



THE BULLETIN

of the Australian World Citizens Association

<http://www.worldcitizens.org.au>

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Highlights of this Edition:

	page
<i>Local News</i>	3
<i>General Meeting</i>	6
<i>World News</i>	6
<i>Bangladesh Aid Project</i>	8
<i>Solar Project Report</i>	8
<i>Education Report</i>	10

Regulars:

Editor's Welcome.....	2
President's Column.....	2
Treasurer's Report.....	9

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President's Column: The importance of committees



Our Association has been in being for some eight years now, but in some areas we have made little if any progress. Our paid-up membership is about the same as when we started, although we have picked up some active and well-connected new members recently such as Thich Minh Tam, Pera Wells and former Senator Bob Brown.

Our campaign for more democratic global governance has had little or no impact. Until recently our campaign in support of the United Nations Parliamentary Assembly had done nothing, although that has now changed with the support of Bob Brown and Pera Wells, and recent events such as the Symposium in Sydney, and the Model Global Parliament in Melbourne. We need to keep up the momentum.

We have been trying to achieve DGR status for our Aid Project in Bangladesh for about 4 years now, without success. We must simply keep trying.

Editor's Welcome:-

Happy New Year to Everyone! So much has happened since the last bulletin, it isn't easy to decide where to start from. The recession hit in 2009 and future planning and growth has been marred by its after effects.

Even Mother Nature has been left with scars from it. The recent natural disasters paint a dark picture and show that in some way, economics and environment are related.

All the destruction from them makes many leaders prioritize differently. They forget that if global warming is anything to go by, if these occasional natural disasters become regular we will continue to waste our resources on recovering our losses.

I still remember from my younger days, apart from my parents, the weekly cartoon 'Captain Planet' made me more environmentally aware. These left such an impact, that when I owned my own car in Pakistan, I used to leave bags of rubbish in my car until I came upon a proper bin, which was not an easy task in those days.... Furthermore, the human rights abuse situation is despicable. In some countries, the citizens are openly mistreated but the global watchdog has limits and interfering with the governments is still a no-no. It is hard to know where to draw the line but who to turn to in times of need? There are countless examples of freedom being achieved through perseverance.

Every place has a common enemy in global warming. This problem must be tackled. At least, now such issues are being given more attention and world leaders have begun debating them openly. Solutions are being looked for, let's just hope that it isn't too late and we must change our ways.

Best Wishes,
Jawaid.



Our projects in support of a Community of Pacific Island Nations, or a World Community of Democratic Nations, have gone almost nowhere.

I have been approaching a few people about forming a 'Coalition for a World Community of Democratic Nations', and we may be beginning at last to get some traction here.

To make progress in all these areas, I think we need to form dedicated sub-committees, to set goals, engage interested participants, and push the projects forward. We already have three:

1. The **Council of the Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance**, which includes myself, Thich Minh Tam, Wali Islam, Daryl Le Cornu, Robert Chong and Michelle Cavanagh. We will keep working on the Centre project.

2. The **Aid Project Committee**, which includes (I believe) Wali Islam, Michael de Mol, Brett Samuel, Tasnima Islam, myself and Michelle Cavanagh. We will keep working on the Aid Project. Michael has discovered some very useful contacts in this regard.

Local news

Model Global Parliament at the University of Melbourne

Pera Wells organized this event at International House in Melbourne on September 12th, to mark Global Interdependence Day. Bob Brown was the principal speaker, and Chris Hamer also spoke for a few minutes. Some 70 students from all over Melbourne attended, and ran their own Model Global Parliament over some 2-3 hours. Overall it was a great success. The students enjoyed it, and turned on some very lively and impressive debates.

Hopefully this will be just the first of a series of similar events. Pera is trying to arrange for a similar event at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the ANU, and we have pledged to arrange another in Sydney to mark Global Interdependence Day next year, 2013. More on this later! Pera warns that it involves quite a bit of work.



Photo: Participants in the Model Global Parliament at International House. In the middle of the front row are Mia Wang (a principal organizer), Senator Bob Brown, the Principal of University House, Chris Hamer, and Pera Wells.



3. The **Digital Media**

Committee, consisting of Alan Ryan, Jawaid Hussain and Brett Samuels, who have been doing excellent work in producing the Bulletin, and maintaining the website and Facebook page.

We need to set up further sub-committees:

- A **Committee for the UNPA Campaign and Model Global Parliament program**, which could include myself, Pera Wells, Bob Brown as a 'sleeping partner', and other volunteers;

- A **Committee for the World Com** campaign, to promote the idea of a World Community of Democratic Nations, and a Coalition to work towards the same. I would certainly be involved here, and would welcome other volunteers

- A **membership sub-committee**. This is an important but thankless task, for which I have little talent. Any volunteers?!

We have suffered a serious setback in our campaign for the establishment of a Centre for Global Governance and International Peace in Sydney, as described later in the Bulletin. But we plan to keep going.

A **Communiqué** from the Model Global Parliament ran as follows:

- On the occasion of the Global Interdependence Day, 12 September 2012, students from Universities in Victoria, coming from 15 countries around the world and engaged in 25 different academic disciplines, participated in the inaugural **Model Global Parliament**, convened at International House, University of Melbourne.
- Taking into account the speech given by Mr Bob Brown, former Senator and leader of the Greens Party, calling for Australia to take the lead in promoting the idea of a global parliament,
- Appreciating the remarks on the speech by Dr Chris Hamer founder and President of the World Citizens Association,
- Recognizing that the Global Interdependence Movement is promoting worldwide understanding of the many ways in which interdependence is at the heart of the processes of globalization occurring now, in the 21st century,
- Aspiring to understand the possibilities and responsibilities of global citizenship

We, the student participants in the Model Global Parliament

- Discussed and voted upon 12 motions concerning the following issues:
 - 2020 frameworks for development of all regions
 - establishment of an education fund
 - a tax of 10% on arms expenditure
 - global 20% renewable energy target by 2040
 - that corporations sign the United Nations Global Compact
 - the diffusion of intellectual property and training for emergency health and the use of agriculture technologies
 - a global task force established for humanitarian crises
 - the promotion of arms control, gun control and limit civilian ownership of weapons
 - a commitment to a non-first use of nuclear weapons



I would like to express my warmest thanks to Wali, Daryl, Michael and all our committee members who have put in so much time and effort in pursuing this proposal. I'm sure you are as disappointed as I am in the outcome.

I would also like to thank, once again, our loyal band of officers and members who have made it all possible, including Michelle Cavanagh (Treasurer), Michael de Mol (Secretary), Daryl Le Cornu (Education), Alan Ryan (Website), and all the others who have helped from time to time – we couldn't function without you.

Finally, I would like to thank Brett Samuel very warmly for the beautiful job he has done editing this Bulletin in the past. Due to the pressures of an exploding business, he has had to step back for the moment, and Jawaid Hussain has kindly volunteered to take over as Editor. We wish Jawaid all success, and we look forward to seeing Brett back on deck at a later date when he has settled down as a captain of the IT industry!

All the best, from
Chris Hamer.

- Resolved to reconvene the Model Global Parliament and to encourage Universities around Australia to convene similar Model Global Parliaments, at a time and place suited to their convenience.
- Encourage all Model Global Parliaments to issue a communiqué to share their outcomes with the Global Interdependence Movement.

Centre for Global Governance and International Peace

We have been working on this major project for some three years now, aiming at establishing a Centre to carry out first-class academic research on topics of global governance, as well as engaging in community outreach and advocacy activities. We ended up with proposals from the University of New South Wales, University of Sydney (CPACS) and Macquarie University. These proposals were taken by Thich Minh Tam for consideration of funding by the Board of the International Buddhist Organization for Culture, Education and Social Development (IBO).

The Board of the IBO met recently in the US to consider the competing proposals from UNSW, the University of Sydney, Macquarie University, and a university in San Francisco. It came down to a choice between Macquarie and San Francisco, but in the end they awarded the funding to San Francisco, judging that they showed the strongest commitment to the project. They are setting up a *Centre for Global Governance and Peace*, supported not only by the IBO, but by matching funds from the university itself, and also a matching government grant, giving them total funding of \$9 million over the next three years.

This outcome, while very good for San Francisco, is very disappointing for those of us who worked so hard putting together proposals for a Centre in Sydney. We have not given up on the project of establishing a Centre in Sydney, however. We plan to explore alternative sources



of funding, and possibilities for action on a smaller scale. Our partners at Macquarie and CPACS are also keen to pursue the project further. Can we find an alternative donor to fund our own Centre? Can we implement part of our program without external funding?

Tam has also indicated that there may be a second round of funding from the IBO at the end of this year. We need to build up the profile of our *Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance* (IGPSG), which was founded to promote and take part in this project. Watch this space for further developments.

■ **Chris Hamer**

Coalition for a World Community of Democratic Nations

Members may recall that I believe this is the most logical and feasible next step towards a more effective system of democratic global governance. There may be at last movement on this front. The Streit Council in the US has agreed to be part of a Coalition, and have assigned a new intern to start working on the project with me. More news in later Bulletins, I hope.

■ **Chris Hamer**

General Meeting

A general meeting of the WCA was held at 3/141 Oberon St on 25th November, 2011. Minutes were circulated by email, and most of the items are covered elsewhere in this Bulletin. The meeting was followed by a BBQ

Congratulations to Wali Islam, our Vice-President and Aid Project Director, for his appointment as Global Vice-President of the Sun Moon University in Korea. His responsibilities will involve relations with international universities and international students, especially in Australia and India.

Better World Forum.

Michael Ellis in Melbourne is organizing an online audio '*Better World Forum*'. Prof Stuart Rees from CPACS and Chris Hamer are among the listed speakers. Further details as they come to hand.

World News

Nobel Peace Prize celebrates the European ideal

The award of the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize to the European Union celebrates the vision of the founders of Europe, Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer and their colleagues and followers over the years. It is often forgotten that the primary objective of the European movement was to bring peace to Europe, after a long succession of disastrous wars, particularly between France and Germany. The Schuman Declaration, which is regarded as the founding document of the European Union, makes this very clear. Some excerpts:



"World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it."

"In taking upon herself for more than 20 years the role of champion of a united Europe, France has always had as her essential aim the service of peace. A united Europe was not achieved and we had war."

"Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity. The coming together of the nations of Europe requires the elimination of the age-old opposition of France and Germany."

"The pooling of coal and steel production should immediately provide for the setting up of common foundations for economic development as a first step in the federation of Europe, and will change the destinies of those regions which have long been devoted to the manufacture of munitions of war, of which they have been the most constant victims. The solidarity in production thus established will make it plain that any war between France and Germany becomes not merely unthinkable, but materially impossible."

"..this proposal will lead to the realization of the first concrete foundation of a European federation indispensable to the preservation of peace."

This led to the successive establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community (1951), the European Economic Community (1957), and finally the European Union (1992). The great purpose of the founders has been largely achieved, and that achievement well deserves the award of the Nobel Prize, far more so than some other awards that have been made. One can confidently predict that there will never again be a war between France and Germany, or between any of the nations of the European Union.

Much of the media commentary on the award concentrated on Europe's financial woes. There is no doubt, in retrospect, that the Europeans made a mistake in introducing monetary union without fiscal union. It is now a toss-up whether Europe will go forwards towards fiscal union, or backwards towards a break-up of the eurozone. The EU itself will survive these vicissitudes, however, even if in a modified form.

The great example of the European Union is being followed in other regions of the globe, notably Africa and South America. It carries a lesson for the global community as well. If we want world peace, we should aim at progressively uniting the nations of the world, until eventually we achieve some form of world federation.



Bangladesh Aid Project

Charitable donation status:

We are working to reapply for charitable donation status, somewhat late. We have been waiting in vain for about two years now for a set of accounts from the project in Bangladesh. Without accounts to show our financial responsibility, we cannot hope to win DGR status, or indeed any funding from other charities or NGOs, in general...

Fundraising: WI said the Islamic Culture and Propagation Centre which he is associated with raised \$4,500 for its activities, so we ought also to be able to do fundraising.

Child sponsorship: We have been promising child sponsorship. WI did 3 or 4 from his family @ \$1 per day each child. For 32 students = \$32 per day. A gentleman from England gave him \$1,500 towards this project. If we have good publicity people will contact us. We must always provide a positive image. WI is providing \$50/month but he needs to find out how it is being used. Can we make a separate account to draw from for continued overseas aid.

■ *Wali Islam - Aid Project Director*

Solar Project Report

Mr Than Tun from AusAID emailed the secretary with some information about Aus Aid, the Australian Commonwealth Government organisation that provides grants for development projects plus some links to other NGOs and organisations working in Bangladesh. Here is the AusAID policy on providing grants.

“The accreditation process provides AusAID and the Australian public with confidence

If your organisation wishes to apply for accreditation, it must:

- be a signatory to the [Australian Council for International Development \(ACFID\) Code of Conduct \[external website\]](#)
- demonstrate a minimum two-year track record of managing development activities
- have applicable Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status that where the Australian Government provides grants to Australian NGOs to implement their own aid and development programs, it is funding professional, well-managed, community-based organisations capable of delivering good development outcomes.
- have a [recognised development expenditure](#) of \$50,000 minimum, averaged over three years, if applying for base accreditation; or a [recognised development expenditure](#) of \$100,000 minimum, averaged over three years, if applying for full accreditation
- complete and submit 4 hard copies and one electronic copy (CD preferred) of its Agency Profile to AusAID (attention: Accreditation Officer), GPO Box 887, Canberra, ACT 2601; or 255 London Circuit, Canberra, ACT 2601”.

Currently we do not meet these criteria, but we can work towards them.

■ *Michael de Mol - Secretary*



Treasurer's Report

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30/06/2012

CURRENT ASSETS

Brought forward 1/7/2011	\$602.84
Cash at bank	\$1204.00

Statement of Income & Expenditure as at 30/06/2012

INCOME

Membership fees	\$414.00
Donations	\$790.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1204.00

EXPENDITURE

Postage Expenses	154.80
Printing Expenses	249.67
Post Office Box	93.00
World Federalist	146.46
Refund overpayment membership fees	
Tsan Sun Liu	24.00
Bank Transfer to Aid Project Fund	290.00
Pay Pal fees	2.04
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$959.97

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$959.97
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1806.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$959.97
NET ASSETS as at 30/06/2012	\$846.87

■ *Michelle Cavanagh - Treasurer*



Education Report

1. National Curriculum–History K-10

- The new NSW K-10 History syllabus has recently been released. It is NSW's version of the Australian History curriculum. It is more detailed and allows more flexibility than the raw Australian curriculum developed by ACARA. Most importantly, the new NSW syllabus allows for the development of a school-developed depth study for the second half of Year 10.
- A depth study could be developed on a topic of interest to us such as the history nuclear weapons and the anti-nuclear protest movement.
- ICAN will consider this idea for a depth study on nuclear weapons for the NSW Syllabus at their Planning Day next Saturday 1st February. I have been invited to attend to put forward some ideas of how ICAN can get quality material about nuclear weapons into NSW classrooms.
- ICAN is also presenting a workshop on teaching nuclear history to NSW teachers at the HTAA (History Teachers Association of Australia) Conference in Canberra this April. I will be assisting ICAN in the preparation and presentation of this workshop.
- I will also be giving my own workshop at the HTAA Conference in Canberra on how the United Nations can be taught in the new syllabus. The UN fits in logically to some of the core units in Year 10 but there is also the freedom for teacher to create a unit on as aspect of the UN such as 'UN peacekeeping', the 'UN in Cambodia', 'The Gulf War', etc.
- One cannot overstate the opportunities presented by this flexibility in the new NSW Syllabus. (This flexibility does not

exist for the other states.) Teachers will be more likely to consider teaching a topic if a program, lesson ideas and resources are provided. Up to 70,000 students study History in Year 10 in any year. There is a chance now to attract teachers to doing topics that will help students understand some of the greatest issues of the day such as nuclear weapons, the role of the UN and global governance. These are issues that are of great concern to our organisation.

2. National Curriculum – Senior Modern History

- The final ACARA draft for the national Modern History syllabus had a number of units in it for the last semester in Year 12 which could include material of interest to us.
- Though the state ministers of education have signed off on the final draft it has not yet been published on ACARA's website.
- When ACARA finally published the final version of the national Modern History curriculum we will need to evaluate extent to which the WCAA could create resources and teaching ideas for topics in which we have expertise and interest.
- Anything we can create for the new Modern History curriculum would have a truly national audience of predominately 17-18 year old students. This is exactly the sort of audience we need to reach.

3. Campaigns for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

- This will be an exciting year for citizen-based anti-nuclear campaigns. There is a real sense of urgency now with Iran getting close to developing a nuclear weapon, North Korea becoming more



threatening with the nuclear weapons it already has and the ever-present threat of a nuclear war between India and Pakistan. Just a small nuclear war between regional powers could plunge the world into chaos and nuclear winter. The nuclear powers are not doing enough to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons hence the need for the mobilisation of world opinion on this issue.

- Both ICAN and the ICRC are starting big campaigns for the abolition of nuclear weapons. ICAN is conducting a big conference in March to start a campaign for the elimination of nuclear weapons. See: <http://www.goodbyenuk.es/>
- ICAN has also drawn up a model Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC). See: <http://icanw.org/nuclear-weapons-convention>
- The ICRC is also calling for a treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons which we may see further progress on in 2013. See ICRC Resolution in Dec 2011: <http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/interview/2011/nuclear-interview-2011-12-21.htm>
- There is also the possibility of the International Criminal Court adding the attempt to acquire or use nuclear weapons as a crime against humanity. Australia international human rights lawyer Geoffrey Robertson argues for this in his recent book *Mullahs Without Mercy: Human Rights and Nuclear Weapons*.

- As an organisation we need to keep abreast of these latest developments and contribute to debate and discussion in the areas in which we have some expertise.

4. Nuclear Proliferation International History Project (NPIHP)

- This is an interesting project run by the *Society for Historians of American Foreign Policy* (SHAFR) that supports the research of nuclear history. The promotion of good historical research in this area could further help educate the public about the perils of nuclear weapons. See: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/nuclear-history-documents>
- The NPIHP are hosting a Summer Institute in Washington in June 2013. Anyone with an interest in nuclear history can apply, though application close on the 1st February. See: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/opportunity/summer-institute-the-international-history-nuclear-weapons>
- A meeting with ICAN proved to be fruitful, where it was agreed that ICAN would produce material offering depth studies for NSW History.

This year will bring many exciting developments that have relevance to education.

■ **Daryl Le Cornu – Education Officer**



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