

**London & South-East Region**  
**Resolutions for discussion at Policy Conference on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March**  
**2025 from 12 noon - 6pm in person at**  
**Bermondsey Village Hall, SE1 3TD and on-line on Zoom**

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## A. Introduction

This year we will continue the practice of discussing policy resolutions from UNA members, supporters and groups at a Policy Conference open to all UNA members and supporters from London & South East Region plus invited guests from elsewhere. Any resolutions that are agreed will become the policy of UNA London & South East Region. They will be presented to the UK government and to UNA nationally with the suggestion that they become national UNA policy as well.

The Regional Policy Committee has met and combined (and in some cases shortened or edited) the resolutions submitted to form an agenda for discussion which is set out below. We have also proposed a series of small updates to previous resolution and in some cases combined a series of previous resolutions into new ones with more substantial amendment and updates. Resolutions focus on calls for action by the UK government or the UN.

We now invite members, supporters and local group to submit any amendments they would like to make in writing by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm** to [policy@unalaser.org](mailto:policy@unalaser.org).

Amendments should state clearly which of the numbered clauses in a resolution they wish to delete or edit. In the case of “edits” they should say which words or phrases should be deleted or replaced by other words, and which words or phrases added. Additional clauses can also be added, as long as they are brief and on the same subject, rather than introducing new subjects, and don’t add more than 75 additional words in total.

The Policy Committee will combine these to form the final agenda.

Example amendment

Amendment to resolution 1. (“Name of resolution”)

- a. Delete clause 4 (“to do X & Y”)
- b. In clause 5 replace “what is says now” with “what you want it to say”
- c. Add a new clause “Whatever you want to add”

Any amended resolution must be no more than 75 words longer than the original resolution.

## B. Urgency resolutions

Because of a number of rapidly developing situations, we envisage drafting a number of urgency resolutions that will need to reflect developments in the next four weeks before we meet.

We welcome proposals from others on these topics to contribute to the drafting of these.

### 1. Israel/Palestine latest developments

We anticipate this updating a replacing the present resolution 5. [Collective Punishment in the Occupied Palestinian Territories \(OPT\)](#)

### 2. Middle East Regional Conflict

Addressing the multiple inter-related conflicts across the region.

## C. Resolutions to be withdrawn

18. [Proposed laws restricting boycotts, divestment or sanctions](#) as the proposal is no longer on the agenda in Parliament

## D. New resolutions

### 3. Accountability for the Use of the UN Security Council Veto

#### UNA London and South-East region:

- a. Believing that if an emergency session of the General Assembly under Resolution 377A concludes that a veto was deployed unlawfully, this would constitute evidence that the Security Council has failed to exercise its responsibility under Article 24 of the Charter to maintain international peace and security.
- b. Further believing that any consequent General Assembly resolution calling for collective action, including the use of armed force, should therefore be considered legally binding as if it was a Security Council resolution under Article 25 of the UN Charter.

#### Calls of the UN General Assembly

To build on upon the Assembly's commitment in *Pact for the Future* to develop a sustainable, just, and peaceful global order, including reform of the Security Council by passing a resolution mandating that, whenever a debate is called under Resolution 76/262 following deployment of a veto, the elected members of the Security Council should call an emergency session of the General Assembly under Resolution 377A and present a report which:

- i) Assesses compliance of the veto with international law;
- ii) recommends action, including collective action, to maintain international peace and security.

Proposed – and still under consideration by - the UNA Security Council Veto Reform Working Group for  
15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 4. Sudan

### **UNA London and South-East Region:**

- a. Commending the UK government for its 113 million aid package and the proposed security council resolution S/2024/826 on the protection of civilians in Sudan which we support and regret was vetoed by the Russian Federation,
- b. Believing that the provision of weapons not only impedes access to aid, but prolongs the human suffering, in particular of women and children, caught in this often forgotten conflict,
- c. Believing further that humanitarian efforts must be given the highest profile by all actors,

### **Calls on the UK Government**

1. To continue diplomatic efforts at the Security Council on measures to protect civilians and bring the fighting to an end;

### **Calls on the UN:**

2. To condemn international actors who provide weapons to the factions involved in this conflict;
3. To give the fullest support to Secretary General's personal envoy to Sudan Ramtane Lamamra in his mission;
4. To conduct a joint strategic assessment with the African Union at pace to help re-establish a protection force to prevent further atrocities using mechanisms for co-operation between the UN and the African Union under SCR 2719.

Proposed by UNA Medway and the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 5. Protection of Minorities in India

Please see supplementary information in Section I

### **UNA London and South-East Region:**

- a. Reaffirming the principles of the UN Charter (1), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1992 Declaration on the Rights of Minorities,
- b. Emphasising the constitutional (2) responsibility of the Union and State governments of India to uphold religious freedom and secularism,
- c. Taking into account India's diversity of cultures shaped by millennia and which includes 200 million members of the Abrahamic and Zoroastrian faiths (3),
- d. Recalling the commitment of the National Commission of Minorities (4) to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Minorities (5),
- e. Reaffirming that religious discrimination violates human rights under the UDHR and India's Constitution,
- f. Noting with concern the UN Human Rights Council's 2024 report on discrimination and violence against minorities in India (6),
- g. Noting also with concern the 2024 USCIRF report on abuses against religious minorities and discriminatory state-level laws (7),

### **Calls upon the UK Government**

To use diplomatic, economic and trade measures, urging the US Government and the EU Commission to do the same, to put pressure on India to protect its minorities, including taking corrective actions as recommended by HRC and USCIRF (8).

Proposed by UNA Laser Working Group on minorities in India for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 6. Sustainability in Mountain areas

### **UNA London and South-East Region:**

- a. Noting that mountains provide freshwater for nearly half the global population,
- b. Further noting that the majority of people living in these spaces are subject to food insecurity,
- c. Recalling that the UN's Five Years of Action for Mountain Development, championed by Kyrgyzstan, calls for a focus on nature based solutions, access to services, sustainable infrastructure and early warning systems for disasters; and for the empowerment of mountain communities and disadvantaged groups.

### **Calls upon the UK government**

1. To sponsor research focussing on solutions to the sustaining of livelihoods and into the effects of climate change and loss of biodiversity in the mountain and highland regions of the UK
2. To join the UN's Mountain Partnership and support its work in furthering global understanding of sustainable livelihoods in mountain areas as part of achieving the SDGs, and also support the links between Mountains, Climate Change and Biodiversity as part of UNFCCC and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
3. To encourage the use of nature-based solutions and local knowledge as the most effective means to tackle the deterioration of these important environments.

Proposed by UNA Streatham & Clapham for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 7. USAID Shutdown/UN Funding Crisis

### **UNA London & South-East Region:**

- a. Noting with regret that 95% of USAID funding has ceased with devastating effect for the world's poorest people,
- b. Recalling that USA funding is pivotal for WHO, UNRWA, UNESCO, WFP, ECOSOC, UNHCR, UNICEF and many other UN bodies,
- c. Stressing that USAID has underpinned health, development, peace and security programmes globally,

### **Calls on the UK Government to:**

1. Use its leverage with USA to use diplomatic means as a matter of urgency to demand a review of these decisions and restoration of the withdrawn funds;
2. Take the lead amongst member states at the UN to protect the most important funding priorities;

### **Calls on the UN and its member states to:**

3. Condemn these harmful unilateral decisions of the USA;
4. Seek to protect the work of the UN and its agencies by:
  - i. Other Member states fulfilling their financial obligations to the UN on time;
  - ii. Collectively agreeing and funding the most important programme shortfalls agency by agency;
5. Seeking to protect the most important previous USAID projects by increasing aid contributions from others having regard to the General Assembly's 0.7% GNI target;
6. Deploy all other reasonable efforts make up the shortfalls.

Proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## E. Relatively minor Updating Amendments

### 8. 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 2024<sup>3</sup> 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,
- e. Welcoming the UK Governments new tougher Nationally Determined Contribution of an 81% reduction in emissions by 2035,

#### Calls on all governments at COP ~~30~~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~~81% 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;  
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;
7. To make progress on adaptation planning given the latest NAP published in 2023 is an improvement on its predecessors, but Independent Assessment of the Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) indicate that delivery of adaptation is still fundamentally limited by issues of governance, investments, and lack of a monitoring framework;
8. Clearly set out the processes to coordinate the new UK-led Global Clean Power Alliance, including how it will complement other multilateral and industry coalitions also working on fossil fuel reduction and clean energy;
9. To ban new fossil fuel licences and investments.

Agreed 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to replace previous resolutions on the topic  
Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 9. 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 the production, testing, use, threat of use, and assisting other groups in such actions,
- b. Reiterating its congratulations to 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 ~~(NPT)—~~, 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 the annual in-service costs of running the four Vanguard submarines housing Trident are more than £3 billion per year
- f. Noting that a programme is underway to replace, by the early 2030s, the Vanguard submarines by Dreadnought, costing £31 billion
- g. Noting that overall expenditure on the nuclear programme over the next 10 years is forecast at £117.8 billion
- h. Noting that disarmament and non-proliferation are both important aspects of the NPT
- i. Noting the declaration by the P5 in January 2022 that a Nuclear War cannot be won and must never be fought,
- j. Noting that former NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson is leading the governments defence review, which is expected to be published in the Spring of 2025,

### Urges the UK government:

1. To reconsider the parameter for the defence review which maintains a "total commitment to the UK's nuclear deterrent" -and include at least pathways to reduce and phase out nuclear weapons to be offered in international negotiations;
2. To constructively participate in future UN-led meetings to take both the TPNW and NPT Treaties forward;
3. To give full support to the TPNW treaty: to sign and then ratify as soon as possible;
4. To cancel the current Trident replacement contracts and publicly reactivate its commitment to the NPT;
5. 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 & 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 10. 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~~ that the risk of another pandemic is high,
- b. Mindful WHO reported 14.9 million excess deaths associated with COVID-19 between January 2020 and December 2021,
- c. Aware that 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' prioritization ~~prioritised of~~ 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 that the WHO's mandate is to inform, rather than direct, global health policy,
- g. ~~Recognising~~ Recalling world leaders' decisions in September 2023 which included setting up including creating a Pandemic Fund, and WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Tolerance,
- h. Aware the draft WHO Pandemic Treaty was criticised by NGO's for not compromising on the use of patents for diagnostics and therapies, and in particular that USA raised concerns on sovereignty and vaccines before withdrawing,

### Calls on the UN:

1. To encourage input from civil society and relevant NGO stakeholders towards the final pandemic agreement ~~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 contribute invest more in order and increase their contributions to strengthen WHO to enable it to fulfil its mandate, including in particular in 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 urge member states to prioritise support for the World Bank pandemic fund given that the USA has provided 35% of the funds thus far;
6. To encourage Member States to:
  - i. ensure access to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics for all;
  - ii. strengthen national social and healthcare systems, especially in lower and middle income countries to withstand pandemics;
  - iii. conclude negotiations on the Pandemic Treaty by May ~~2024~~2025;
  - iv. identify pandemic control measures that better respect people's human rights;

### Calls on the UK Government:

7. To fully support the endeavours of the Pandemic Treaty;
8. To ratify and implement the Pandemic Treaty, once agreed.

Agreed 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to replace the previous resolution on the same topic  
Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025



## 11. 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:
- b. the establishment within Palestine of a national home for Jewish people,
- c. nothing to be done to prejudice the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities in Palestine,
- d. 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,
- e. Denouncing the discriminatory regime codified by Israel’s Nation-State law,

### Calls upon the UK Government:

1. To meet its obligations under the 2024 ICJ ruling and UNGA resolution on the occupation to cease ~~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 ICJ, UNGA and 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 work with France as fellow permanent members of the Security Council to immediately 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 system staff and special rapporteurs, respect all UN resolutions, Geneva Conventions, International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court decisions, (ICJ) rulings, relevant treaties, including agreements relating to the treatment of occupied peoples;
6. To block ~~oppose comprehensively~~ any attempt by Israel, USA 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 of the ICJ genocide and occupation rulings and UNGA Resolution to end the occupation by September 2025 ~~its decisions~~.

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

Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 12. 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,
- c. 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,
- d. 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,
- e. Alarmed that it has now been ~~three~~ four years since the UK government presented its Voluntary National Review (VNR) and little information is available about meaningful progress on the goals,
- f. Welcoming the government's commitment to reach net zero by 2050,

### 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 preparing ~~its~~ its second VNR ~~soon 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 & 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 13. Sri Lanka

### UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Noting that it is ~~13-16~~ 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,  
~~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,~~  
~~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:

~~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;~~

1. 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:

2. To support a comprehensive accountability process for all violations and abuses of human rights committed in Sri Lanka by all parties;
3. ~~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 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017, amended May 16<sup>th</sup> 2020, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 14. 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,
- b. Concerned that, not only in the UK but throughout Europe, the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers have fallen short of acceptable human standards,
- c. 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,
- d. Welcomes the government's abandonment of the Rwanda scheme and commitment to rapid consideration of claims for refugee status

### Urges the UK government:

1. To aAlign 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. To rReturn to providing NHS care to asylum seekers and refugees on the basis of need, rather than challenging their immigration status.
3. To establish more safe routes for asylum seekers from major areas of conflict or persecution

Agreed 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to replace the previous resolution on the same topic  
Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 15. 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,
- e. Noting that UK humanitarian aid fell from £260m in 2019 to just £102 in 2023
- f. Welcoming the UK government's plan to increase this to £144 million in 2024/2025
- g. Deeply regretting the attacks from groups in Yemen on Red Sea shipping and on Israel,

### 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;

~~To use its leverage with Saudi Arabia, Iran and through direct talks with the Houthis:~~

~~To pursue a ceasefire and the resumption of direct talks;~~

~~To demand that Saudi Arabia put an end to its airstrikes on populated areas;~~

~~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;~~

~~to demand an end to Saudi blockade and resumption of fuel supplies to Yemen;~~

2. To restore double UK humanitarian funding for Yemen to its 2019 value in real terms, ie to £40330m pa;
3. 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,~~
4. 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 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018, amended May 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 & 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee for 15<sup>th</sup> March

## F. Significant amendments or replacement resolutions

### 16. **Cybersecurity & Cybercrime** (current resolution 6)

#### UNA London & South East Region:

- a. 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), ~~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),~~
- b. 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,
- c. 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',
- d. Welcoming the adoption of the UN Convention against Cybercrime by the UN General Assembly agreement on 24 December 2024, the first comprehensive global treaty on this matter, which provides States with a range of measures to be undertaken to prevent and combat cybercrime.
- e. Noting the publication of the UN's AI Advisory Body report, Governing AI for Humanity, in September 2024,

#### Calls on the UK government:

1. To support the proposed Permanent UN Forum and the Convention against Cybercrime;
2. To further promote the 11 norms in the UN Framework of Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace, helping to embed these as rules of the road and in supporting partners across all continents be better able to both implement the norms and the Convention
3. To take a stance in UN-led negotiations which primarily seeks to protect the victims of aggressive cyber-attacks;
4. To promote dissemination of the tools and means within the Convention against Cybercrime to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating cybercrime, protecting people and their rights online ."
5. Support an AI capacity development network to link up a set of collaborating, United Nations-affiliated capacity development centres making available expertise, compute and AI training data to key actors.
6. To provide effective assistance to all Commonwealth Nations implementing national cybersecurity capacity reviews in order to become more cyber secure.

Agreed May 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 and amended 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2022

Amendments proposed by the Policy Committee and UNA Westminster for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## 17. Protection of journalists (replaces current resolution 19)

### UNA London & South East Region:

- a. Recalling Article 19 of UDHR which states that Everyone has the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers,
- b. Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution 68/163 of 18 which proclaimed 2 November as International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists,
- c. Noting with regret the assault on, and decline of, democratic institutions around the world,
- d. Deeply concerned by the increase of attacks targeting journalists and that according to UNESCO and human rights NGOs:
- e. Noting that, since October 2023, over 145 journalists have been killed by the Israeli army,
- f. 550 journalists are currently imprisoned worldwide (a 7% increase from last year), and 55 journalists are held hostage,
- g. Deeply disturbed that this violence — often perpetrated by governments and armed groups - enjoys total impunity,

### Urges the UK Government:

1. to exercise maximum pressure on perpetrating states:
  - i. To release all detained journalists and insist, where necessary, on a democratic and transparent legal process
  - ii. To ensure the release of hostages and to speedily obtain information about their status and location
2. to encourage UN member states to honour their international human rights obligations, and to activate the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity
3. to work with other nations towards universal implementation of UN SDG 16

Policy committee proposed replacement for resolution agree 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## G. Resolutions where amendments are particularly encouraged

These are resolutions where we are working on significant amendments, and particularly want to encourage other suggested amendments that we can take into account or offer to the meeting as free standing options.

### 18. Syria

Addressing the new situation since the fall of the Assad regime, the challenges of re-building an inclusive country and the role of outside powers, for good or ill. This will significantly amend current resolution 26. [Syria](#).

### 19. UK Aid Budget

Addressing the Aid budget situation in the context of the new government and changes in the global situation. This will significantly amend current resolution 30. [UK Aid budget](#)

## H. Domestic resolutions

These will not form part of our published policy, but provide an opportunity for discussion and reaching a common view on the Region's own operations or positive suggestions we wish to share with Head Office

### 20. Involving UNA members and supporters

#### **UNA London & South-East Region:**

- a. Noting the importance of civil society organisations, as advocated by the United Nations, and that stronger and improved links between UNA-UK and UNA Groups will strengthen our voice for the UN in the UK,
- b. Noting further that Article 32(1) of the UNA-UK constitution requires two Trustees to be elected by the members, and one by the Policy Conference, without specifying requirements for the 4-8 further appointed directors.

Calls on the UNA-UK Board, in accordance with their Articles of Association:

1. To hold Policy Conferences, as required by Article 48, in person and online:
  - a) to take policy resolutions from branches
  - b) to elect a representative to the Board of Trustees, as required in that Article.
  - c) to make these an annual event - if necessary, with financial contributions from branches.
2. To consider which of the policy resolutions agreed can be incorporated within the existing Programme of Work of UNA-UK and provide an explanation to members for any that are left out.
3. As the Board is refreshed, to use at least four of the 4-8 appointed director roles to bring in the experience of UNA members and supporters from the full range of UK nations and regions.

Resolution combining proposals from Bexhill & Hastings and the Policy Committee for March 15th



## I. Supplementary information

### On the protection in minorities in India (resolution 5)

<sup>1</sup> With reference to [Article 56](#) and [Article 55](#) of the *UN Charter*.

<sup>2</sup> With reference to [the preamble](#) and [Articles 14, 15, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 in Part III](#) and [Article 51A in Part IVA](#) of the *Constitution of India*.

<sup>3</sup> According to [Wikipedia](#), **India** is the world's most populous country, of nearly 1.5 billion people. It is the birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Dharmic religions, as well as homeland for 200 million people of Abrahamic religions, specifically Islam (14.2% according to the 2011 census), Christianity (2.3%) and Judaism, and Zoroastrians.

<sup>4</sup> According to [Wikipedia](#), the *National Commission of Minorities* is a statutory body set up by India's Union Government in 1992.

<sup>5</sup> With reference to [Article 1](#) of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities*.

<sup>6</sup> With reference to the UN *Human Rights Council 2024 report on India*, which lists various forms of discrimination, persecution and violence, to which minorities continue to be exposed in India.

<sup>7</sup> With reference to the *United States Commission on the International Religious Freedom 2024 Annual Report on India*, which reports increasing abuses against religious minorities in India, particularly in the months prior to and immediately after the country's election in 2024 and discriminatory state-level legislation and propagation of hateful rhetoric.

<sup>8</sup> The [USCIRF corrective actions](#) are:

- swiftly and fairly prosecute all violence and hate crimes against minorities, including those aided and abetted by the police or government institutions,
- preventing dehumanising rhetoric and incitement to discrimination and violence, including the use of social media,
- investigate, prevent and prosecute any targeted and arbitrary killings on religious grounds,
- ban all vigilante groups, including prosecuting and imprisoning gang members who have broken the law in the past,
- stop and prevent demolitions of homes of minorities and pay adequate financial reparations to those whose homes have been illegally demolished,
- release all prisoners wrongfully arrested on religious grounds,
- prevent and stop disappearances on the grounds of religion,
- prevent and stop the intimidation, harassment and arbitrary and detention of human rights defenders and journalists,
- stop arbitrary displacement due to development mega-projects,
- prevent and stop intercommunal violence,
- stop the misuse of official agencies against perceived political opponents,
- implement privacy laws guaranteeing the information privacy of all citizens and stop all automatic surveillance of citizens via the Internet and mobile phones,
- stop expropriating mosques for alternative purposes in violation of *Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act*,
- re-enact the Waqf Amendment Bill to allow Muslims to give endowments for pious or charitable purposes,
- repeal the national code that replaced the religion-specific personal laws, and
- repeal anti-conversion laws at the state level, and the anti-cow slaughter laws.