

38th Plenary Assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), 6-10 November 2006, Buenos Aires

RESOLUTION

Adopted on Friday, 10 November 2006

A United Nations Parliamentary Assembly

Globalization is marked by an increasing interdependence of economic and political decisions and developments on all levels of governance: local, national, regional and global. Whereas all citizens should have the possibility and right to participate in political decisions affecting their lives and their communities, citizens' representation and inclusion is a necessary objective on all these levels. Taking up the ideas and initiatives of the people is particularly important on the international level where the governments' joint efforts to cope with the challenges of our time are decided upon and co-ordinated. The Millennium Development Goals as decisive milestone to improve the life of the world's less privileged population, for example, cannot be achieved effectively by government action alone.

- § Convinced that the United Nations is more important than ever as central pillar of international co-operation, peace and security,
- § Whereas stronger participation of the citizens in the activities of the United Nations would improve the world organization's legitimacy, acceptance and support among the people,
- § Convinced that democratic representation is the best means available on the international level to make the voice of the people heard in a legitimate and systematic way,
- § Considering the lack of parliamentary representation in the United Nations' structure,
- § Drawing upon the examples of the European Parliament, the Pan-African Parliament and the variety of regional parliamentary assemblies all over the world,

the World Federation of United Nations Associations

- § supports the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly as a consultative body within the United Nations system as a voice of the citizens,
- § calls upon the governments of the United Nations member states, parliamentarians and civil society representatives to jointly examine possible steps and options to create a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.

The WFUNA Secretary-General is requested to transmit this resolution to the U.N. Secretary-General and the President of the U.N. General Assembly.