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THE PRIME MINISTER

It gives me great pleasure to express again my appreciation for the United Nations Association's work during the past year and to wish you every success for your Annual Conference.

The UNA continues to be a vital source of support for the United Nations, thanks to energetic engagement with civil society at all levels and its success in promoting the UN's principles and values here in the UK. I share your vision of a United Nations which can be held in the highest regard by people in Britain and beyond. And a United Nations which people can proudly say reflects their own aspirations.

This year marks an important one for the United Nations. We have a new Secretary-General, one who is determined to bring fresh vigour to the next phase of UN renewal.

We already know part of what that renewal could look like – this is set out in the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on UN System-Wide Coherence, of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer was a member. These recommendations could be a real springboard for strengthening the UN's role in the developmental, humanitarian and environmental fields. The task ahead is to make such reform a reality. We look forward to the Secretary General's

proposals for implementing the Panel's recommendations and stand ready to support him in meeting the challenge of pushing for further, and more rapid, evolution of the UN system.

Your Annual Conference coincides with the UK's Presidency of the Security Council in April. The UK remains a dedicated and active member and will guide the Council's work during April on the range of crucially important issues affecting international peace and security. During the month, the Foreign Secretary will chair a debate in the Council on the security implications of climate change, ensuring the Security Council continues to address today's global challenges.

I very much look forward to the UNA's own contribution to meeting these challenges and am pleased that the Government's relationship with the UNA-UK continues to thrive. I wish you every success at the conference, and in your 62<sup>nd</sup> year.

Tony Blair

March 2007

April 2007

### **UNA-UK Annual Conference**

I am delighted to send my best wishes to everyone attending this year's UNA-UK Conference at Warwick University.

As Ban Ki-moon remarked on assuming his post in January, this is a daunting time in international affairs. And I have seen for myself - from the Middle East to Darfur to Afghanistan - both the role that the United Nations plays today and the role it could play in the future. The values on which it was founded are just as important today as they were in the post-war world.

As our Security Policy Group said in its interim report, with more centres of economic and political power arising in the world, and more issues - like climate change - requiring international agreement and coordination, it makes sense to modernise and revitalise the United Nations.

Our Group will be looking further at the proposals of the panel established by the Secretary-General. Particular issues include the development of the new human rights machinery.

The UNA-UK and its members are at the heart of this debate. I wish you well for a productive Conference and for the months ahead.



**David Cameron**



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

I am delighted to be able to welcome you all to this year's UNA-UK's Annual Conference.

Through the hard work and diligence of its staff and membership the UNA-UK continues to successfully promote the principles of the UN Charter and to support the work of the organisation and its various agencies.

I congratulate the UNA-UK on all its achievement over the past year and wish you all every success for what promises to be a most productive Conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Menzies Campbell".

Sir Menzies Campbell  
Leader of the Liberal Democrats