

The logo features the letters 'UN' in a large, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a photograph of the United Nations Secretariat Building in New York City. Below 'UN', the year '2020' is written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font with a slight drop shadow.

# UN 2020

# End of Year Report

31 December 2020

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\*The UN2020 Campaign will operate in 2021 as the  
“Coalition for the UN We Need.”

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# Contents

**3****ABOUT UN2020, MISSION & VISION**

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF WHO UN2020 IS AND WHY IT EXISTS

**4****OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020**

UN2020'S HIGHLIGHTS IN 2020

**5-6****KEY PARTNERSHIPS**

A CORE STRATEGY OF UN2020

**7-8****HALLMARK EVENTS**

A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

**9****ADVOCACY TOOLS AND PUBLICATIONS**

LINKS TO UN2020'S AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS

**9****UN2020 IMPACT**

A NUMERICAL OVERVIEW OF UN2020'S IMPACT

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# About UN2020

UN2020 is a civil society led campaign that seeks to use the opportunity of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations for much-needed stocktaking, recognition of achievements, and consideration of measures that strengthen the organisation.

It consists of a global network with over 3400 member organisations and supporters from around the world. Campaign decision-making is led by a Coordination Group: Baha'i International Community, CIVICUS, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (New York), International Alliance of Women, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Soroptimist International, The Stimson Center. Together First, UNA-UK and WFM - Canada.

## Mission & Vision

The UN2020 Campaign, began in 2017 at a time when nationalism was on the rise and multilateralism increasingly called into question by powerful governments. The international community is faced with an increasing number of global threats that require greater cooperation across borders, sectors and generations. In 2020, COVID-19 and the associated financial and economic downturn globally further reinforced the need for new tools and approaches to cross-border cooperation in our hyperconnected world. We are reminded yet again how essential is the United Nations system and its many functional agencies and programmes. UN2020 is committed to renewing multilateralism. We need bold collective action more than ever. #multilateralismatters.

# Overall Achievements in 2020

*In 2020, there were four overarching advocacy tools that UN2020 developed over the course of the year.*

1

A progressively worded UN75 Peoples Declaration and Plan for Global Action. [Read Declaration.](#)

2

Eminent persons letter - former world leaders call for establishing an intergovernmental process to strengthen UN. [Read letter.](#)

3

Thank You UN, a large online book compiling personal testimonials from world citizens around the world. [Read Thank You UN E-book.](#)

4

A comprehensive strategic plan that frames campaign re-branding, re-structuring and programs for 2021-23.

# Key Partnerships

UN2020 has worked hard at formulating strong partnerships with multiple stakeholders including various UN offices and agencies, as well as governments via their Permanent Missions.

## UN & Missions

1

Office of the President of the General Assembly (OPGA), including Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, President of the 74th Session of the UN General Assembly and Volkan Bozkir, President of the 75th Session of the UN General Assembly; the office for the Commemoration of the United Nations 75th Anniversary; the UN Department of Global Communications; UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA); and UNCTAD New York.

2

Co-facilitators overseeing the intergovernmental negotiations on the Declaration for the Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the UN. Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of Qatar, and Anna Karin Enestrom, Permanent Representative of Sweden.

3

Some key partner governments: Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Estonia, EU, France, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda and Uruguay.

5

# Key Partnerships

As our tagline states 'Civil Society Partnerships For the UN We Need' a core strategy for UN2020 is civil society outreach globally.

## Civil Society Outreach

1

Regular UN2020 Coordination Group Calls with representatives from Baha'i International Community, CIVICUS, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (New York), International Alliance of Women, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY, Soroptimist International, The Stimson Center. Together First, UNA-UK and WFM - Canada.

2

Monthly UN2020 Global Update Calls (approximately 100 Civil Society Organisations represented per call).

3

Monthly Update email to UN2020 mailing list of 3400 members around the globe.

4

Coordinating and hosting the UN75 People's Forum for the UN We Need, with 2,100 registrants from 73 countries and a participation of over 600 each day.

5

UN75 Global Governance Forum partnership consultations on the proposed high-level civil society envoy at the UN secretariat.

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# Hallmark Events

Due to COVID-19 most face to face meetings were convened virtually which assisted in overcoming financial, spatial and travel limitations. Virtual gatherings became an innovative solution to inclusion and global participation challenges.

## **FEBRUARY 9-11: PYEONGCHANG PEACE FORUM 2020**

Global High-profile Dialogue on UN75 & parallel session on UN2020. Outcome document included sections on Multilateralism Reaffirmed in the 2030 Agenda & UN2020 Initiative: The UN at 75.

## **APRIL 23: #1 BREAKFAST DIALOGUE ON ELEMENTS PAPER:ACKNOWLEDGING ACHIEVEMENTS & LOOKING AHEAD**

## **APRIL 30: #2 BREAKFAST DIALOGUE ON COMMITMENTS AND RESPONDING TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES**

## **MAY 7: #3 BREAKFAST DIALOGUE ON BUILDING CONSENSUS AND MOBILIZING FOR CHANGE**

Co-hosted three breakfast dialogues on the Elements Paper for the 75th Anniversary Declaration together with the Co-Facilitators from Qatar & Sweden. Each event produced a one page summary.

## **MAY 14-15: UN75 PEOPLE'S FORUM FOR THE UN WE NEED**

Hosted a global forum bringing together 2100 civil society registrants from 73 countries to adopt the UN75 People's Declaration. The Declaration was presented to 74th General Assembly President Tijjanni Muhammad-Bande who provided keynote remarks.

## **MAY 29: DIALOGUE ON ZERO DRAFT**

Producing a summary of Civil Society Declaration Dialogue on the Zero Draft of the Political Declaration for the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations

## **JUNE 26: UN CHARTER DAY EVENT HOSTED BY MUHAMMAD-BANDE**

Video message from Secretary-General, UN2020 Declaration Video featured in this official UN event with Lysa John, Secretary General of CIVICUS represented as Civil Society speaker.

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# Hallmark Events

## **JULY 3: UN75 NATIONAL CONVERSATION: THE FUTURE WE WANT AND THE UN WE NEED**

Partnering with Malaysia Foreign Ministry, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance, Regional UN Country Team.

## **SEPTEMBER 3: THE UNITED NATIONS AT 75 YEARS: PROSPECTS AND POTENTIALS: THE FUTURE WE WANT**

Partnering with Leiden University.

## **SEPTEMBER 16-18: GLOBAL GOVERNANCE FORUM**

This forum attracted over 3000 registrants and generated a range of global governance partnerships and innovations. UN2020 co-led the development of a new partnership on "Enhancing civil society space and participation at the United Nations."

## **SEPTEMBER 19: UN75 & UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE: PATHWAYS FOR TRANSFORMATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS**

A pre-recorded 1.5 hour dialogue in observance of the UN International Day of Peace featured on the global platform of Unity Earth's Peace Weekend.

## **SEPTEMBER 21: EMINENT PERSONS LETTER RELEASE**

In conjunction with UN General Assembly week, UN2020 published the Eminent Persons Letter signed by 49 former Presidents, Prime Ministers, UN officials and Foreign Ministers sent to Heads of State on the occasion of UN75 High Level Event. Media coverage through BBC radio, Le Monde, Xinhua news agency and Daijiworld news agency.

## **OCTOBER 23: ADVANCING THE UN75 DECLARATION UN DAY**

An event held in collaboration with the Alliance for Multilateralism.

## **DECEMBER 9: GLOBAL TOWN HALL "CIVIL SOCIETY AT UN75 DEVELOPING A PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE FUTURE"**

In observance of UN Human Rights Day, UN2020 hosted a robust discussion on modalities for civil society participation in UN activities during and after the pandemic.



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# Advocacy Tools & Publications

UN2020 authored a number of key advocacy tools and publications. These include:

## COMMUNIQUE

Written in advance of UN75 Declaration Elements Paper

## RESPONSE TO THE ELEMENTS PAPER

Included recommendations sent to Co-Facilitators and all missions

## ONE-PAGE SUMMARY

Summarizing the Three Breakfast Dialogues on the Elements Paper for the 75th Anniversary Declaration

## UN75 PEOPLE'S DECLARATION & PLAN FOR GLOBAL ACTION

Presented to 74th General Assembly President Tijjanni Muhammad-Bande and adopted at UN75 People's Forum with 1400 endorsements from all over the globe.

## SUMMARY OF DIALOGUE

Summary of Civil Society Declaration Dialogue on the Zero Draft of the Political Declaration for the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations

## THE FUTURE WE WANT

### THE UN WE NEED VIDEO

Launched at UN75 People's Forum

## UN75 PEOPLE'S DECLARATION VIDEO

Launched at UN75 People's Forum and featured at UN Charter Day.

## UN2020 BLOG SERIES

A collection of thought provoking views on contemporary topics written by UN2020 partners.

## EMINENT PERSONS LETTER

Eminent Persons Letter signed by 49 former Presidents, Prime Ministers, UN officials and Foreign Ministers sent to Heads of State on the occasion of the UN75 High Level Event with articles in Le Monde, Xinhua News Agency, Daijiworld, BBC radio, and several UN New York based outlets.

## THANK YOU UN E-BOOK

Online book with over 500 personal testimonials from around the world.

# UN2020 IMPACT

**4962**

UN2020 Social Media  
Following

**3400**

UN2020 Subscribers

**1515**

Endorsesments for UN75  
People's Declaration & Plan  
of Action

**549**

Organisations from around  
the world endorsed the  
UN75 People's Declaration &  
Plan of Action

**502**

Written entries for Thank  
You UN E-book

**49**

Former Presidents, Prime  
Ministers, UN officials and  
Foreign Ministers signed  
Eminent Persons Letter.