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UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Harold E. Stassen Minnesota Chapter

Dedicated to educating and inspiring Minnesotans to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations

June 4, 2020

Dear Chapter Members, Friends and Citizens of Minnesota,

UNA Minnesota Chapter joins the country and world in pain and sadness for the murder of George Floyd. George Floyd's death is part of an appalling history of racist harassment, assault and murder that stretches back far too long in the life of our nation. UNA Minnesota Chapter echoes community leaders and Governor Tim Walz of the State of Minnesota in the call for peaceful protests against injustice.

As the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims, human rights are "humanity's highest aspiration." For our part, as a United Nations family, a culture of human rights must permeate all we do. Human rights are about the dignity and worth of the human person. Human rights are our ultimate tool: to help societies grow in freedom; to ensure equality for not just some people, but all people; to advance sustainable development; to prevent conflict thereby reducing human suffering; and to build a just and equitable world.

Additionally, United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 calls for us to promote peace and end violence, and Goal 10 calls for Reduced Inequalities, including elimination of discriminatory laws, policies and practices. We cannot hope for sustainable development and reform without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance based on the rule of law.

Together, we can begin to end the disproportionate killing of people of color in this country. Together, we can advocate for and support criminal justice reform. Together, we can contribute towards achieving a more equitable society and improving the well-being of communities of color.

United Nations Association of the United States of America, Minnesota Chapter
Board of Directors

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