

UfP Annual General Meeting 2011

The 2011 Annual General Meeting of Uniting for Peace was held at Wesley's Chapel, London on 16 April. Vijay Mehta, UfP Chair, opened the meeting by welcoming those present. He announced that UfP President, Lord Peter Archer, could not be present as he was convalescing after an operation. Also he announced the sad news that Professor Theodore Macdonald, human rights activist and writer, who had been scheduled to be the keynote speaker for the afternoon Spring Conference, had died suddenly. A minute's silence was observed in respect

The officers presented their reports on the first year of the new organisation, which had been very active. The Chair reported that a substantial legacy had been received from the Charlotte Sonnenberg Trust and would enable even more to be done in future. Discussion emphasised the need for careful ethical investment

Brian Cooper presented a document 'From 2010 to 2011' summarising the decisions and actions taken during the year in relation to the merger: setting up a UfP bank account, two Executive Committees forming a single EC, and preparing a permanent Constitution. The EC recommended this Constitution to the AGM, and it was endorsed after some discussion.

Officers elected included: President, Hon Lord Archer of Sandwell QC; Chair, Vijay Mehta; Vice-Chairs, Rosemary Addington & Prue Wendt; Treasurer, Abdul Muhib; Co-ordinator, Brian Cooper; Publicity Officer, Gill Morris.

Following the business session there was a discussion on Libya, Ivory Coast and the role of the UN.

The Spring Conference in the afternoon comprised presentations by John Johansen-Berg on The UN, NGOs and Development; Vijay Mehta on Reforming the UN for the 21st Century; and Brian Cooper on The UN and Inter-Faith Harmony.

To round off the day, Vijay Mehta introduced the 4Ds campaign: Disarmament, Demilitarisation, Development and Democracy, which is to be the main thrust of UfP activities in 2011-2012.

BC&FJ