

# ENSURING FREE AND EFFECTIVE CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN THE UN SYSTEM

43<sup>RD</sup> WFUNA PLENARY ASSEMBLY  
7-10 NOVEMBER 2023  
TBILISI, GEORGIA  
**PA43/8/B9**

*The WFUNA Plenary Assembly,*

*Acknowledging* that on the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, UN Member States pledged to strengthen global governance for present and future generations. They requested that the Secretary-General report back with recommendations to respond to current and future challenges (UN75 declaration - A/RES/75/1);

*Noting* that in September 2021, the Secretary-General responded with his report, *Our Common Agenda*, a wake-up call to speed up the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and propel the commitments contained in the UN75 Declaration;

*Recalling* the report called for a *Summit of the Future* to forge a new global consensus on readying ourselves for a future rife with risks but also opportunities. The General Assembly welcomed the submission of *Our Common Agenda* and decided to hold the Summit on 22-23 September 2024;

*Recognizing* that an action-oriented *Pact for the Future* is expected to be agreed by Member States through intergovernmental negotiations on issues they decide to take forward. This Pact will guide the work of the organization for the coming decades;

*Recalling* that this year the Secretary-General issued eleven Policy Briefs containing more detail on certain proposals from *Our Common Agenda* to be negotiated and finally included in the action-oriented *Pact for the Future*. These proposals include a forward-looking proposal on sustainable development and financing for development; international peace and security; science, measures beyond GDP, technology and innovation and digital cooperation; education and youth and future generations; outer space, emergency platforms and transforming global governance;

*Recalling* UNGA resolution A/68/428, Article VI.85 commending the World Federation of United Nations Associations and its more than 100 national United Nations associations for the valuable contributions they have made during the past years through their global activities in the mobilization of popular support for the United Nations and calling for continued collaboration between the World Federation and the Department of Public Information in support of their complementary objectives;

Calls on:



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## RESOLUTION - PA43/8/B9

1. United Nations Associations and WFUNA to make most of the opportunity by raising awareness on the preparatory process and policy proposals prepared for the Summit of the Future. It is essential to ensure free, timely, effective and meaningful participation for civil society representatives and to create a system-wide mechanism to mainstream civil society participation in the UN processes, organizations and operations. Now is the time to walk the talk and make sure future generations, youth and civil society voice will be heard in the UN decision-making;

2. United Nations Associations and WFUNA to promote inclusiveness in the UN system through a wide-array of mechanisms including, but not limited to those; support for Major Groups' work and Department of Global Communications DGC cooperation with NGOs, WFUNA's civil society dialogues with Presidents of Security Council, ensuring adequate space and time for civil society side-events during UN meetings and provision for funding for civil society participation from the global South to attend UN processes.

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