



UNA GLOBAL SOUTH

CONSTITUTION OF UNA GLOBAL SOUTH

The name of this group is UNA Global South.

Status

This UNA Global South group has been recognised by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Association – UK (UNA-UK), a charitable company limited by guarantee: registered number 1146016, since January 2020.

This group is responsible for its own finances independent of UNA-UK. This group is legally autonomous from UNA-UK, with the exception of being recognised by UNA-UK as a key component of its grassroots movement.

Objectives

- a. Strengthen Global & Regional Engagement – Partner with UNA-UK, regional bodies, and international organisations to advocate for policies that promote peace, equality, and sustainability in the Global South.
- b. Expand Public Awareness & Participation – Educate and empower communities to understand and engage with UN policies, structures, and sustainable development initiatives.
- c. Influence Policy & Decision-Making – Advocate for governance reforms that amplify the Global South's voice in shaping international policies and strengthening UN effectiveness.
- c. Combat Inequality & Injustice – Push for policies that address poverty, hunger, gender inequality, and systemic discrimination within and among nations in the Global South.
- d. Promote Peace, Human Rights & Governance Reform – Support legal and institutional frameworks that uphold human rights, social justice, and inclusive governance at all levels.
- e. Advance Climate Action & Environmental Policies – Drive sustainable policies that protect natural resources, mitigate climate change, and safeguard vulnerable communities.
- f. Foster Economic Sustainability – Advocate for fair trade, ethical labour practices, and inclusive economic policies that ensure equitable growth.
- g. Strengthen Grassroots Networks & Local Policy Influence – Build and support regional activist networks to drive local policy change and sustainable development.

Geographical Area

UNA Global South operates in the Global South region, aligning with UNA-UK's principles and objectives while maintaining legal and financial independence.

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Membership

UNA Global South membership consists of:

- a. All UNA-UK branches and affiliated youth groups within the Global South.
- b. Other branches or groups aligned with UNA Global South's mission.
- c. Individual members, corporate members, and supporting organisations who are not affiliated with a branch but contribute to the organisation.
- d. Any UNA-UK members and supporters who choose to join UNA Global South.

Each branch or affiliated group must inform the Secretary of its officers and contact details.

Officers

The organisation shall have the following:

Executive Officers

1. Chairperson
2. Vice Chairperson
3. Honorary Treasurer
4. Treasurer
5. Secretary
6. Research Officer
7. Administrative Officer
8. Communication Officer

The Executive Officers oversee daily operations and decision-making, subject to the Executive Committee's approval. Officers are eligible for re-election but should not serve more than four consecutive years in the same role, except for the Treasurer.

The Secretary serves as the primary liaison with UNA-UK and is responsible for updating UNA-UK with officer details after each AGM.

Meetings of the Region

- a. UNA Global South shall hold a minimum of three regional meetings per year, as determined by the Executive Committee.
- b. A special meeting can be requested by two Executive Officers or ten members, submitted in writing to the Secretary, stating the agenda.
- c. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) must be held before the end of each calendar year.
- d. Notice for any meeting must be sent at least 21 days in advance, and motions for the agenda must be submitted 14 days before the meeting.
- e. A quorum for meetings requires at least 15 members to be present.
- f. Any urgent motion that arises after the agenda deadline may be admitted if approved by a two-thirds majority of present members.
- g. In case of a tie, the Chairperson holds the casting vote.

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Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible for the overall governance of UNA Global South and shall include:

1. Executive Officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Honorary Treasurer, Treasurer, Secretary Research, Administrative and Communication Officer).
2. Officers must be active members in good standing.
3. Terms of office: One year, renewable through election.
4. Duties of officers:

Chairperson: Leads and represents the group, oversees operations.

Vice Chairperson: Supports the Chairperson and assumes duties in their absence.

Honorary Treasurer: Advice on finances, supports fundraising, and ensures financial oversight.

Treasurer: Manages finances, fundraising, and financial reporting.

Secretary: Maintains records, schedules meetings, and communicates with members.

Research Officer: Researches sustainable development.

Administrative Officer: Manages daily operations and documentation.

Communication Officer: Handles outreach, publicity, and media relations.

5. Selection of Officers: Officers are elected annually during the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
6. Removal of Officers: An officer may be removed for misconduct, failure to perform duties, or violating the Code of Conduct through a majority vote.
7. Leadership Transition & Mentorship: Outgoing officers must provide a handover document and mentorship to incoming officers.

Nominations for Officers and Executive Committee

- a. Only Active Members may vote in elections.
- B. Elections will be conducted by secret ballot or electronic voting.
- c. Proxy votes are allowed if submitted in advance in writing.
- d. Any Executive Committee member who fails to attend at least two meetings per year without a valid excuse (e.g., illness) will be ineligible for re-election.
- e. Nominations must be submitted to the Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM.
- f. Candidate biographical details shall be circulated seven days before the AGM.
- g. All elections will be conducted by members present at the AGM through a majority vote.

The Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has the authority to:

- a. Act on behalf of UNA Global South in all governance matters between meetings.
- b. Appoint staff or volunteers to fulfil specific roles within the organisation.
- c. Establish sub-committees with delegated responsibilities.
- d. Fill vacancies that arise between AGMs.

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Meetings of the Executive Committee

- a. The organisation shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) annually.
- b. A special Executive Committee meeting may be called by:
The Chairperson, at their discretion.
The Secretary, upon request from at least five committee members.
- c. Notices for meetings must be sent at least seven days in advance.
- d. A quorum for meetings shall be 51% of the Executive Committee.
- e. A majority vote shall make decisions, and the Chairperson holds the casting vote in case of a tie.

Finance & Administration

- a. UNA Global South is financially independent and responsible for managing its funds.
- b. The financial year ends on 30th June, and financial statements shall be reviewed and presented at the AGM.
- c. An independent financial examiner shall review UNA Global South's accounts annually.
- d. In the event of dissolution, the Executive Committee shall determine the distribution of remaining funds to further UNA Global South's objectives.

Alterations to the Constitution

- a. The constitution can only be amended through a two-thirds majority vote at the AGM or a specially convened meeting.
- b. Proposed amendments must be submitted at least 14 days before the meeting, with proper notice given to members.