



UNA-UK

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Rt Hon. William Hague MP
Secretary of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
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27 July 2012

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing as Chairman of the UN Association UK, on the eve of the London 2012 Games, to congratulate you on what the UK has achieved so far in terms of promoting the Olympic Truce, and to urge you to build on these achievements. It was an impressive feat that, for the first time, all UN Member States co-sponsored the UK's Truce resolution at the UN General Assembly, and we at UNA-UK have been actively supporting your work.

In March, with generous support from the FCO, we held a national schools Model UN tournament aimed at engaging young people with the ideals of the Truce. This event was awarded the London 2012 Inspire Mark and was part of the cultural Olympiad. Earlier this month, our UN Forum outreach conference featured a panel discussion on how the Truce could be used to further conflict resolution and humanitarian initiatives. Over 1,000 people registered to attend the event, which, again, was kindly supported by the FCO. Our members and supporters have also undertaken a letter-writing campaign to show their MPs that they support the Truce.

Currently, we are gathering letters of support for the Truce from Ambassadors and High Commissioners in London. To date, we have received 56 letters (copies enclosed) and we hope to compile these into a booklet for deposit in the Central Hall Westminster UN archive.

The Olympic Truce offers genuine opportunities for the promotion of peace and I am sure that the FCO will be working to use these opportunities to promote dialogue on current conflict situations. In addition to short-term initiatives, we hope that the UK will be able to create a true legacy for the Truce by looking for ways to support further the UN's conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding work. In this regard, we are particularly encouraged by the initiative you are personally driving on preventing sexual violence in conflict. The UNA-UK team has already contributed to this work and we look forward to supporting your efforts further.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Jeremy Greenstock
Chairman, UNA-UK