1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

Hi, I'm [your name], a constituent from [your town/county/city, state]. I am a member of the United Nations Association of the USA, a grassroots movement of Americans dedicated to supporting the vital work of the United Nations. My local chapter is UNA [chapter name].

2. LEAD WITH YOUR STORY.

Why did YOU get involved in UNA-USA?

Why are YOU passionate about the work of the UN?

What UN issues are YOU advocating for in your community?

3. MAKE THE CORE ASK.

You may already know the Biden administration released its budget request for FY’23. It includes several positive proposals that I care about, including providing a $730 million down payment to begin paying back arrears to UN peacekeeping operations that the U.S. has accrued since FY’17.

For over 75 years, the UN has been a critical forum to which the U.S. has repeatedly turned to advance its interests in peace, promote democracy, and help share the load around complex global challenges. Now is the time for the U.S. to lead by the power of our example, work with our allies, and restore our credibility and position on the world’s stage.

That is why I’m asking you to support the President’s budget proposal and ensure we fully fund our UN Peacekeeping and Regular Budget dues.

4. SUPPORT THE ASK WITH FACTS.

You know your Members of Congress and district best. Consider what makes your community unique and how that might motivate your representatives’ decision-making process. Below select 2-3 facts from the 2022 Congressional Briefing Book to support the ask.

5. THANK YOU AND REQUEST A PHOTO

Thank your Member of Congress and/or staffer for meeting with you. You should ask to take a photo with them, and UNA-USA will post it on our social media pages with your permission.

6. SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS

Let us know how your meeting went by filling out our in-district meeting form.
Americans remained overwhelmingly united in their belief that the U.S. needs to maintain an active role in the UN, with 84 percent of voters saying this is “very important” or “somewhat important.”

Even as Americans continue to grapple with the economic impacts of COVID-19 at home, majorities of voters continue to support the U.S. paying our dues for the UN regular budget (63 percent favor) and for UN peacekeeping (68 percent favor) on time and in full.

According to the United Nations Global Marketplace, American companies were awarded more than $1.7 billion in procurement contracts with the UN in 2019 (the most recent year for which data was available), by far the most of any country.

International Maritime Organization (IMO) sets international safety standards for ships, ports, and maritime facilities, and operating requirements. Standards promulgated by IMO are central to the health of the U.S. economy, as more than 90 percent of all international trade is carried out on ships.

Two studies published by the U.S. Government Accountability Office more than a decade apart (in 2006² and 2018³) found that a UN operation is one-eighth the cost to American taxpayers of deploying a comparable U.S. force.

711 million is the U.S. share of the UN regular budget, and it is less than the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma's budget, which is $840 million.

In recent years, U.S. assessments for the UN regular budget, peacekeeping operations, and specialized agencies have amounted to less than $3 billion annually, equivalent to around 0.06 percent of the federal budget.

China is the tenth largest troop-contributor (providing more than the U.S., UK, France, and Russia combined), and the second largest financial contributor. China is seeking to use this expanded profile to articulate its agenda more aggressively at the UN, including by challenging the human rights and civilian protection related aspects of UN peacekeeping mandates.

During the first half of 2021, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reached more than 1.2 million people in Yemen with life-saving reproductive health and protection services and emergency relief, targeting support to women and girls through 118 health facilities and assisting with 344,000 safe births.

In total, UNICEF procured 1.9 billion doses of vaccines for 102 countries and supplied vaccines to reach 45 percent of the world’s children under five.

Hard-fought efforts to alleviate the burden of malaria through rapid scaling up of cost-effective interventions have saved more than 10.6 million lives, averted over 1.7 billion cases of the disease, and decreased the number of malaria endemic countries from 106 in 2000 to 85 in 2021.

In 1998, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme founded the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to provide governments with the best scientific information so policy makers could develop sound climate change policies.