



United Nations
Association
of Australia
WA Division

UN Photo/John Isaac

Annual Report 2024

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INCORPORATED
MEMBER, WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS
PATRON: The Honourable Christopher Dawson AC APM, Governor of WA
PRESIDENT: Randhir Amoganthan
ADDRESS: 33 Moore St. East Perth WA, 6004
Website: www.unaa-wa.org.au Email: office@unaa-wa.org.au
Ph: (08) 9467 4050 ABN 63 106 415 035



Table of Contents

VALUE PROPOSITIONS TO OUR MEMBERS	3
OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023 - 2024	4
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	5
VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORTS	10
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	16
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE	20
GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE	28
SDG BUSINESS FORUM SERIES COMMITTEE	37
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE	41
UN DAY COMMITTEE	43
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE	44
TREASURER'S REPORT	46
GRATITUDE TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS	52



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VALUE PROPOSITIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

1. **Our members make a difference....**
 - Through participating in our numerous and varied events
 - Through visible and felt commitment on issues critical to a just, peaceful, secure and sustainable future
 - Through contributions to our position papers and programmes
 - Through offering skills and time to our leadership, events and activities
 - Through membership funding our activities
2. **Our members engage...**
 - Through membership networking events
 - Through participating in discussion at our events
 - Through input to our policy positions
3. **Our members are informed...**
 - Through our regular newsletter
 - Through access to our national and global network of information
 - Through exposure to local and international experts at our events
 - Through our education programme and study tours
4. **Our members get involved...**
 - Through Volunteering to contribute to our diverse and exciting portfolio of activities
 - Through volunteering to be elected to the executive and playing a leading role in UNAAWA
 - Through becoming a role model in living the UN Values
5. **Our members become part of a greater local and global network....**
 - Through becoming part of UNAA with Australia wide Division, events and networks.
 - Through our affiliation to the World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA)
 - Through our academic network.



We make a difference!



OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023 - 2024

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Randhir Amoganthan
Vice President	Dr. Siddier Chambers
Vice President	Melanye Wawrik
Treasurer	Amanda Cumberbatch
Secretary	Han Hee

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Dr. Sandy Chong
Aisha Parker
Joseph A. Caruso
Dr. Silvia Lozeva
Francesca Stewart
Ciana Martinus
Louise Tomlin

AUDITOR

Silverback Management



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear UNAAWA members, friends and family,

Serving with this organisation gives me much pride and satisfaction. This is the reason I volunteered when I started, and is much more so presently. The standout feature that distinguishes the UNAAWA is the spirit of goodwill and common purpose, which I see clearly in our volunteers who make up our organisation, who serve selflessly, sacrificing much time elsewhere to advance our mission. I give heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for all the time and effort you have given and continue to give to the UNAAWA. Our organisation depends on your hard work, and that is what drives us and has made us successful, and without your support or that of our many sponsors and members, none of what we have done would have occurred. The UNAAWA exists because of the volunteers, and I am always grateful to work with you and learn from you.

To our executive team, it is and remains a privilege to serve alongside with you, to have your support and I will always continue to support each of you in any way I can.

Over this past year we have continued to grow, and our organisation is stronger today, with strong financial reserve and an executive team committed to delivering for our members.

In our efforts to increase engagement with local government authorities, we have met with the representatives from the City of Cockburn and City of Melville, with the aim of increasing partnership to raise awareness amongst the residents of those councils of the UN mission, to promote our events and encourage attendance, and in return to promote their events amongst our members. Additionally, with far greater potential impact, our organisation is presently working hard to reach similar arrangements with the WA Local Government Association (WALGA), which aims to ensure a much broader consistency of the partnership arrangements, for the benefit of all the council's residents and the communities in Western Australia.

The UNAAWA's advocacy work on Human Rights, the Environment, Gender Equality, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Young Professionals continue to make an impact and increase our engagement with the community. These events have not only brought us together but also inspire others, encourages and increases partnerships, as well as serve as models to follow to raise awareness of the UN goals to make our world a better place. With the aim of spreading of and raising awareness of the UN goals, the UNAAWA has expanded over the past year in its scope and activities and has continued in its mission.

Our biggest event of the year is ahead, namely our UN Day Gala, where we will celebrate the 79th Anniversary of the United Nations on 18 October 2024 at the Duxton Hotel. At the UN Day Gala, we will welcome state leaders, consuls, industry figures, community champions and committed individuals. Furthermore, this event is important to our organisation's fund-raising, in order to enable us to continue to work to promoting our mission. We can look forward to come together on that day to celebrate the values of global solidarity with a sense of hope, upon which the UNAAWA was founded, and to remind ourselves we are united by more than what divides us.



Always, I am reminded that ultimately, it is in one another that we can find the best in our shared humanity.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

BALANCE SHEET, TOTAL EQUITY

On the financial front, I am pleased to announce that the UNAAWA has continued to manage our financial resources with diligence. UNAAWA has continued to stay financially solvent, and that we have managed to grow our fundraising through efforts by committee convenors and members. I wish to commend the professionalism of our Treasurer and all those who contributed for ensuring the long-term sustained financial health of our organisation.

As of the 30 June 2024, the organisation's total net assets stand at \$84,838.74 which is a 9.52% increase over the previous financial year. The Treasurer is currently exploring opportunities to invest our reserves strategically, including in term deposits, to further strengthen our financial sustainability and support our ongoing initiatives.

The most important source of income for 2024 remains the Association's fundraising events, including but not limited to the UN Day Gala, the SDG Business Forums, the Members networking events, including all activities organised by the Young Professionals, Environment, Gender Equality and Human Rights committees. I take this opportunity to commend our Convenors for Young Professionals and Gender Equality for bringing in a sponsorship of \$10,444.55 and a grant of \$8558.00. While we have had a reduction in membership income over the past financial year, we are pleased to report an operating surplus of \$7371.71, which enhances our financial position and enables us to reinvest in our programs and mission. We recognise the hard work of our dedicated volunteers, members and convenors who have collectively enabled the UNAAWA to obtain sponsorships and other sources.

MEMBERSHIP

The distribution of memberships remains consistent with the previous financial year, with the most popular membership category remaining the 1-year Ordinary type (61), followed by the 1-year Concession type (21). The membership as of 30 June 2024 numbers 145 compared to 154 in 2022, but Organisational 1-year membership (includes corporates, governments, and universities) has doubled this past year, with Member's Ordinary 3-year memberships has also increased, with Young Professionals membership numbers increasing from 3 to 22.

Type	30-Jun-2024	30-Jun-2023
Concession (1 year)	21	32
Concession (3 year)	9	8
Corporate/ Government/ University (1 year)	3	6
Corporate/ Government/ University (3 year)	2	1
Life	10	8



Non-for-profit (1 year)	4	6
Ordinary (1 year)	61	81
Ordinary (3 year)	10	6
School (1 year)	3	3
Young Professionals	22	3
Total	145	154

While the number of memberships has overall declined, a number of categories have seen an increase such as Young Professionals, and our team continues to seek consultations with our members and stakeholders, identify areas to improve the quality of our engagement, with the aim of increasing our membership numbers over the next year.

I certainly value the work done and efforts made by our members over the past year, and I look forward to greater things over the coming years.

Warmest regards,

Randhir Amoganathan

President, United Nations Association of Australia – WA Division





VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

As the Vice President for Membership of the UNAAWA, I am pleased to present the 2024 Annual Report, which showcases our accomplishments, growth in membership, and active participation in key forums and events. This report reflects the collaborative work of our team in promoting the mission of the UNAAWA.

We have worked diligently to increase membership engagement and attract new members from various sectors, and successfully deepened our engagement with the wider community.

This year, UNAAWA has had the honour of participating in several significant events, each contributing to our advocacy for international peace, security, and cooperation. Notable engagements include:

Celebrating the Centenary of the Bahá'í Faith in Western Australia:

This event emphasized the importance of inclusivity and community cohesion, reinforcing our shared commitment to religious and cultural diversity in Western Australia.



International Students Festival (City of Canning):

In collaboration with the Cultural Ambassadors of the City of Canning, we participated in this vibrant event focused on supporting international students. The evening showcased cultural performances and discussions around key SDGs, particularly Good Health and Well-being, and Quality Education. The event emphasised mutual understanding and collaboration between students and community leaders, and it reaffirmed our mission to advocate for sustainable development in Western Australia.





Celebrating the 248th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America:

Our participation in this event, in collaboration with the U.S. Consulate Perth, underscored the importance of fostering diplomatic relationships and celebrating the long-standing partnership between Australia and the United States, which ties in with the UN's goals to foster better relations between member countries.

Leading with Diversity Forum: Representing UNAAWA, I supported this forum that highlighted leadership approaches that prioritise diversity and inclusion. This was an enriching opportunity to exchange ideas on how we can continue to build an inclusive society that reflects the values of the United Nations.



Space Conference & Forum Participation: Our commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remained strong this year as we actively advocated for peace, security, and sustainable development in various domains. This year UNAAWA is striving to have a presence at the Indo-Pacific Space & Earth Conference in Perth November of 2024 in order to advocate for the SDGs in Space.

As we move forward, our focus will remain on growing membership and enhancing engagement in forums and discussions related to international peace and security.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to our members, partners, and the wider UNAAWA community for their unwavering support. Together, we have made significant strides toward our collective goals, and I look forward to another year of progress, collaboration, and impact.

**Melanye Wawrik- Vice President
Membership**





VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Strategy & Partnership

It has been a rewarding experience serving in the capacity as Vice President for Strategy and Partnership during the 2023-2024 Financial Year.

Guided by a compass of unwavering commitment, I led and contributed to **four key activities** that promoted the work of the UNAAWA, strengthened partnerships and recognised the significant contribution and transformative minds of our volunteers. I did these activities as seeds of change and purposeful strategies that informed, inspired and engaged the WA communities in the vision and work of the United Nations to build a more sustainable world.

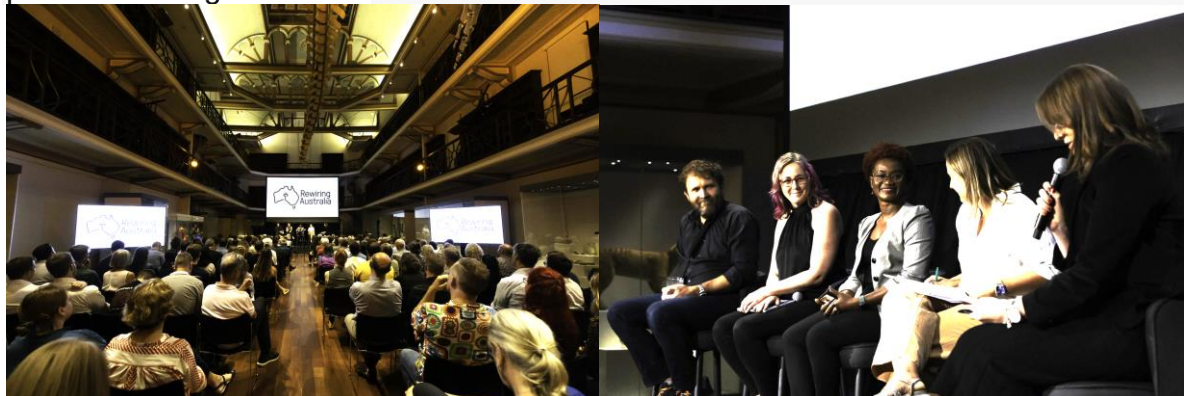
- 1. OMI Multicultural Awards 2024:** I prepared the award nomination on the inspiring work of UNAAWA's committees. We were selected as a finalist in the Community Service and Support Award-General Community Service Organisation category at the Western Australian Multicultural Awards 2024 Ceremony, hosted by the Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI). The event took place on 14 March 2024, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Congratulations to the category winner, Mission Australia, for their outstanding work in providing safe social housing for vulnerable people and families. Representing UNAAWA at this award ceremony was a privilege, allowing me to learn about the exceptional efforts of other finalists and winners and identify prospective partners.



- 2. Rewiring Australia's Public Forum:** On 20 March 2024, at the WA Museum Boola Bardip in Perth, Saul Griffith, co-founder of Rewiring Australia and an author, delivered an inspiring presentation. His vision centred around Western Australia (WA) leading the world in the transition to safe renewable energy. During the panel discussion, I emphasised the importance of engaging all community members to ensure no one is left behind in this transition. Additionally, I informed the audience about Australia's progress on key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to renewable energy:
 - 1. SDG 7** - Affordable and clean energy;
 - 2. SDG 9** - Industry, innovation, and infrastructure;
 - 3. SDG 10** - Reduced inequalities;
 - 4. SDG 11** - Sustainable cities and communities; and
 - 5. SDG 17** - Partnerships for the goals.



The other panellists included Katherine McConnell (CEO and founder of Brighte), Kylie Turner (Climateworks Centre), and the chair, Meri Fatin (WA Climate Leaders Inc and Supercharge WA). The event was a resounding success, with 325 people attending in person and 60 online. Kudos to Lily Jovic, the event coordinator, for her outstanding work. My networking efforts also paid off, as I connected with several prospective partners during the event.



- 3. Re-establish partnership with WALGA:** During April and May 2024, I initiated and re-established partnership between UNAAWA and the Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA). On 16 May 2024 we had a partnership meeting at WALGA, attended by Rebecca Brown (Manager, Waste and Environment) Keith Walsh (Policy Officer Environment) and Mackenzie Young (Waste Management Support Officer), Dr Sandy Chong (Immediate Past President & Chair of SDG Forum) and me. The partnership proposal included: co-hosting a SDG Forum in partnership with UNAAWA's existing partners, sponsors and stakeholders with a specialised focus on Local Governments (LG) advancement and impact on SDGs; and co-design, socialise and promote for a LG awards category at the UN Day Event, held annually in October. Additionally, I prepared and delivered a presentation that informed and inspired 47 registered local government representatives about the UN SDGs and Local Government in WA at the WALGA Webinar on 17 July 2024.



- 4. 2024 Volunteers Appreciation Event:** The UNAAWA thrives on the unwavering dedication of a small but mighty group of passionate volunteers. Together, we ignite change, inform minds, and kindle inspiration across the Western Australian community. Our committees—Environment, Human Rights, Gender Equality, Young Professionals,



and UN Forum—buzz with the energy of approximately 30 volunteers who pour their hearts into our mission. Yet, behind every volunteer stands a constellation of unsung heroes: their families. These steadfast supporters share in the sacrifices, late nights, and tireless efforts to champion the UN's vision. Recognising this, I proposed an idea: let's extend our appreciation beyond the volunteers themselves. And so, on a beautiful Saturday evening, 29 June 2024, 21 volunteers and their family members gathered at Zone Bowling Cannington. Laughter echoed as we rolled strikes, shared stories and celebrated our collective impact. In that moment, surrounded by camaraderie and joy, we didn't just bowl—we bowled over barriers, bridged gaps, and strengthened bonds. The volunteers and their families expressed heartfelt gratitude, knowing that their unwavering support fuels our mission. Together, we're not just a team; we're a constellation lighting the path toward a better world.



Across Western Australia, and wherever life takes me, I carry the torch of the United Nations because I believe the message of hope: a more sustainable world is within our reach, each action is our legacy for generations to come.

**Dr. Siddier Chambers - Vice President
Strategy & Partnership**





COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



The reporting period of 2023-2024 was a transitional year for the Environmental Committee. This year, our committee has been focused on strengthening our commitment to sustainability, biodiversity, and environmental protection through community outreach, partnerships, and policy advocacy. The Environmental Committee recognises the critical role of collaboration in advancing the global agenda for sustainable development, particularly in relation to the environmental SDGs.

The following environmental SDGs have been the core drivers of our work:

- **SDG 6** – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- **SDG 7** – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.
- **SDG 13** – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- **SDG 14** – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development.
- **SDG 15** – Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss.

Over the past year, the Environmental Committee has made progress at the local level, contributing to broader national and global sustainability efforts. As a committee, our ongoing dedication to supporting the sustainable development agenda and fostering environmental stewardship across communities. Our work this year continues to inspire individuals, organisations, and policymakers to take proactive measures in addressing the climate crisis and protecting our planet's resources. Together, we look forward to continuing this vital work in the years to come.

**Dr. Silvia Lozeva – Convenor
Environment Committee**





HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE



For 2024, the Human Rights Committee has been very focused on activities in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) 10 (Reducing Inequalities) and 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). We have delivered these goals through panel discussions and attending forums, allowing for an opportunity to engage with influential people in Western Australia. The events we have been involved with and hosted included:

- Business & Human Rights: In partnership with SDG Forum Committee
 - "Beyond Extraction: Leading Governance & Human Rights for SDGs" which highlighted the pivotal role of leadership, transparency, and ethical practices to achieve good governance in the global supply chain.
- Digital Rights as Human Rights - Human Rights Committee
 - In an era where technology permeates every aspect of our lives, understanding the intricacies and societal implications is paramount. The event explored fundamental human rights in a rapidly evolving digital landscape, impacting our private, public, and professional spheres. Amidst this discourse, a plausible questions were asked about whether technological tools and education are equitably distributed between urban centers and rural areas; and whether we can realistically strive for equitable distribution. The feasibility and implications of achieving parity were discussed to enable access and opportunity for WA.
- Health: Access & Equity
 - This event dived into vital conversations during Mental Health Week that aim to enhance healthcare accessibility and champion equity for all, especially the vulnerable groups across Western Australia.

Partnerships we have built along the way:

- Forrest Research Foundation
- KPMG
- Australian Information Security Association (AISA)
- Rotary Elizabeth Quay

2024 Human Rights Committee Members

Ciana Martinus- Convenor
John Da Silva - Deputy Convener
Anuththara Kuruppu

Matthew Knight
Lorena Rosales
Aritri Dhar



**Ciana Martinus – Convenor
Human Rights Committee**



GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE



The reporting period of 2023-2024 was an exciting year for the Gender Equality Committee (GEC). This year, our efforts have been dedicated to advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls through stronger community engagement and strategic partnerships. The Gender Equality Committee (GEC) recognises the power of collaboration to advance towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The following SDG 5 targets continue to drive our work:

Target 5.1 – End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere;

Target 5.2 – Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; and

Target 5.5 – Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

In the past year, the Gender Equality Committee (GEC) has continued to make significant strides at the local level, driving progress toward national and global goals for enhancing the well-being of girls and women. Our recent achievements include securing funding from the government's Stronger Women for a Stronger Future grant, hosting International Women's Day with keynote speaker Senator Fatima Payman, and founding and chairing the inaugural Thrive Gala in partnership with Zonta House to honour women survivors of domestic violence. These accomplishments highlight the relentless dedication and passion of our members and demonstrate the enduring impact of our commitment to gender equality.

Our Committee Members:

Francesca Stewart – Convenor

Marzia Zamir – Deputy Convenor

Jaslin Kalsi – Research Lead

Sephy Pariente – Development Lead

Myriam Baghouni – Fundraising and Partnerships Lead



Francesca Stewart – Convenor
Gender Equality



SDG BUSINESS FORUM SERIES COMMITTEE



The UNA AWA organised three SDG Forums in the past 12 months. The Forums were titled *“Sustaining Earth and Beyond: Space Innovation and Achieving SDGs”* in partnership with the Young Professionals Committee at Pawsey Supercomputing; *“Beyond Extractions – Leading Governance & Human Rights for SDGs”* in partnership with the Young Professionals Committee at KPMG; and *“First Nations People and the 2030 Agenda”* sponsored by BHP and hosted at the West Coast Eagles’ Mineral Resource Park. An upcoming Forum will be held on 30 October this month sponsored by Murdoch University titled *“Driving SDG Progress: Public Sector Innovation”*.

SDG Forum 1: Sustaining Earth and Beyond: Space Innovation and Achieving SDGs

An SDG Forum was held on the 5 October at Pawsey Supercomputing, opened by WA Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy, the Hon. Stephen Dawson. He outlined the government's commitment to the UNSDG goals, the benefits and opportunities that progress in the space domain and how the state could become the southern hemisphere's global hub for space development and operations. Esteemed speakers featuring former NASA scientist, Dawn McIntosh, Dr Clancy James, a radio astronomer based at the Curtin Institute of Radio Astronomy, Michelle Keegan, Program Director AROSE and James Yuen, Director for Space Innovation, Department of JTSI. Insights shared on the panel discussion demonstrate the increased desire to make space exploration more sustainable, referring to both the execution of missions and the end of life for the technology launched into space. The event was attended by over 100 guests, UNA AWA members, students, industry and community partners.





SDG Forum 2: Beyond Extractions – Leading Governance & Human Rights for SDGs

Following up from last year's "Leadership and Governance in the Extractives" Roundtable, a pivotal Forum was convened at KPMG on 14th May 2024. The event brought together leaders from government, academia, and the private sector to address critical issues at the intersection of governance, human rights, and sustainable development within the extractive industry. Claire Murray, State Director of DFAT and WA Attorney General, the Hon. Minister John Quigley MLA, highlighted Australia's commitment to promoting responsible resource governance and advancing human rights through legislative reforms efforts. Panel speakers include: Shaeron Yapp of Rio Tinto, Amanda Murphy of BHP Billiton, Serena Grant of Minderoo's Walk Free Foundation, and Professor Anthony Langlois of Curtin University, shared insights relating to labour exploitation, indigenous engagement, and modern slavery. Strategies to overcome such challenges discussed include promoting industry-wide responsible practices, partnerships, and the need for education..



SDG Forum 3: First Nations People and the 2030 Agenda

The SDG Forum on 1 August marked the fourth anniversary of our partnership with West Coast Eagles in the promotion of the SDG goals in our community. The event spotlighted the essential contributions of Indigenous peoples towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), bringing together leading experts and advocates to discuss the integration of First Nations perspectives across various sectors in science, culture, politics, education and business. Distinguished First Nations speakers include: Dr. Kate George, Andrew Beck, Professor Christopher Lawrence, Sharyn Egan, and Clinton Walker. In addition to sharing insights on resilience, culture and leadership, the panel also highlighted the importance of integrating Indigenous knowledge in education, preserving culture, supporting entrepreneurship, and promoting technological inclusion. Over 120 attendees were inspired by our First Nations peoples' dedication in protecting our land and had a great time participating at the event. We thanked Meredith Hammat MLA - Member of Mirrabooka who represented Minister Tony Buti, Geoff Baker MLA - Member of South Perth, UNAABA members, series sponsors and our First Nations community for their amazing support in making the event a successful one.



12th United Nations Business and Human Rights Forum

In late November 2023, I had the pleasure of attending the 12th United Nations Business & Human Rights Forum at UNHQ in Geneva. It is the world's largest annual gathering on business and human rights. With nearly double the participants from 2022, 4000 attendees of the government, private sector, civil society, international organisations, trade unions, academia and media gathered at the two-day forum sharing key learnings from business practices and multistakeholder initiatives amidst major disruptions in technology and demands for compliance and global governance. Following the attendance of the Forum, I was invited to participate in the progress of educational curriculum on human rights for the business sector – an initiative formed in 2022 between the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva School of Economics and Management - UNIGE, and the Global Business School Network (GBSN). I also participated at a roundtable session convened by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the TASC Platform of the Graduate Institute of Geneva that explored global study cases that will contribute to ongoing research and concrete recommendations for a policy paper on “Trade Tools for Better Labour Outcomes”.





WIN Conference at the United Nations

I was invited to deliver a keynote on “World in Transformation” at the United Nations in Geneva for the Women’s International Networking (WIN) Conference. The event highlighted the transformative impact of women in leadership, emphasising unity and collaboration in a polarised world, and unlocking opportunities in times of change. Alongside esteemed panellists such as the Ambassador of Chile to the WTO Sofia Boza, and Human Rights defender Karen Tse, I shared perspectives on the role of female leaders in driving sustainability, international trade, and global innovation. In particular, how women in Asia-Pacific are contributing to environmental stewardship, economic resilience, and digital inclusion. The energy, passion, and collective wisdom shared by attendees and speakers alike were truly remarkable which is a testament to the allyship of female leaders and male champions worldwide.



AI for Good Global Summit at the United Nations

AI for Good Global Summit, hosted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – the UN agency for digital technology, was held in late May. The Summit brought together thousands of participants from all sectors around the world to discuss the development about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it can be an accelerator to achieving the UN SDG Goals. I was invited to share insights on a panel alongside academics, activists, practitioners and policy makers. We delved into the vital distinction between digital and AI inclusion, the need to adopt a nuance approach to ensure representation, and the challenge for us to consider how AI can embody the best of humanity. Highlights of the event include meeting the Secretary-General of ITU, Doreen Bogdan-Martin, and attending sessions with Director-Generals of various UN agencies from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), International Labour Organisation (ILO), to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Microsoft, as well as the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It was asserted that AI could be a game-changer for the SDGs and global coordination is needed to build safe and inclusive AI that is accessible to everyone.



Participating at the AI for Good Global Summit; Meeting Secretary-General of ITU, Doreen Bogdan-Martin

112th International Labour Conference & Launch of the Global Coalition for Social Justice at the United Nations

I had the privilege of attending the International Labour Conference (ILC) in Geneva where the Global Coalition for Social Justice was launched at the United Nations. This initiative transcends policy-making—it touches the heart of livelihood and dignity. Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Gilbert F. Houngbo, shared a compelling vision for the coalition, focusing on sustainable development and the need for a global movement that brings tangible improvements to people's lives. It's not just about securing jobs; it's about ensuring that work provides fulfillment and meaning. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) also highlighted the critical connection between health and social justice at the launch and emphasised how wellbeing is essential to building resilient communities.

With rapid changes in energy and digital technologies, it's estimated that up to 50% of jobs could be significantly impacted. This underscores the urgency for corporations and governments to guide people through these transitions. Inspired by the coalition's vision and the collective commitment, I aim to continue in expanding our advocacy of the SDGs for a more just and equitable world.



Attending the 112th International Labour Conference; Meeting Director-General of WHO, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, at the Global Coalition for Social Justice launch



Upcoming Forum

The next SDG forum will be held in partnership with Murdoch University and the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science & Innovation on the 30 October at The Platform in the City of Perth. The theme will be **“Driving SDG Progress: Public Sector Innovation”**. The panel will include speakers from the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science & Innovation, Microsoft, EY Perth and Murdoch University.



The SDG Forum Organising Committee Members & Supporters

Thanks to Our Sponsors:



Finally, in light of the current global challenges, including economic uncertainties, geopolitical tensions, and the accelerating climate crisis, there is a heightened urgency to make meaningful progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With only six years left to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the SDG Forum team remains committed to advancing our advocacy efforts by providing a platform for rigorous dialogue, meaningful exchange, and purposeful networking opportunities targeted at both the public and private sectors. Most importantly, the key takeaway from our forums this year has been the urgent need to transform and embrace innovative solutions to address ongoing challenges in the business environment, thereby accelerating the adoption of SDGs for all.

My engagement at the United Nations internationally has informed the work at the SDG Forum here in Western Australia, following the ethos of “Think Global and Act Local”. To date, the SDG Forum team has engaged over 2,500 attendees over the past six years and generated over \$30,000 in revenue for the UNAABA. We look forward to expanding our impact and engagement with both public and private sectors to help achieve our SDG targets by 2030.



Our Committee Members:

- Dr Sandy Chong – Founding Chair
- Lily Jovic – Co-Chair
- Lisha Liang – Secretary
- Aisha Parker
- Coko Tang
- Angelica Jane Reyes
- Ciara Crockett
- Sheila Rono
- Megan Wood
- Amorith Tan
- Allan Sim

Dr Sandy Chong - Founding Chair
SDG Business Forum Series





YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

The reporting period of 2023-2024 was a year for strategy and building capacity.

Since the Committee's founding in the 2022-2023 year, our efforts have been dedicated to advancing leadership skills of young professionals by identifying skills needed to empower more SDG progress by young professionals in their everyday roles, and research into connecting academics with not-for-profit causes. These actions align with the following SDG targets:

- Target 17.7 – Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships;
- Target 8.3 – Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services; and
- Target 8.6 – Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

In the past year, we have begun the search for sponsors including securing funding from Woodside. Outlined a plan for engagement for workshops and panel events, in partnership with not-for-profits, government and business, that will assist our members further their knowledge of sustainability in their work. In addition to assisting the running of the Gender Equality committee event, our committee has partnered with the SDG Forum team to organise the “Space Innovation & SDGs Forum”, and the “Spotlight on Homelessness” with Perth Inner City Youths held at the WA Museum. We have a scheduled event coming up for November titled “Empowering Sustainable Development Startups”.

Our Committee Members:

Deputy Chair - Charlotte Moss

Secretary - Kaitlin Le Roux

Treasurer - James Duong

Membership Lead - Mercy Jelimo

Events Lead - Sarah-Ann Keresztely

Partnerships Lead - Holly Escott

Louise Tomlin - Convener

Young Professionals Committee





UN DAY COMMITTEE

UN DAY 2023 – 78TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DUXTON HOTEL

On **20th October 2023**, the UNAAWA celebrated the 78th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations at **The Duxton Hotel**. Sustainability was the key UN theme for 2023. Chaired by Zaina Debouch, the event was attended by over 120 guests including the members UNAAWA, dignitaries from the DFAT, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Japan, China, the US, Greece and Brazil, representatives of federal and state ministries, members of the WA Indigenous Tourism Council (WAITOC), members of the Rotary Club of Perth, Presidents of community associations, and our sponsors from both public and private sectors. Opening remarks were made by the President of UNAAWA, Randhir Amoganthan on sustainability.



He described that to reach the sustainability goals needed the involvement the public, government, academia and industry, and this interconnectedness would build bonds by recognition of the values we share of seeking to do good. State Director of DFAT, Erin Maherm spoke about the importance of SDGs for our sustainable future. Our keynote speaker and 2021 Australian of the Year, Rebecca Prince-Ruiz, spoke of the Plastic Free July movement she founded that raised awareness on sustainability and pollution, and which now involves over 326 million people worldwide. This was then followed by a mix of musical performances from diverse backgrounds – a traditional Malaysian Silat martial arts performance, a Brazilian music and dance and a spectacular music performance from the students of Guildford Grammar School, which showcased the harmonious blend of cultures in Western Australia. This was followed by the announcement of the UN Day Award winners in the Human Rights, Gender Equality, Environmental Action, and the SDG Challenge Student Award categories.



The wonderfully diverse and multicultural Executive Committee members and volunteers



UN DAY 2024 - 79TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DUXTON HOTEL

The 2023-2024 reporting period was a key year for the United Nations Day (UN Day) team as we are working hard to deliver a successful celebration of the UN's values here in Western Australia. This year, we will be focusing on securing key partnerships and ensuring effective team coordination to achieve our goals.

We have secured both cash and in-kind sponsors, whose support will be crucial in making the event possible. These partnerships provided the necessary resources to successfully deliver the UN Day event components. In addition to our sponsorship success, we engaged with multicultural communities and performance groups, whose involvement will bring an enriching and inclusive, cultural dimension to the event. This collaboration helped make the UN Day celebration more diverse and representative of our community.

A special acknowledgement to the volunteers of our organising committee, particularly Diane Avice, our Awards Coordinator, who plays an important role in coordinating the convenors and managing the awards process, tracking and ensuring smooth delivery of the UN Day Awards segment.



Our Committee Members:

Lucia Chen – UN Day Chair
Diane Avice – UN Day Awards Coordinator
Sandy Qu
Natalie Yang
Nat MacLeod
Wendy Weng
Dr Sandy Chong
Melanye Wawrik

Lucia Chen - Chairperson
UN Day Event Organising Committee





United Nations
Association
of Australia
WA Division

79TH UN DAY *anniversary*

Come and join us for
an evening of celebration!

Registration opens 1st August

Book Now



18TH
OCT 2024

6.00-9.30PM

DUXTON HOTEL
PERTH



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

The world order is continuously evolving, and we are all an integral part of this dynamic global fabric. Australia is deeply connected to the global landscape, and our engagement extends beyond the macro geopolitical challenges that dominate the headlines, such as social and economic upheavals, homeland security, carbon neutrality, bilateral trade agreements, human rights, and international alliances. Quietly yet effectively, Australia continues its overseas economic and social development programs, contributing to a more equitable world.

Amidst these efforts, Australia's security priorities have risen, absorbing substantial defense budgets in response to heightened national security concerns and regional threats. Meanwhile, vital reforms in housing, education, healthcare, gender equality, social development, and humanitarian aid are lagging behind in terms of budget allocations. The wealth gap between the rich and the poor continues to widen. Global political developments have a significant impact on Australia's pathways and communities, as we have seen recently with the pandemics, the Ukraine-Russia conflict, the Israel-Palestine war, African famines, and Sudanese refugee camps, as well as other natural and man-made disasters.

In these times of crisis, the United Nations is called upon to uphold humanitarian principles, saving and protecting lives. With global and Australian elections on the horizon, we hope that the principles of the United Nations Charter will be upheld in their respective government agendas. In my role, I am committed to representing our organization both domestically and internationally at civic, community, private sector, government, consular, and corporate events, promoting the values of the UNAA mission. These engagements are documented in my monthly reports. I also continue to research and write on various topics related to the UN agenda and government programs, including environmental impacts, clean energy, pollution, conflict, inequality, human rights, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Each of these issues profoundly affects our lives. We are fortunate to have dedicated individuals within our organization who continue to engage in community volunteering with unwavering strength and commitment.

As ambassadors, our voices must be heard, recorded, and recognized in support of initiatives that promote peace, safety, and harmony within our global community. Our continued commitment to upholding the principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Charter, and the roadmap provided by the SDGs guides us on our shared journey. Your dedication, engagement, and community outreach as active volunteers are invaluable and yield rewards beyond monetary expectations. Each of you is a leader of tomorrow, and I am proud to be part of this remarkable team.



Joseph A. Caruso – UNAAWA Global Representative



TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

For the first year of my term as Treasurer of the United Nations Association of Australia WA Division, I am pleased to present the financial report for the financial year ending 30 June 2024 which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). I want to express my gratitude to the previous Treasurer, Manisha, for her dedicated service and help with the handover and to the Assistant Treasurer, Yuko Roos, for her ongoing support. Their contributions have been invaluable in guiding us to this point.

The organisation achieved positive financial results, with a total revenue of \$47k for 2024, an increase of \$10k from the previous financial year FY23. To ensure clarity and accuracy in our reporting, we have adjusted the financial performance and position figures for FY23. The movement in revenue can be attributed to several key factors including, sponsorship of \$9k* received by the Young Professional Subcommittee, Women's Grant for a Stronger Future: \$8k* received by the Gender Equity Subcommittee, decrease in Membership of \$3k, and decrease in Events income of \$4k. **Note: Sponsorship and grant income is recognised in the financial year it is received in accordance with accounting standards. However, expenditures related to these funds may occur in future financial periods.*

The operating expenses for the financial year 2024 were \$13k, an increase on the previous year due to payments to the United Nations Association of Australia National Division and fees for professional advice. Despite these higher costs, we are pleased to report a surplus of \$7k, which enhances our financial position. As of 30 June 2024, the organisation's total net assets are \$84k, an increase of 9.52% over the previous year. We are also exploring opportunities to invest our cash reserves strategically to strengthen our financial sustainability further and support our ongoing initiatives.

In conclusion, The United Nations Association of Australia WA Division is in a strong financial position, with a surplus that reflects our commitment to prudent financial management and long-term financial health of the organisation. I, Amanda Cumberbatch being the Treasurer of United Nations Association of Australia WA Division, certify that the Statements attached to this annual report give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the United Nations Association of Australia WA Division Incorporated during and at the end of the financial year ending on 30 June 2023.

27th September 2024

Amanda Cumberbatch – UNAAWA Treasurer





Statement of Financial Performance

United Nations Association of Australia WA Division Inc.
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Revenue		
Events/ Programs Income	18,811.60	23,071.30
Sponsorship	10,454.55	-
Sale of Promotional Items	3,379.82	3,489.66
Total Revenue	32,645.97	26,560.96
Membership Income		
Memberships	6,060.79	9,293.18
Total Membership Income	6,060.79	9,293.18
Other Income		
Donations	66.17	135.00
Interest	38.35	28.39
Grants	8,558.00	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	568.30
Total Other Income	8,662.52	731.69
Total Income	47,369.28	36,585.83
Cost of Sales		
Event Expenditure	25,370.73	26,329.33
Promotional Material	1,068.18	1,363.64
Total Cost of Sales	26,438.91	27,692.97
Gross Profit	20,930.37	8,892.86
Operating Expenses		
Administrative Expenses	13,443.58	7,920.26
Depreciation Expense	-	1,464.27
Other Operating Expenses	115.08	27.27
Total Operating Expenses	13,558.66	9,411.80
Net Profit	7,371.71	(518.94)



Statement of Financial Position

United Nations Association of Australia WA Division Inc.
As at 30 June 2024

	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	83,557.92	73,894.05
Receivables	3,321.01	1,560.00
Prepayments	1,551.55	6,072.95
Total Current Assets	88,430.48	81,527.00
Non-Current Assets		
Fixed Assets		
IT equipment	1,521.82	1,521.82
IT equipment - Accumulated depreciation	(1,521.82)	(1,521.82)
Total Fixed Assets	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets	-	-
Total Assets	88,430.48	81,527.00
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Payables	2,458.41	3,909.97
Unearned Income	1,133.33	150.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,591.74	4,059.97
Total Liabilities	3,591.74	4,059.97
Net Assets	84,838.74	77,467.03
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	7,371.71	(518.94)
Retained Earnings	77,467.03	77,985.97
Total Equity	84,838.74	77,467.03



GRATITUDE TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS

