as a pretext for the invasion, and look to advancing the role of the International Criminal Justice (ICJ) in resolving territorial or other disputes between the parties;
4. To continue strengthening sanctions that can reduce Russia's aggression by blocking sales of military equipment or battlefield components (including dual use and hi-tech items) or foreign currency earnings from high value items or major exports while sanctioning individuals in the Russian elite who support the aggression or individuals on either side who bear personal responsibility for war-crimes;
5. To work with non-aligned countries on as much of that agenda as possible and also on limiting the activities of Russian military and aerospace companies globally;
6. To contribute to planning for the reconstruction of Ukraine after the war as well as the maintenance of civilian infrastructure while hostilities continue;
7. To prepare an offer to Russia for a re-entry to global markets and mechanisms if the conflict ceases with a peace agreement that respects international law and provides for the future integrity & security of Russia, Ukraine and all neighbouring countries;

Calls on the UN:

8. To continue to assist where possible on issues including the safety of nuclear power plants, the grain deal and prisoner exchanges and to prepare scenarios for peace negotiations or the use of UN peacekeepers;
9. To encourage the use of all personal contacts who may have influence with the Russian leadership to maintain efforts to persuade them to change course.

Agreed 9th March 2024 to replace previous resolutions on the same topic

32. Universal healthcare & family planning

UNA London and South-East Region:

- a. Mindful that health and adequate nutrition are universal human needs and fundamental rights,
- b. Aware that women's health depends on control of their fertility, eliminating involuntary childbirth which can place too great a burden on their physical health and even their lives,
- c. Recognising also that access to family planning is essential for the welfare of families and communities,
- d. Acknowledging that enabling reproductive choice contributes to biodiversity and climate resilience,

Calls on the UK Government to:

1. Promote universal health care, including family planning, in its own aid programme and contributions to multilateral agencies;
2. Initiate resolutions at the UN General Assembly and the policy conferences of UN agencies, particularly the World Health Organisation (WHO), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP), requiring these agencies to incorporate family planning, using their own core budgets, and, where appropriate, to work in partnership with the UN Fund for Population (UNFPA);
3. Press for full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to enable women to access the services offered.

Agreed 9th March 2024

33. Women, Peace and Security

UNA London and SE Region:

- a. Recognising that Security Council Resolution 1325 (and those which followed) are essential to the protection of women in conflict and to the achievement of international peace and security and welcoming the government's commitment to this agenda over time including the UK's 4th National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security,
- b. Welcoming the commitment to strengthen the UK capabilities in Strategic Outcome 7 of the National Action Plan, but concerned that no indication of the budget has been given for this important initiative,

Calls upon the UK government and the Security Council:

1. To apply a human rights based approach as a framework for the future work on Women, Peace and Security including economic and social rights rather than focussing only on security considerations;

Calls upon the UK government:

2. To include the role of the Arms Trade Treaty (UNATT) and also the post conflict situation in Northern Ireland within the scope of work on Women, Peace and Security;
3. To examine how upholding the rights of refugees and asylum seekers coming to the UK can advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda and make necessary adjustments;
4. To ratify the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
5. To appoint a special envoy for Women, Peace and Security at the FCDO;
6. To Provide adequate provision of funding for implementation of the National Action Plan;
7. To encourage implementation of gender training in all international organisations, such as the Council of Europe and the OSCE;

Calls upon the Security Council:

8. To adopt a periodic review of resolution 1325 incorporating updates to reflect innovatory practice from local, regional and national level;
9. To support a significant and stable provision of financial resources to women's NGOs at all levels who are working to prevent armed conflict;
10. To provide emergency rapid response grants to women's human rights defenders;
11. To implement the Murad Code for survivors of sexual violence in conflict;
12. To make Security Council resolution 1325 legally binding;

On Mediation/Peace Building

Calls upon the UK government:

13. To encourage funding, promote training and work towards the establishment of international professional standards for international peace mediation monitors;
14. To call for the provision of gender training for all UN peace mediators;

Calls upon the Security Council:

15. To enable the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (UNDPPA) to strengthen partnerships with women NGO peace-makers;
16. To insist that 40% of participants in peace talks are women;

On Peacekeeping

Calls upon the UK government:

17. To ensure a better gender balance in the UK armed forces, reserve forces and the UK Cadet Class Association;
18. To expand gender training conducted by the British Peace Support Team;
19. To show global leadership by both advocating the provision of - and providing more - female peacekeepers;

Calls upon the Security Council:

20. To encourage countries to allocate military and police officers to peacekeeping operations which include women at all levels;
21. To ensure high standards and globally consistent training of peacekeeping troops. And to include gender training and awareness of sexual violence with proper screening of peacekeepers in relation to past behaviour;
22. To ensure there is a verifiable independent monitoring and accountability of peacekeeping forces from different countries.

First agreed 10th March 2018, amended 27th February 2021 & 23rd April 2022

34. Yemen

UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting that after nearly six years of war, Yemen's famine is the world's worst in 100 years: 100,000 children have died. 10 million adults and 500,000 children face starvation,
- b. Noting that four million people are internally displaced; only 22% of rural and 46% of urban population have public water supplies (intermittently); and that there are one million suspected cholera cases,
- c. Further noting that 24.3 million people, including 12m children require humanitarian assistance, that women and girls are disproportionately affected with 1m malnourished pregnant women and 120,000 women and girls at risk of violence, while UN Donors have cut pledged funds by 50% and the number of people the UN can feed has dropped from 13m to 8m,
- d. Noting that the UN Security Council's Panel of Experts has described Saudi airstrikes against civilians as violations of international humanitarian law, that the UK is, behind the US, the second supplier of arms, including aircraft and bombs to Saudi Arabia, and that the Houthis have also been accused of grave violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, laying 100,000 land mines, killing children by sniper fire in Taiz and shelling refugee camps and civilians notably in Marib as they advanced on the city which is home to a million internally displaced people thus increasing the risk of a further humanitarian crisis,

Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To begin informal Security Council discussions on a new resolution following UNSCR 2216 which will recognise the pluralistic nature of post-Conflict Yemen and reinforce the need for a negotiated nationwide ceasefire;
2. To use its leverage with Saudi Arabia, Iran and through direct talks with the Houthis:
 - i To pursue a ceasefire and the resumption of direct talks;
 - ii To demand that Saudi Arabia put an end to its airstrikes on populated areas;
 - iii To demand an end to Houthi cross-border attacks, credible long-term assurances for the security of the Saudi border and a halt to Houthi military advance on Marib;
 - iv to demand an end to Saudi blockade and resumption of fuel supplies to Yemen;
3. To double UK humanitarian funding for Yemen from £200m to £400m;
4. To urge the Saudis, Kuwait and the UAE to increase humanitarian funding to the UN, Noting that these countries have substantially cut back their funding for Yemen, with the UAE not providing any aid in 2020; Noting the US decision to stop supporting the Saudi military campaign, to suspend all arms sales to Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and all combatants in Yemen;
5. To support the independent international investigation mandated by the UN Human Rights Council into violations of international humanitarian law by all combatants in Yemen.

First agreed 24th November 2018, amended May 16th 2020 & 27th February 2021