

PLANET THREE DIGEST **February 2012**

Incorporating UNAA (sa) Newsletter 18



Because the World we imagined, the one
we always counted on,
is disappearing.

Because the sun has become cancerous
And the planet is getting hotter.
Because children are starving in the shadows
of yachts and economic summits.
Because there are too many planes in the sky.

This is the manufactured world
You have come to codify and expedite.
We have come to tell you
There is something else we want to buy.

What we want money no longer recognises
Like the vitality of nature, the integrity of work.
We don't want cheaper wood; we want living trees.
We don't want engineered fruit,
we want to see and smell the fruit
Growing in our neighbourhoods.

We are here because we have a voice inside us,
A memory in our blood, tells us
You are not just a trade body, you are the blind tip
Of a dark wave that has forgotten its source.
We are here to defend and honour
What is real, natural, human and basic
Against this rising tide of greed.

We are here by the insistence of spirit and the authority of nature.
If you doubt for one minute the power of truth
Or the primacy of nature
Try not breathing for that period of time.

Now you know the pressure of our desire.
We are not here to tinker with your laws.
We are here to change you from the inside out.
This is not a political protest
It is the uprising of the soul.

-Anonymous



mail@unaasa.org.au

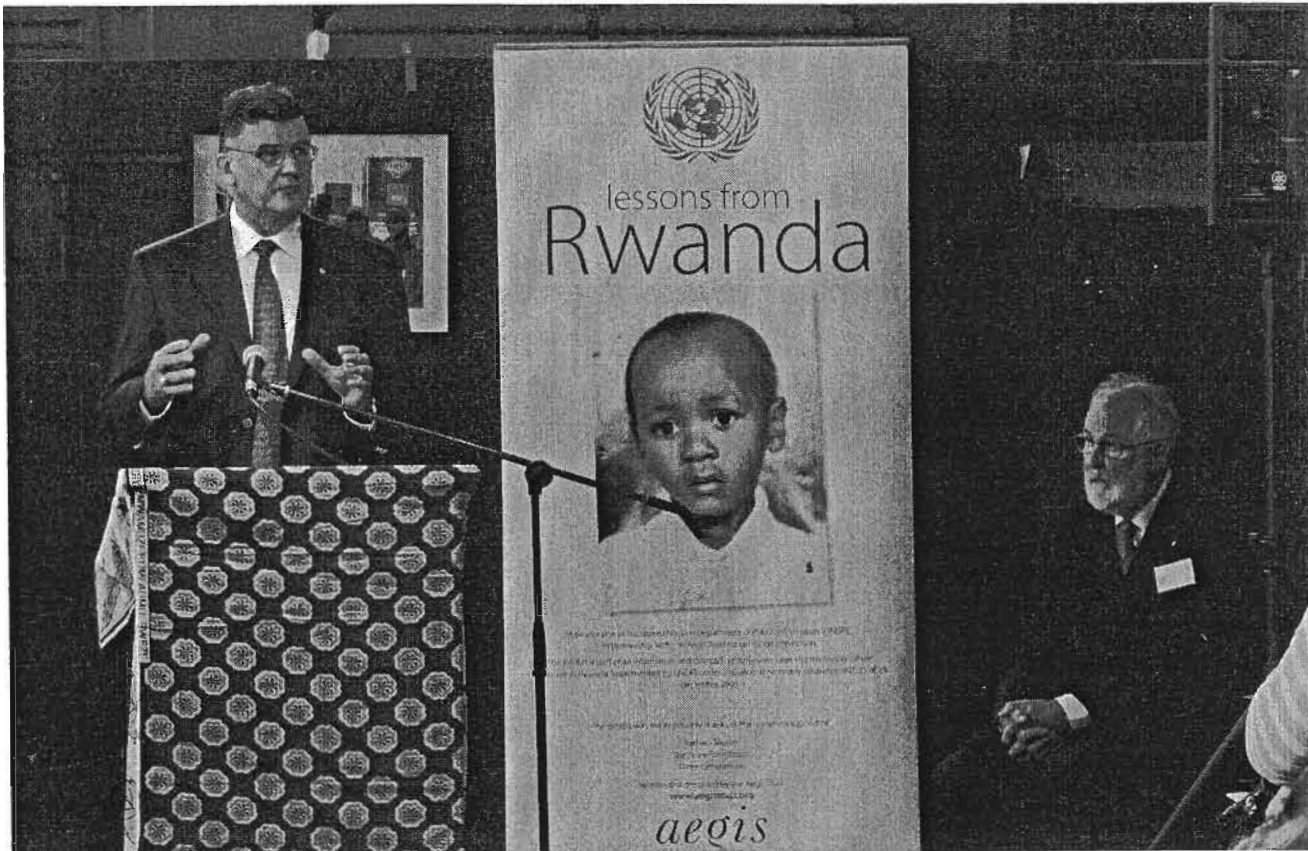
www.unaasa.org.au

Telephone: 08 8223 2420
Fax: 08 8223 4710

57/81 Carrington

5000

"WHY WE ARE HERE"



FROM THE VISITORS' BOOK Rwanda Exhibition

Hon. Lyn Arnold

Guest Speaker

- Such sadness is beyond belief Mary H
- The World should know this and provide help Prof. T
- Something that should not be forgotten or repeated Sui
- Powerful statement for better action Ruth
- Emotionally moving - especially "As we forgive" Peter
- Have regular exhibitions re other persecuted groups Yiling
- I want to view "As we forgive" soon Julia
- When will it (recurring horrors) cease? Helen
- May our country not fall into darkness again Antoine
- I liked the accounts of forgiveness Anne P
- The term 'Ethnic Cleansing' is inaccurate, inappropriate Fannie
- Very important effort to educate the general public Nathan
- Unimaginable capacity of people to commit barbarity Reg
- I suggest Exhibitions accompanied by testimonials Doy
- Condemnation of world's leaders for not acting Reg
- Months before, we had already packed our bags. We knew. Maxine

Mr John Crawford

Chairman



3

PUBLIC EYE AWARD FOR THE LAST YEAR!

This widely recognised Award is given annually to the world's most **IRRESPONSIBLE, EXPLOITATIVE, POLLUTING COMPANY** OF THE PAST 12 MONTHS. (Monsanto was a recent winner, with Tepco, Samsung, and Barclays close on its heels)

This coming year **GREENPEACE** and fellow Organisations want the **PUBLIC EYE AWARD** to go to the **FREEPORT Co.**

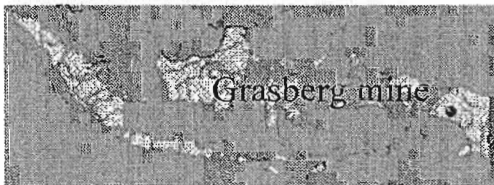
The Arizona-based mining corporation has operated the **Grasberg Mine**, in West Papua the world's largest gold and the third largest copper mine, for 45 years without regard for nature and people.

The mine produces 230,000 tons of tailings contaminated with heavy metals every day, resulting in a blanket of copper-laden waste covering over 200 square kilometers (90 square miles) and up to 15 meters (50 feet) deep that kills everything in its path and threatens a World Heritage site. In a large strike at the end of 2011, two strikers were shot dead by the police and union members received death threats.

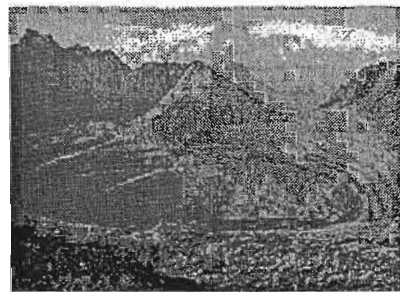
This can occur because the Indonesian military (**TNI**) is employed by Freeport to manage the mine's security. Anyone who knows the reputation that the TNI has for corruption and the committing of genocide and gross human rights abuses will know how irresponsible it is for it to be given this task.

Grasberg mine

Location



Location in Indonesia



Grasberg mine open pit.

Video /Vote

<http://www.publiceye.ch/en/vote/freeport>



People only live full lives
in the light of
Human Rights

4

(Some) POLITICIANS DO CARE

In mid-December Julia Tenner (intern) and I sent E-mails/Faxes to all Senators on the issue of Cluster Munitions.

The following was the best of several good responses : - (Space prohibits full answer.)

From: Singh, Lisa (Senator) [Senator.Singh@aph.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 16 December 2011 11:35 AM

Dear Mr Faulkner

Thank you for your email of 22 November 2011 regarding the banning of cluster munitions. As you know, Australia signed the *Convention on Cluster Munitions* (the Convention) on 3 December 2008, committing to the principles of the Convention and ending the devastating impact of cluster munitions.

I strongly believe that the use of cluster munitions is unconscionable. The casualties of cluster munitions are indiscriminate, and its victims are disproportionately civilians. The persistence of bomblets and munition remnants long after conflict has ended make the effects and legacy of war almost impossible to leave behind. To this end, I strongly support Australia supporting international efforts to totally end the use of cluster munitions.

As part of our efforts towards cluster munition disarmament, Australia has already committed \$100 million of support to countries affected by landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war under the Mine Action Strategy for the Australian Aid Program 2010-14. The Australian Government's investment fund, the Future Fund, has divested itself of holdings in 10 companies related to the production of cluster munitions. As a matter of foreign policy, the Australian Government will continue to urge foreign governments not to use cluster munitions and to accede to the Convention.

I share your belief that it remains incumbent upon Australia to actively promote the spirit of the Convention. During the most recent Budget Estimates hearings I put on record a number of questions relating to the use of cluster munitions by Australian troops. I have enclosed the response recently received to those questions. I will continue to advocate that the Government maintains disarmament at the forefront of its diplomatic agenda, and that our domestic policy reflects the obligations laced upon us by a robust interpretation of the Convention.

I hope that ultimately both the international and domestic framework against cluster munitions and other reckless armaments can be strengthened, and that all nations will share our view that cluster munitions should not form part of arsenal of any defence force that is conscious of its impact on civilians.

Kind regards



Senator the Hon Lisa Singh
Labor Senator for Tasmania



TOP STORY

The Global Fund marks 10 years

Luminaries from the political, philanthropic and pop culture worlds have lined up in support of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to mark the end of the organization's first decade of work, during which it has helped treat millions of people and helped save millions of lives. A [video](#) features interviews with founders and advocates of the fund, including Bono and Bill Gates. [YouTube](#) (1/25)

Share:

Some of the fruit and vegetables we use almost daily in the kitchen have natural curative properties. This is no doubt the reason they have been used continually over the centuries as both a food source and natural medicine, although today their benefits are not very widely known.

So next time you're feeling a little out of sorts, check out your refrigerator and pantry - a remedy may be closer than you think.

BETROOT
The juice of raw beetroot is also a natural remedy for cystitis, as well as for constipation, anaemia and skin diseases. Drink a glassful morning and night.

APPLES
Without doubt there is no better remedy than grated raw apple for general stomach upset and gastric disturbances. It is especially good when taken after diarrhoea, as it will quickly restore the bowel function to normal.

Home-made Cleaners

Keep in mind with cleansers

HEALTH
SAFETY
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS
COST

Corrosive?
Flammable?
Poisonous vapours?
Caustic action on flesh?
Toxic?
What does it do when it goes down the drain?

IS IT SAFE?

IS IT SIMPLE?

IS IT 'SMELLABLE'?

(FRESHENING?)

Some suggestions:-

	USE, ADVANTAGE	CAUTION
Salt	Abrasive for stained cups etc Mild antiseptic	Where's it being disposed ? OK in drains. Not in garden.
Lemon Juice	Fresh smell. Mild Acid. Removes some stains	
Oils - Eucalyptus, Tea Tree, Thyme etc	Pleasant smell. Mild antiseptic	Eucalyptus and tea tree toxic if swallowed
Methylated Spirits	95% alcohol, with 5% poisonous methanol or other "denaturing" agent. Good solvent.	Toxic to plants (and animals) Methanol (wood alcohol) causes blindness.
Bi-carb Soda (Sodium Bicarbonate)	Very mildly basic. Cheap Excellent cleanser, deodoriser	Energy-absorptive to manufacture (We often don't think of that!)
Washing Soda (Sodium Carbonate X'ls)	Alkaline. Great degreaser and water softener	Costs energy to make! Slightly toxic and has some caustic action on hands
Vinegar	A weak acid, made by simple cheap fermentation	

NB: People with septic tanks should avoid strong bleaches and disinfectants which can kill the bacteria that break down waste.

- Mixtures of some of the above - eg. Vinegar and Metho - are given good ratings.

EXPERIMENT!

CHEERS!

PJF

Kitchen Cures

BANANAS

When you're feeling tired and in need of a quick energy fix, try a banana. Mashed and mixed with a little honey and avocado, and served on oat biscuits, it makes a powerful energy-packed snack.

The inside of a freshly-peeled banana skin is an excellent first aid dressing for cuts, abrasions and small wounds and burns. Bind loosely with a bandage, renewing every 3 hours until it is relieved.

BARLEY

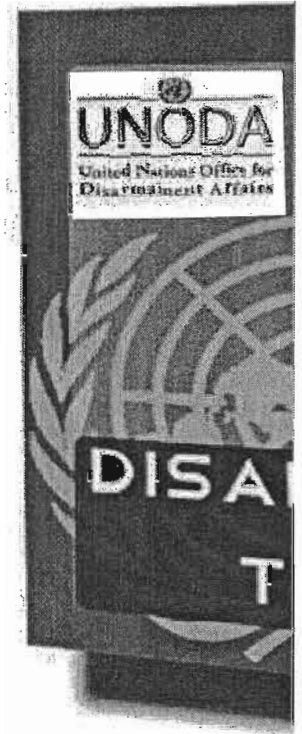
Barley has long been known to have an anti-inflammatory action on the genito-urinary tract. To help reduce the discomfort of cystitis, try some old-fashioned barley water. Simmer 50 grams of unrefined barley (from health food shop) in 4 cups (1 litre) of water for 40 minutes. Cool, strain and drink over 24 hours.

Disarmament Today



Seisuko Thurlow has been appointed by the Government of Japan as a special communicator for a world without nuclear weapons. She was born and raised in Hiroshima and experienced the atomic bombing at the age of 13. She remembers vividly the 6th of August 1945, the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, and the hardships she and many survivors endured physically and mentally thereafter. Subsequent to the atomic bombing, she started attending a local Christian church in Hiroshima in the hope of finding meaning in her life. Professionally, she practiced social work in the USA and Canada.

As a survivor of the atomic bombing, she is strongly committed to tell the story of Hiroshima. Most survivors are getting old and many are passing away, leaving a smaller number of Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) to tell their stories. Ms. Thurlow feels it is imperative to tell the younger generations of that terrible day and its aftermath. This is one of the reasons why she joined a non-governmental organization called "Hibakusha Stories" which passes the legacy of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to a new generation, and empowers them with tools to build a world free of nuclear weapons. She is married with two sons and two granddaughters and currently lives in Canada. She has devoted over 40 years of her life to nuclear disarmament.



UN WIRE

February 9, 2012 | News covering the UN and the world



[Sign up](#) | [E-Mail this](#) | [Donate](#)



TOP STORY

Ban regrets "disastrous" lack of resolution on Syria

A plan was being considered by the UN Security Council for a joint UN-Arab League observer mission to Syria as government forces resumed for a sixth day assaults on rebellious areas across the country, most notably in the city of Homs, where mortars and rockets were being fired upon anti-government protesters. "I deeply regret that the Security Council has been unable to speak with one clear voice to end the bloodshed," Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a statement, adding that the lack of a Security Council resolution has been "disastrous for the people of Syria." [Reuters](#) (2/9), [The Guardian \(London\)](#) (2/9), [The Washington Post/The Associated Press](#) (2/8) [Share:](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e-mail](#)

Above the Fold

[UNDP: The cost of the Caribbean crime surge](#)

[Prosthetics for India's poor](#)

[Burns are among the perils of open stoves](#)

[Tutu speaks out against child marriage](#)

[Charcoal trade harms Uganda's forests](#)

UNESCO edges toward Syria's ouster

For the first time, UNESCO appeared to be on the verge of expelling a member from its human-rights committee. More than half of the countries on the agency's 58-member executive board were reportedly backing an initiative to dump Syria from the committee over mass violations of human rights during its 10-month campaign against anti-government protesters. [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) (1/25), [The New York Times](#) (tiered subscription model) (1/25) [Share:](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e-mail](#)

Quote of the day



Reducing the reliance on physical cash in the developing world
go.usa.gov/QZQ #BTCAlliance
#mobilemoney #innovation
@mSolutionsUSAID"

[@USAID](#)

UN Dispatch



"The World Food Program and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization sent a fact-finding team to South Sudan last month to examine the state of food security in the world's newest country. They published their findings today and, well, the situation is growing increasingly dire."

[UN Dispatch](#)

Catriona UN bound with Cyprus peace call

REBECCA PUDDY

ADELAIDE University undergraduate Catriona Standfield will fly to Cyprus next month to meet UN negotiators and present her ideas on ways that peace can be achieved on the divided island.

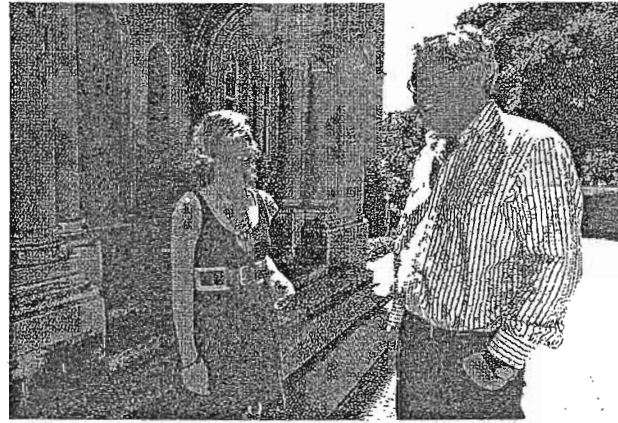
Former foreign minister and now UN peace envoy Alexander Downer will accompany Ms Standfield to Cyprus.

The country has been divided between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots since the Turkish army invaded in 1974.

Ms Standfield, 23, was invited to visit Cyprus with Mr Downer after completing an internship with him as part of her degree, drafting a report on the importance of including Cypriot women in the peacekeeping negotiations.

Mr Downer said Ms Standfield's research could potentially change how the UN approaches the engagement of women.

"Her work has very much impressed the UN, and it's their view



KELLY BARNES

Catriona Standfield and Alexander Downer in Adelaide

there's virtue in this outstanding student coming and joining the UN team in Cyprus for a couple of weeks," he said.

"Engaging in this dialogue with the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots in this peace process run by the UN will not only help the UN fulfil its obligations

to the Security Council, but it will hopefully be the catalyst for some more creative thinking by the Cypriots on what they should do to address gender issues in the peace process."

Mr Downer said the Turkish army occupied 37 per cent of the island and the challenge was to

reunify Cyprus after 37 years of failed negotiations.

Ms Standfield said she had established a strong evidence base for having women involved in negotiations.

But in travelling to a traditional patriarchal society and meeting primarily with older males, she recognised it would be a tough sell to the Cypriots.

"I've gone about it in the most pragmatic way that even the most hard-bitten people can respond to, because there is evidence to back it up," she said.

"I grew up in country South Australia with a lot of chaps who have very traditional views, so it won't be the first time I've seen it."

Mr Downer said involving young people in international affairs was critical to making the UN more effective.

"It's very easy to criticise the UN, but what's difficult is reforming it and making it more relevant. If you can get young people involved in an early stage, it gives a lot of hope for the UN."

The Cyprus parliament on Thursday took the unusual step of rebuking a United Nations envoy over perceived bias that it says is hindering long-running talks to reunify the divided island.

Lawmakers unanimously approved a resolution decrying Alexander Downer's "one-sided and detrimental statements and actions" that they say have eroded his credibility as an impartial facilitator in the talks between rival Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

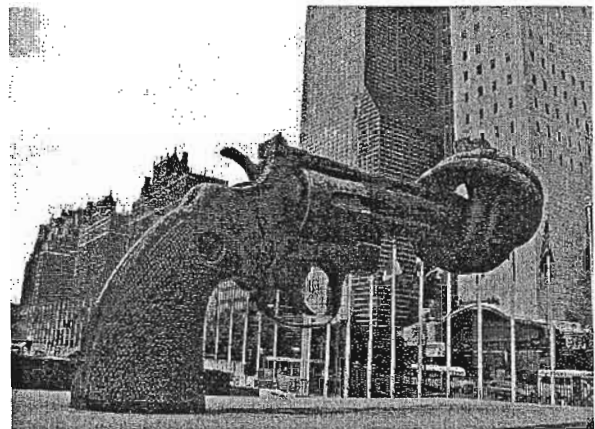
Downer said last month that a peace accord needed to be reached before "Greek Cypriots" take on the "very heavy responsibility" of the European Union's rotating presidency in July.

The use of the term "Greek Cypriots" instead of merely "Cyprus" stirred up a hornet's nest because it was interpreted to be a deliberate attempt to diminish the internationally recognized government in the Greek Cypriot south of the island.

Non- Violence

There is a saying that pictures speak louder than words but with "Non-Violence" it is better to say that sculptures speak louder than words!

"Non-Violence" is the name of the worldwide known sculpture, which is placed in front of the United Nations headquarters in New York. The statue was created by the Swedish artist Carl Fredrik Reuterswärd in 1980 as a memorial tribute to his friend peace-activist John Lennon. One of the first three versions of the artwork was donated to the UN as a gift by the government of Luxembourg in 1988.



Former Secretary-General Kofi Annan once called it a "powerful symbol" with a very sharp message. The sculpture is also known as "Knotted Gun" because although the gun is cocked, the knot in the barrel indicates that it wouldn't fire.

The Swedish artist produced different variations of the piece so that by now one can find Knotted Guns all over the world, for example at the World War II Museum in Caen (France), in a shopping centre in Liverpool (England), at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne (Switzerland), at the Waterfront in Cape Town (South Africa) and in the Peace Park in Beijing (China).

Our Catriona (Standfield) may require all her Diplomatic skills for this one . . .

2012 . . . SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL

2012 . . . CO-OPERATIVES . (Article on Mondragon in April N-L)



United Nations Association
of Australia
South Australian Division Inc.

United Nations Observances

INTERNATIONAL DAYS

FEBRUARY	
4 February	<u>World Cancer Day [WHO]</u>
20 February	<u>World Day of Social Justice</u>
21 February	<u>International Mother Language Day [UNESCO]</u>
MARCH	
8 March	<u>International Women's Day</u> 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 2002 2001
21 March	<u>International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination</u>
21 March	<u>World Poetry Day [UNESCO]</u>
21 March	<u>International Day of Nowruz</u>
21 March	<u>World Down Syndrome Day</u>
22 March	<u>World Water Day</u>
23 March	<u>World Meteorological Day [WMO]</u>
24 March	<u>World Tuberculosis Day [WHO]</u>
24 March	<u>International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims</u>
25 March	<u>International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade</u>
25 March	<u>International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members</u>
APRIL	
2 April	<u>World Autism Awareness Day</u>
4 April	<u>International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action</u>
7 April	<u>Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide</u>
7 April	<u>World Health Day [WHO]</u>



'the best friend on earth of man is the tree. When we use the tree respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources of the earth'
Frank Lloyd Wright



'he who plants a tree plants hope'
Lucy Larcom



'A man does not plant a tree for himself, he plants it for posterity'
Alexander Smith



'I thank God for this most amazing day; for the leaping greenly spirits of trees and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes.'
E E Cummings.



2011 WAS, INTER ALIA, THE U.N.- DESIGNATED YEAR OF FORESTS