

VOL. 14, NO. 1, 2020

# UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE



## WORLD SUMMIT 2019

Delegation Meets Pope Francis



ISCP Inaugurations



WCLC Clergy Rally





## FROM THE PUBLISHER

**T**his issue of UPF Today features reports on programs convened throughout 2019. It was a busy and fruitful year beginning with World Summit 2019, followed by International Leadership Conferences and Regional Summits in Johannesburg, Korea, São Tomé and Príncipe, Japan, Albania, Cambodia, Dominican Republic, USA, Niger and Palau. We also supported the Spirituality and Justice Initiative of the Coalition of Faith-based Organizations which held programs in Vienna and San Francisco.

The Summit Series is growing and expanding as the flagship program of UPF, bringing together all primary stakeholders and leading figures of UPF's global network of committed peacebuilders. UPF's Founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, presided over and delivered keynote addresses at each Summit.

This issue will feature reports on these significant programs that were received at the highest level in the various countries, including meetings with the presidents and prime ministers of Cambodia, Niger, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

The UPF Regions and our 100-plus chapters around the world are the heart and soul of UPF. It is their programs at the grassroots level that form the root and foundation, as well as the key to the success of UPF. These champions of peace are making a difference, one person at a time, one program at a time. Limitations of space do not allow for reports on the local activities. We ask that our readers go to [www.upf.org](http://www.upf.org) for further information about UPF's worldwide activities. And, if you are not receiving our enews, please write to [info@upf.org](mailto:info@upf.org). Thank you for your interest in and support for the work of UPF. ❖



Dr. Thomas G. Walsh  
Chair, UPF



## UPF TODAY

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO PEACE

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*UPF Today* is the membership magazine of the Universal Peace Federation, founded by Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Envisioning peace as a state of harmonious interdependence among individuals, families, nations and peoples, UPF advocates constructive and original practices that contribute to achieving a unified world of peace, the hope of all ages. The magazine offers a forum for Ambassadors for Peace—fostering human development, good governance, public service, and collaborative peace efforts involving religions, nations and nongovernmental organizations.

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### COVER:

World Summit 2019 Opening Plenary; (bottom photos l. to r.) UPF delegates Dr. Tageldin Hamad, Dr. Thomas Walsh, and H.E. Hisham Badr meeting with Pope Francis; Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon with Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Cambodian Prime Minister; Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon speaks to audience at the Prudential Center arena in Newark, New Jersey

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# WORLD SUMMIT 2019 AND THE INAUGURATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT COUNCIL FOR PEACE

Seoul, Korea | February 7-11, 2019

The 2019 UPF World Summit on “Peace, Security and Human Development” opened with a banquet on February 7, 2019, at the Lotte World Hotel in Seoul, South Korea. Delegates gathered from around the world, representing governments, religious organizations and those active in civil society to share ideas and ways how to contribute towards the building of a world of sustainable and lasting peace.

With the opening program being guided by emcee Dr. William Selig, communications director for UPF International, participants were welcomed with entertainment and greetings. The invocation was given by Ven. Phrasithawatchamethi, deputy abbot of Ratchaburana Grand Temple in Thailand.

Dr. Thomas Walsh, chair of UPF International, presented an overview of the constituent parts of the UPF World Summit that would include an address from the founder of UPF, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon; meetings of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) and the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD); sessions focusing on peace in Northeast Asia and the Korean peninsula and the introduction of the International Summit Council for Peace.

## Opening Plenary and Sessions

The following day, February 8, was a regal event. UPF’s co-founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and 40 current and former heads of state and government entered the ballroom filled with 1,200 participants to resounding applause. After interfaith prayers and the Korean National Anthem performed by the Little Angels, Dr. Thomas Walsh congratulated the participants and set the conference’s tone.

Two government ministers from Korea’s Office of Foreign Affairs spoke about the status of Korean reunification. The president of São Tomé and Príncipe and the governor general of Tuvalu gave welcoming remarks and emphasized spiritual guidance as essential for being able to live in peace.

Hon. Newt Gingrich, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives (1995-1999), praised Pope John Paul II and religious leaders who brought change in Moscow and said, “Religious leaders have the power to change lives for the better and solve problems that politicians cannot.”

Hon. Dick Cheney, vice president of the United States (2001-2009), was introduced by emcee Dr. Michael Jenkins as “a man who stands for peace.” The vice president recalled his many







visits to South Korea when he served as secretary of defense and vice president. He affirmed the U.S.–South Korea alliance, which has endured because “we have shared values.”

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founder of UPF, shared her vision for a world of lasting peace in parallel with the commemoration of the centennial of Korea’s March 1st resistance movement during the rule of Korea by Japan. She called the participants “peacemakers, historical people and pioneers in building God’s kingdom.” Her message of hope and love touched the hearts of participants.

A cornerstone of the opening plenary was the introduction of the International Summit Council for Peace, a new association of current and former heads of state as well as government and world leaders.

Dr. Moon presented ISCP Distinguished Award medals to attending dignitaries and then signed the resolution establishing the ISCP along with all the leaders to introduce the initiative, which will join the sister organizations of IAPP and IAPD as projects of UPF.

Session II included keynote addresses from the current and former heads of state and government who shared their personal ideas and practical solutions to build peace.

Current First Ladies Patricia Marroquin of Guatemala and Debbie Remengasau of Palau spoke about gender equality and the need for respect and love as the foundation for world peace. Hon. José Barroso, who served as president of the European Commission (2004-14) and prime minister of Portugal (2002-04) spoke about the important regional benefits of intergovernmental cooperation and NGO organizations.

H.E. Karim Khalili, vice president (2004-2014) of Afghanistan, thanked UPF for the opportunity to discuss peace, security and human development and for its emphasis on peaceful dialogue. H.E. Jaime Paz Zamora, president (1989-1993) of Bolivia, expressed his enthusiasm for the conference especially peace and love. He explained that his middle name, Paz, means “peace,” and the middle of his family name is amor, which means love.

Afterwards, Session III constituted concurrent sessions of IAPP and IAPD.

World Summit 2019, the latest milestone in a series of conferences convened by UPF, moved ahead the next day with more than 100 speakers addressing the theme: “The Critical Challenges of our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values.”







## International Conference on Peace in the Korean Peninsula

– jointly sponsored by Segye Ilbo and The Washington Times

Welcoming remarks were given by Mr. Jung Hee Taeg, president and CEO of Segye Ilbo, and Mr. Thomas McDevitt, chairman of The Washington Times. Mr. Jung announced that the newspaper, founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Mr. Thomas P. McDevitt quoted the Times' founder, who said: "The media should be the conscience of society."

Special Remarks were given by Hon. Lee Nak Yon, Hon. Park Byeong Seug, and Hon. Won Yoo Chul.

Hon. Lee Nak Yon, prime minister, Republic of Korea, spoke about the relations between ROK and North Korea since the Olympic Games, including the Inter-Korean summits, the North Korea–U.S. Singapore Summit in June and the upcoming summit in Vietnam. "The South Korean government will steadily and wisely make progress for the Korean Peninsula peace process with support from the international community, including the U.S., China, Japan and Russia."

Hon. Park Byeong Seug, member and former vice-chairman of the National Assembly, said that President Moon has exerted effort to establish peace on the Korean peninsula. The nuclear issue is not just for the peninsula but can be a threat to the entire world community.

Hon. Won Yoo Chul, member, National Assembly, Republic of Korea offered congratulations to the Segye Ilbo. The assemblyman expressed hope that North Korea will renounce its nuclear ambitions.

Hon. Stephen Harper, prime minister (2006-2015) of Canada, recalled past visits to Korea, in particular, on the occasion of the Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement signed in 2014. He expressed concern for the North's nuclear weapons program. The Prime Minister said negotiations must be realistic and tough. "We cannot back down on the call to end their nuclear weapons and human rights violations."

Amb. Christopher Hill, U.S. ambassador to Korea (2004-2005), thanked Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for her vision and support, and The Washington Times and the Segye Times for hosting the program. "The division of the Korean peninsula remains the great unfinished business of the 21st century." The Ambassador said the main objectives are denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and support of the longstanding U.S.-South Korea alliance.

Dr. Michael Jenkins, regional chairman UPF North America, served as moderator for the next session on "Denuclearization in North Korea and the Future of the Korea-U.S. Alliance." Dr. Woo Jeong Yeop, director of Security Strategy Studies, Sejong Research Institute expressed great anticipation for the second summit between President Trump and Chairman Kim.





Amb. Joseph R. DeTrani, U.S. envoy (2005-2006) to the Six-Party Talks reminded the audience how close we were to war with North Korea in 2017. The U.S. objective has not changed – complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization and a verification protocol. He said the West must be willing to put something on the negotiating table, for example, formally ending the Korean War, lifting of sanctions or economic support. “We are prepared to have actions for actions.”

Mr. Yeoul Soo Kim, director of Security Strategy, Korea Institute for Military Affairs, spoke about the need to have a clear roadmap to denuclearization beginning with the dismantlement of the Yeongbyeon nuclear facilities and the demolition of the ICBMs.

Hon. Ted Poe, U.S. House of Representatives (2005-2019), reminded the audience of America’s commitment to its allies by quoting President Kennedy, who said, “Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

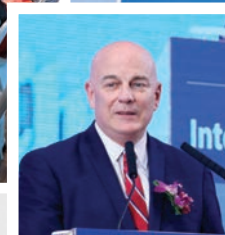
Mr. Cho Tae Yong, former senior director of National

Security, Blue House, acted as moderator for the next session, “Strategies for Peaceful Reunification on the Korean Peninsula and the ‘New Order’ in Northeast Asia.”

Dr. Alexandre Mansourov, professor of security studies, Georgetown University, said we should not over-estimate the North Korean negotiations or underestimate our own able diplomats. As former president Kennedy said, “Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate.”

Dr. Nam Seong Wook, professor, Reunification and Foreign Affairs Studies, Korea University; former director, National Institute of Security and Strategic Studies, showed that the best scenario would be sincere denuclearization, complete sanctions relief, declaration of permanent ceasefire and peace agreement, establishment of diplomatic relations with the U.S., establishment of a Washington-Pyongyang liaison office with full diplomatic ties, and lastly, a Nobel Peace Prize to Donald Trump, Kim Jong-un and Moon Jae-in.

Hon. Cheon Shik Kim, deputy minister of Unification, (2011-2013), Korea, explained that “the Korean people have sought autonomous independence and international peace ever





since its period of Japanese imperialism.” This basic shared value between the people of North and South Korea can be a beginning point for discussions.

Hon. Dan Burton, U.S. Congressman, (1983-2013) said it’s important to learn from history. He recalled the media “went nuts” when President Ronald Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as “an evil empire.” Reagan pledged to pursue a policy of “peace through strength.” He understood that the only way to deal with a totalitarian government is by being strong.

Session V provided a platform for the Sunhak laureates to address the 2019 peace prize theme, “Africa’s human rights and human development.” Ms. Waris Dirie, former UN Special Ambassador for the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation, has dedicated her life to ending this procedure, which is imposed upon 98% of the women in her homeland of Somalia. Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, president, African Development Bank, spoke on the issues of global hunger and income inequality.

Session VI featured keynote addresses from former heads of state and government representing 11 nations. The moderator was Dr. Charles S. Yang, UPF regional president, Central America and the Caribbean. Speakers included: H.E. Stanislav Shushkevich, president (1991-1994), Belarus; H.E. Zivko Budimir, president (2011-2015), Bosnia and Herzegovina; H.E. Rosalia Arteaga, president (1998), Ecuador; H.E. Jocelerme

Privert, president (2016-2017), Haiti; H.E. Jerry Rawlings, president (1981-2001), Ghana; H.E. Dalia Itzik, president (2007), Israel, Dr. Bajram Kosumi, prime minister (2005-2006), Kosovo; Rt. Hon. Kwassi Klutse, prime minister (1996-1999), Togo, H.E. Samiu Vaipulu, deputy prime minister (2010-2014), Tonga; Rt. Hon. Sir James Mitchell, prime minister (1984-2000), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; and Hon. Varney A. Sirleaf, minister, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Liberia. Minister Sirleaf read a message from H.E. George Weah, president of Liberia.

## Founder’s Birthday Celebration

The Founders were honored at a spectacular birthday celebration at the Cheongshim Peace World Center on February 10th with dazzling entertainment, congratulatory remarks, a delicious lunch with Korean delicacies and the wonderful presence of Dr. Moon who graciously appreciated everyone’s outpouring of love and affection.

H.E. Anote Tong, former president of Kiribati and Sunhak Peace Prize laureate, gave congratulatory remarks to the founders of UPF.

World Summit 2019 concluded with an evening banquet featuring two members of parliament from Europe and South America, a government minister from Africa, and a representative from the Druze religion and UNESCO. In response to the question Where do we go from here?, Dr. Walsh, UPF International chair explained there will be regional level summits leading up to World Summit 2020, in January 2020, which will feature the centenary of the Founder, Rev. Sun Myung Moon. ❖

– Written by Dr. Oliver Davies and  
Dr. William Selig,  
Director of Communications,  
UPF International

To read more about this summit,  
please visit [UPF.org/article/8344](http://UPF.org/article/8344) and [article/8345](http://article/8345)





# THE 2019 SUNHAK PEACE PRIZE CEREMONY

Seoul, Korea | February 9, 2019

Over 1,200 guests and leaders from around the globe, including current and former heads of state, gathered in Seoul, Korea, to honor the recipients of the third Sunhak Peace Prize. This year, the prize was awarded based on the theme “Peace and Human Development in Africa.” From the hundreds of nominees, two were selected who, through their work and dedication, embodied the Founders’ vision of “One Family Under God” and “Making the World Better for Future Generations.”

Dr. Il Sik Hong, chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee opened the session by expressing his sincere admiration of the laureates, emphasizing that peace can be achieved only when everyone’s human rights can be protected and respected. Dr. Hong proudly expressed that this year’s laureates have dedicated their lives to protecting the most vulnerable people in Africa and the world.

Laureate **Dr. Akinwumi Adesina**, president of the African Development Bank, has promoted a vision of good governance for African nations. He has implemented innovative agricultural and anticorruption policies in Nigeria and all across Africa.

Laureate **Waris Dirie** has improved the rights of millions of girls and women by leading a campaign to eradicate the tragic act of female genital mutilation. Moving video presentations were played to a captive audience highlighting the achievements and visions of those whom she has helped.

Dr. Adesina started his acceptance speech by commending the founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, for setting up the Sunhak Peace Prize to underscore her work to make the world a better

place. Dr. Adesina expressed his driving belief that there cannot be peace in a world that is hungry. “When the ego and pride of the mighty clash, the consequences are felt by the weakest among us: children. They do not create wars, but the world’s children suffer the most from them.” In order to achieve his goal, Dr. Adesina had to fight corruption, cutting off middlemen who for decades benefitted from government contracts while the poor were drained. He announced that he is donating the whole of the \$500,000 award of the Sunhak Peace Prize to his foundation, the World Hunger Fighters Foundation, to carry on “the Lord’s request to provide ‘daily bread’ for everyone around our world.”

Ms. Waris Dirie, Somali-born human rights activist against female genital mutilation, opened with her very first childhood memory: violence against her mother. The instinct that there was no good in what she saw put her on the quest for peace. In the family, between neighbors, friends, nations and the world, she explained, the problems of female genital mutilation and all other injustices are issues of respect: “Everyone deserves respect from each other. We don’t learn that lesson from the recurring history of violence and abuse. Mother nature is sick, people are greedy; we hurt each other. All have the same root cause.” Ms. Dirie called on the audience to leave a better world for future generations, which we can accomplish through understanding, respect and acceptance.

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn, president of the World Food Prize Foundation, gave a congratulatory message. As the second decade of the 21st century draws to a close, it







is clear, he said, that the single greatest challenge that the human species has ever confronted is to nutritiously and sustainably feed the 9 to 10 billion people who will be on Earth by the year 2050, especially given the impact of climate change and global events.

Ambassador Quinn went on to say that essential to fulfilling these challenges is preserving and elevating the human dignity of all, particularly the poorest and most malnourished, among them, women and children. Of all the world's regions, Africa offers the most difficult challenge of harmonizing all these diverse factors due to its broad array of geographic subdivisions and multiple political leaders.

H.E. Syenab Abdi Moallim, first lady of Somalia, started her congratulatory speech by reflecting on the thousands of years that the cruel act of female genital mutilation has been practiced. She explained that in the face of many threats against Ms. Dirie, she has persisted in devoting her life to improve the lives of girls and women, at the risk of her own life. Although being a victim herself, Ms. Dirie became a supermodel and used her fame to fight against this cruel

practice. First Lady Moallim expressed sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Dirie, who has been walking this path alone. "Ms. Dirie, now you are not alone. I want to join you in building a world of peace."

To finish the session, First Lady Moallim congratulated the Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation on awarding individuals and organizations that live for the sake of others and for the benefit of future generations. She observed that this is the vision of Reverend and Dr. Moon, whose ideals are embodied in this prize.

The program ended with an uplifting collaboration of entertainment that featured peace-themed dances by the Expression Crew, singing by Sohyun Kim and Joon-ho Son, and the finale with The Little Angels in "Circle of Life." For more information about the Sunhak Peace Prize and this year's laureates, please visit [sunhakpeaceprize.org](http://sunhakpeaceprize.org). ❖

– Written by UPF International

*This report can be found at [UPF.org/article/8343](http://UPF.org/article/8343)*





# TOWARD PEACE AND SECURITY IN NORTHEAST ASIA

## CO-SPONSORED BY THE WASHINGTON TIMES, SEGYE ILBO AND THE SEKAI NIPPO

Seoul, Korea | May 15-17, 2019

UPF's International Leadership Conference convened on the theme "Toward Peace and Security in Northeast Asia: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values."

The conference, which was held in the Lotte Hotel in Seoul from May 15 to 17, 2019, was attended by 80 senior experts in Northeast Asian and Korean affairs from Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and Russia, and more than 200 distinguished local guests, including the mayor of Seoul and members of South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Conference highlights included: (1) a discussion relating to peace and security in Northeast Asia; (2) a proposal for North and South Korea to jointly host the 2032 Summer Olympic Games; (3) an update on the International Peace Highway; and (4) support for a rally calling for the peaceful reunification of the peninsula, featuring UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

The opening dinner featured such prominent speakers as Hon. Kim Gyo-hwan, a member of the Republic of Korea (ROK) National Assembly; Hon. Dan Burton, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1983-2013); Ambassador Chung Tae-ik, the honorary president of the Korean Council on Foreign Relations (2014-2016); Hon. Yoshinori Ohno, the Japanese minister of defense (2004-2005); and Mr. Charles Hurt, opinion editor and columnist, The Washington Times.

Speakers at the Opening Plenary, dealing with the theme "Toward Peace and Security in Northeast Asia," were Hon. Joo Seung-yong, the vice speaker of the ROK National Assembly; Hon. Yoon Sang-hyun, the chair of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the ROK National Assembly; Hon. Suh Choo-suk, the ROK vice minister of national defense; Ambassador Joseph DeTrani, special envoy (2003-2006) for the Six-Party Talks with North Korea, U.S. Department of State; Mr. Fred Fleitz, the president and CEO of the Center for Security Policy, United States; Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Noboru Yamaguchi, professor and vice president, International University of Japan; Dr. Son Gi-woong, the president of the Korea Association of DMZ Studies, Korea; and Dr. Alexander Zhebin, the director of the Center for Korean Studies at the Institute of Far Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences.

In Session II, "Korea, Japan and USA: Strengthening an Alliance for Peace," the panelists were Ambassador Cho Tae-yong, the ROK vice minister of foreign affairs (2014-2015); Mr. Humphrey Hawksley, world affairs correspondent, BBC of London and the former BBC Beijing bureau chief, United Kingdom; Mr. Kevin Maher, a senior advisor, NMV Consulting, and director of the Office of Japanese Affairs, U.S. Department of State (2009-2011); Hon. Hirohisa Takagi, a member of Japan's House of Representatives, National Diet (2012-2017); and Hon. Tae Young-ho, former North Korean deputy ambassador to the United Kingdom, who defected to the Republic of Korea in 2016.







In Session III, “Special Keynote Speakers,” the speakers were Hon. Park Won-soon, the mayor of Seoul; and Mr. James Rogers, a businessman and financial commentator, Singapore. The mayor, who is very well known as a human rights activist, gave a very pro-business presentation about why Seoul is an ideal city for investment and start ups. Mr. James Rogers, a prominent investor who started a hedge fund, spoke about the potential and investment opportunities on the Korean Peninsula.

The speakers for Session IV, “Security Briefings: Threats and Opportunities,” were Professor Cho Myung-chul, a professor at Sun Moon University, South Korea, and a former professor at Kim Il Sung University, North Korea; Mr. Bill Gertz, a journalist at The Washington Times and The Washington Free Beacon, United States; Vice Admiral (Ret.) Fumio Ota, the director of Japan’s Defense Intelligence Headquarters (2001-2005); and Ambassador R. James Woolsey Jr., the director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (1993-1995).

In Session V, “Exploring the Path to Peaceful Re-Unification of the Korean Peninsula,” the speakers were Professor Kim Hyung-suk, the vice minister of unification at the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2016-2017) and a professor at Daejin University, South Korea; Dr. Atsushi Ijuin, the lead economist at the Japan Center for Economic Research; Mr. Bruce Klingner, senior research fellow on Northeast Asia at the Heritage Foundation’s Asian Studies Center, United States;

and Dr. Alexander Mansourov, a professor of security studies at Georgetown University, United States.

In Session VI: “Where Do We Go from Here?” the speakers were Professor Yoshimitsu Nishikawa of the Faculty of Regional Development Studies, Toyo University, Japan; Dr. Alexander Vorontsov, head of the Department for Korean and Mongolian Studies at the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences; Dr. Tadashi Kimiya, a professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan; Dr. Barbara Finkelstein, professor emeritus, University of Maryland, United States; and Hon. Ek Nath Dhakal, minister of peace and reconstruction (2015-2016), Nepal.

After lunch, the participants attended a rally calling for the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula. The event was held at the Korea International Exhibition Center (KINTEX) in the suburbs of Seoul. The keynote speaker was UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and included congratulatory remarks from former U.S. Congressman Dan Burton and former CIA Director Ambassador R. James Woolsey Jr. ❖

– Written by UPF International

To read more about this conference, please visit [UPF.org/article/8477](http://UPF.org/article/8477)







# AFRICA SUMMIT CONVENES IN JOHANNESBURG

Johannesburg, South Africa | June 7-8, 2019

**T**he African Summit and Leaders' Conference 2019 (ASLC) convened June 7 and 8, 2019, at the Hilton Sandton hotel under the theme "Building a Peaceful and Prosperous Africa Centered on Universal Values." More than 450 participants representing 60 nations, including many former heads of state and government, parliamentarians and religious leaders from all faith traditions, attended the event.

The ASLC was dedicated to: (1) the regional inauguration of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP), (2) an update on the projects for a Heavenly Africa and UPF activities, (3) providing a forum for the participants to partner together and discuss ways to address today's challenges, and (4) a celebration of the UN-designated Global Day of Parents 2019 at the Interfaith Family Blessing Festival.

The international and national participants included 12 former heads of state, deputy presidents, heads of government and first ladies; 11 government ministers; 6 vice presidents of National Assemblies; 35 members of parliament; 130 traditional rulers (kings and queens); 101 religious leaders; 10 members of the international media; and more than 100 women and civil society leaders.

On Friday morning, June 7, Mr. Adama Doumbia, the regional secretary general of UPF Africa and emcee for the Opening Plenary, introduced the well-known singer Khanyo Maphumulo, who sang the South African national anthem to officially open the program. Interfaith prayers were offered by Bishop Isaac Idahosa Odir, founding Bishop, God First Ministries of Nigeria and Mrs. Gafsah Mahlangu, director of the International Sufi School of South Africa.

Next came welcoming remarks from several royal houses. Prince Thulani,

representing the Zulu kingdom, thanked UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and Dr. Prophet Radebe, the founder of Inkululeko Yesizwe Association, for organizing the conference and expressed his support for the work "to revive the great African traditions and values."

HM Willard Mswati Gomani V, king of the Maseko Ngoni clan in Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania, reminded the distinguished gathering that throughout history "prophets and kings have worked together to restore peace, development and unity among our people." King Jobe Radebe, representing the amaHlubi Kingdom and King Langalibalele, expressed total support "to restore African-ness and African indigenous beliefs." Then Mrs. Kathy Rigney, who has been working in Africa for 45 years and serves as regional chair of UPF Africa, offered welcoming remarks and a conference overview.

Dr. Prophet Radebe, founder of Inkululeko Yesizwe Association, founder of The Church of Revelation of God and president of UPF-South Africa, explained that the reason he decided to partner with UPF is because he agrees with the saying "two birds of the same feather flock together. You always surround yourself with people of the same vision, people who inspire you, not people who put you down."

Representing South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, H.E. Samson Gwede Mantashe, chair of the African National Congress (ANC), South Africa's governing political party, and minister of energy and mineral resources, emphasized the need to address the challenges facing the people, including, "first, high levels of unemployment, poverty and inequality; second, South Africa is not an island—it is part of this great continent of Africa; and third, the divisions that are based on







colonial background, demonstrated by very little interaction between the Francophone and the Anglophone countries.”

H.E. Mahamane Ousmane, president of Niger (1993-1996), addressed the topic of leadership and noted how the world is dealing with the transition from a bipolar world to a multipolar system. Beside challenges that mirror those found around the world—for example, climate change, extremism, education, environment, terrorism—Africa also faces the issue of water security, which impacts the quality of life.

H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, president of Nigeria (2010-2015), who welcomed and met personally with Father and Mother Moon in 2011 when he was president, has been a strong supporter of UPF dating back to his time as governor of the state of Bayelsa. President Jonathan served as the head of the observer mission that was responsible to oversee South Africa’s recent general elections.

H.E. Dioncounda Traoré, president of Mali (2012-2013), introduced the founder, known respectfully as Mother Moon. Since her husband’s passing seven years ago, she has “ably headed one of the largest and most significant movements of the 21st century.” Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon was warmly welcomed with cheers and applause.

The UPF co-founder immediately won the hearts of the audience when she declared, “We have all gathered here because we believe in God, and in particular, God loves Africa!” She gave a brilliant exposition of religious history centered on Jesus Christ and Christianity and her view that “the solutions to humanity’s problems lie in truly understanding God.” Dr. Moon expressed her hope that South Africa and Africa can become models of true love, which is to live for the sake of others, and she invited the participants to “stand in the position of leaders who can build a beautiful future for our descendants.”

H.E. Kwassi Klutse, former prime minister of Togo (1996-1999), and his wife then presented flowers to Dr. Moon. Dr. Thomas Walsh, chair of UPF International, explained the background and purpose for the inauguration of the African chapter of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP). The heads of state and dignitaries were invited to the stage to sign the resolution supporting the ISCP. Dr. Moon presented to each of them the official medal of the ISCP. Lastly, H.E. Goodluck Jonathan was appointed as the chair for Africa of this new organization.

On the afternoon of June 8, the participants attended the Interfaith Peace and Family Blessing Festival at the Orlando Stadium. That program was co-hosted by Universal Peace Federation, its affiliated organization Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, and the South Africa Interfaith Associations. ❖

– Written by Dr. Paterne Zinsou,  
Secretary General, UPF-Africa  
and UPF International

To read more about this summit,  
please visit [UPF.org/article/8512](http://UPF.org/article/8512)







## UPF DELEGATION MEETS WITH POPE FRANCIS AT VATICAN

Vatican City | July 1, 2019

A delegation from UPF International had a private meeting with His Holiness Pope Francis at the pope's office in the Vatican.

The delegation consisted of Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, the chair of UPF International; Dr. Tageldin Hamad, vice president of UPF International; and H.E. Hisham Badr, the ambassador of Egypt to Italy and the president of the World Food Programme Executive Board.

The meeting took place on July 1, 2019, in the pope's office around a simple desk with His Holiness, the UPF delegates, and an interpreter.

Pope Francis has been a leading advocate for many of the same ideals and values that UPF also embraces, such as the promotion of interreligious dialogue through the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue; strengthening the family through the Pontifical Council for the Family; and care for the environment, as evidenced in the pope's encyclical *Laudato si'* ("Praise Be to You"), on care for our common home.

On several occasions UPF has participated in programs at the Vatican, such as the special consultation on the crisis in Syria, convened by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in 2014; the 50th anniversary program in honor of *Nostra aetate* ("In Our Time"), the 1965 encyclical of Pope Paul VI that opened the way for more respectful engagement between Catholics and people of other faiths; and an ongoing collaboration with the Holy See Mission to the United Nations in New York.

In his opening remarks, the pope underscored the importance of peace. He spoke with deep concern about the hypocrisy of those who speak of peace but sell weapons of war. He expressed genuine appreciation for all those who work for peace.

During the meeting, Pope Francis was briefed on recent developments and programs of UPF, including International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, and the effort to engage all sectors, a principle that he wholeheartedly affirmed. The UPF delegation summarized the organization's global work, based on the vision of the founders.

His Holiness spoke of the importance of prayer and of the family. He then related the background of the Document on







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Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together that resulted from a collaborative effort between Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar on February 4, 2019, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The document invites “all persons who have faith in God and faith in human fraternity to unite and work together so that it may serve as a guide for future generations to advance a culture of mutual respect in the awareness of the great divine grace that makes all human beings brothers and sisters.” The pope presented each member of the delegation with a copy of the document.

Pope Francis is not only a man of great intellectual capacity but equally a man of the heart, with a passion for people and a passion for peace. He was eager to encourage the UPF

delegation, and, as is his custom, he asked that we pray for him.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion about the UPF World Summit 2020, scheduled for February 2020.

We trust that this important meeting will serve to enhance and strengthen the relationship between UPF and the Catholic Church. Members of the delegation made it very clear to Pope Francis that we want to be supportive and to contribute to advancing mutual concerns for peace for all humanity. ❖

– Written by UPF International

*This report can be found online at [UPF.org/article/8562](https://upf.org/article/8562)*





# INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE LOOKS TOWARD WORLD SUMMIT 2020

Seoul, Korea | August 15-18, 2019

**M**ore than 300 participants from 60 nations met from August 15 to 18, 2019, to prepare for World Summit 2020.

Sponsored by UPF, the International Leadership Conference was held concurrently with an international conference hosted by the HJ Magnolia Foundation, a new umbrella organization for the worldwide business side of the Unification movement. Delegates also were invited to a commemoration of the seventh anniversary of the passing of UPF co-founder Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

At the Opening Banquet, UPF International Chair Dr. Thomas G. Walsh and Hon. Lim Jong-seong, a member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea, gave welcoming remarks.

President Sun Jin Moon, the international president of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification International, warmly welcomed everyone on behalf of her mother, UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Speakers included Hon. Yoshinori Ohno, Japanese minister of defense (2004-2005); Hon. Georgina de Venecia, a former member of the Philippine House of Representatives and a former president of the Association of Women Legislators, Philippine House of Representatives; H.E. Suos Yara, a member of the National Assembly of Cambodia; and Hon. John Doolittle, the North American chair of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), a UPF initiative, and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1991-2009).

The Opening Plenary featured remarks from some of the leading figures involved in preparations for World Summit 2020 and included a reading of the Founder's Address. In addition, plans were introduced to develop the International Association for Peace and Economic Development, which builds on the foundation of the HJ Magnolia Foundation, as an association of business leaders, entrepreneurs and investors.

The speakers were H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, the president of Nigeria (2010-2015); H.E. Jaime Paz Zamora, president of Bolivia (1989-1993); Dr. Delfim Santiago das Neves, president of the National Assembly of São Tomé and Príncipe; Hon. Matt Salmon, member of the U.S. House of Representatives (1995-2001, 2013-2017); and Mr. James Rogers, the chair of Rogers Holdings and Beeland Interests Inc., Singapore.

The Founder's Address was delivered by Dr. Young Ho Yun, the secretary general of FFWPU International. In her

speech Mother Moon said, "Only when we recognize God as our Parent, can we be one family. This has been the dream of Heavenly Parent since the beginning of time."

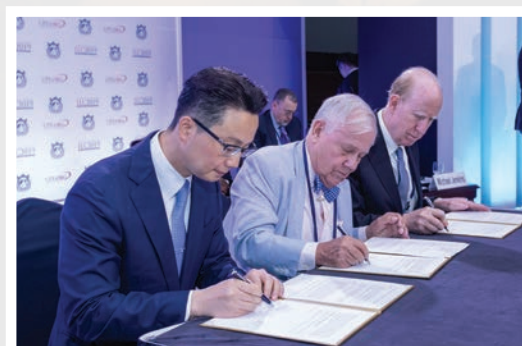
In Session II, Dr. Thomas Walsh gave an overview of World Summit 2020, which will be held in Seoul from February 3 to 7, 2020, and will honor the centenary of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon (1920-2012).

Three new organizations will be launched at the summit: the International Media Association for Peace, the International Association for Peace and Economic Development, and the International Association of Academicians for Peace. The summit also will include the fourth Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony.

Session III featured updates from the UPF regions and Session IV was devoted to working groups meeting by sector. In the group on the International Summit Council for Peace and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, the speakers were H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, president of Nigeria (2010-15) and president of ISCP-Africa; Hon. Jose de Venecia Jr., the special envoy of the Philippine president to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and international co-chair of IAPP; H.E. Jaime Paz Zamora, president of Bolivia (1989-1993); Hon. José A. Jiménez, president of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica (2016-2017); Hon. Yehiel "Hilik" Bar, former deputy speaker of the Knesset in Israel; Hon. Yoichi Anami of Japan's House of Representatives; Mr. Oraib Mohammed Al Rantawi, general director of the Al Quds Center for Political Studies in Jordan; Mr. Abdourahaman Zakaria, ministerial spokesperson for the government of Niger; Hon. Cynthia Tarragó Diaz, a member of the Legislative Assembly of Paraguay; and Dr. Delfim Santiago das Neves, president of the National Assembly of São Tomé and Príncipe.

The working group on the International Media Association for Peace included presentations by Mr. Kosh Raj Koirala, a senior correspondent of Nepal Republic Media Limited; Mr. Ikechukwu Eze, a media adviser to the Goodluck Jonathan Foundation in Nigeria; Mr. Frederico Umbelina, director of the public television channel Televisão São-Tomense, São Tomé and Príncipe; Mr. Masahiro Kuroki, the president of the Japanese newspaper Sekai Nippo; and Mrs. Mirilda Tili, a journalist from Fax News in Albania.

For Session V, the participants traveled to the Cheongshim







Peace World Center, about one hour east of Seoul, to commemorate, together with more than 30,000 FFWPU members, the seventh anniversary of the passing of the UPF co-founder. The program, which was live-streamed to over 190 nations, included a commemorative address given by Sun Jin Moon and a heartwarming letter from Mother Moon to her beloved late husband. H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, former president of Nigeria, gave a memorial address. Entertainment included a performance by renowned tenor Paul Potts.

Session VI again was dedicated to working groups by sector. In the group on the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, the speakers included Acharya Srivasta Goswami, the head priest of Sri Radharamana Temple, India; Rev. Yoshio Kawakami, professor emeritus, Tezukayama Gakuin University, Japan; Rev. Cerge Changa, a minister with Partners in Mission, Zambia; and Rev. Hjörtur Magni Jóhannsson, the minister and director of Reykjavík Lutheran Free Church by the Pond, Iceland.

In the working group on International Association of Academicians for Peace the speakers included Professor Antonio Stango, the president of the Italian Federation for Human Rights; Professor Masahisa Hayashi, professor emeritus, Waseda University, Japan; Professor Crispus Makau Kiamba, a member of the faculty at the University of Nairobi, Kenya; Hon. Hak-Kim Ng, secretary for education (2012-2017), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China; Dr. Sergey Dvoryanov, lecturer at the Department of Humanities and

Socio-Political Sciences, Moscow State Technical University, Russia; Ven. Professor Medagampitiye Wijithadhamma, head of the Department of Pali and Buddhist Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka; and Dr. Alexandre Mansourov, professor of security studies, Georgetown University, United States ❖

– Written by UPF International

Mark Brann, Peter Zoehrer, Robin Marsh, Gregory Stone and Aidan Walsh contributed to this report.

To read more about this summit, please visit [UPF.org/article/8629](http://UPF.org/article/8629)







# SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE SUMMIT INAUGURATES REGIONAL ISCP

*São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe | September 4-6, 2019*



**O**n September 5, 2019, the São Tomé and Príncipe Summit brought together over 800 political and religious representatives from 27 African countries, focusing on “Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values.”

After arriving in São Tomé on September 4, UPF Co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon was greeted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and escorted to the Presidential Palace, where she met the president of São Tomé and Príncipe, Evaristo Carvalho. Speaking to the media there, she said, “If every country attends Heavenly Parent and True Parents, all countries will be brothers and sisters, and all will be united into one. When that happens, there will be no more war or conflict on earth.”

The Summit opened the next day at the National Assembly Hall. Present were President Carvalho, Prime Minister Jorge Jesus, the president of the National Assembly, 55 deputies, 15 ministers, and current and former heads of state. After being welcomed by the president, Dr. Moon gave her Keynote Address, saying “If São Tomé and Príncipe becomes a heavenly nation that serves Heavenly Parent and its people become blessed families and children that God can embrace, this nation will become the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.” She concluded her address by thanking the president and government ministers for their cooperation.

The Summit continued with Dr. Moon’s presentation of medals to newly elected members of the São Tomé and Príncipe International Summit Council for Peace. At the conclusion, the São Tomé and Príncipe Declaration was read aloud and signed by Dr. Moon and representative dignitaries. The day’s events were finished by a festive banquet.







The following day, 6,000 couples received the World Peace Blessing at the Hyojeong True Family Festival at the National Assembly. President Carvalhal was again in attendance and received from Dr. Moon UPF's Leadership and Good Governance Award. Also offered were plaques of appreciation to the prime minister and parliamentarians in attendance.

Activities concluded with a rally and entertainment at a Youth and Students for Peace festival, with over 40,000 youth, the prime minister, and other government ministers in attendance.

The summit and related events were covered by 14 news outlets, with live broadcasts of Dr. Moon's visit to the Presidential Palace, the September 5 summit, the Hyojeong True Family Festival, and the Youth and Students for Peace festival. ❖

– Written by UPF International





# JAPAN SUMMIT AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Nagoya, Japan | October 5-6, 2019

UPF convened the inaugural Japan Summit and Leadership Conference on October 5, 2019, at the Hotel Nagoya Castle in Nagoya. Seven hundred and fifty political, religious, civil society, media and academic leaders and representatives from Korea, the U.S., Taiwan and other countries around the world gathered for the one-day conference. The theme was “Pacific Civilization Era – Peace in East Asia and Prospects for Japan-Korea-U.S. Cooperation.”

The opening plenary of the JSLC 2019 began with a video about the worldwide activities of UPF, which was followed by prayers offered by four religious leaders representing Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Shinto.

On behalf of the organizers, Mr. Masayoshi Kajikuri, president of UPF-Japan, gave the welcoming address in which he said civilization has shifted from the Atlantic Era to the Pacific Era, and that “From the perspective of human history, Japan, Korea and the U.S. share the important mission of establishing a civilization of peace.”

Speeches by key figures from Japan, Korea and the U.S. followed. A member of the Japanese Diet said he was grateful that amidst the declining relationship between Japan and Korea, the summit was being held to strengthen cooperation between Japan, Korea and the U.S. He also praised the efforts of UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for trying to resolve environmental issues from the aspect of science, pointing out that she resumed the International Conference for the Unity of the Sciences (ICUS) for the first time in 17 years.

The guest of honor, former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich, in his keynote address pointed

out that although the international community has been making various efforts to achieve world peace since the end of World War II, peace has been transient, and that the social system itself is fragile. He said it is important to find ways to build peace through dialogue so that our descendants can live safe and abundant lives.

Next, Dr. Moon, in her keynote address, said that the truth of history must be revealed. She pointed out the limitations of a world created centered on human beings, and spoke about God’s painful heart looking at such a world. She emphasized people must change in order to realize the world of peace that humanity desires.

Dr. Moon also mentioned that politics and religion must unite, and that politicians must become owners that guide the people with a parental heart, listening to God’s voice, and knowing God’s dreams and wishes. She spoke about the responsibility and attitude we should have towards the worsening global environmental issues.

Through Dr. Moon’s address, participants were able to reconfirm the necessity to strengthen the cooperation of the Asia-Pacific community in the Pacific Civilization Era. On this foundation, the Nagoya Declaration, which advocates making efforts to create a global peace civilization of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values with Japan, Korea and the U.S. as its axis, was adopted and then signed by the various leaders and representatives who participated in the summit.

The theme for Session 1 was “Peace in East Asia and Prospects for Japan-Korea-U.S. Cooperation.” The session began with the moderator, Dr. Kazuo Takahashi, a former professor of the International Christian University in Japan, explaining the purpose of the session. Panelists from Japan, Korea, the U.S. and Nepal gave speeches. The panelist from Japan, a member of the Japanese Diet, said that the Cold War has not ended yet, and explained the threat of communism. He emphasized a strong alliance between Japan, Korea and the U.S. is crucial







Dr. Ji Choong Nam, a research professor at the Department of Global Diaspora Studies in Chonnam National University in Korea, explained that Korea's total fertility rate is currently below one and noted the effectiveness of multicultural marriages and international marriages as one way to solve the problem of the declining birth rate.

Cardinal Kelvin Felix from the Roman Catholic Church in Dominica quoted the Bible and emphasized the importance of family, stating that the family is the school of love and that parents are the first teachers. He highly praised Rev. Moon and Dr. Moon's true family movement and marriage blessings based on true love.

The moderator of the session, Prof. Sai Kurasawa, former professor of Rikkyo University in Japan, wrapped up the session saying, "Until today, Japan was a company-first, work-first society. We must convert this into a family-based social system."

After the two sessions, a banquet was held with Dr. Moon as the main guest. Family Federation for World Peace and Unification - Japan President Mr. Eiji Tokuno reported on the press conference held in between the sessions of the summit, at which the laureates of the 2020 Sunhak Peace Prize, the fourth edition of the awards, were announced.

Leaders from Japan, Korea and the U.S. gave their impressions on the summit. Hon. Jung Tae-ik, the honorary chairman of the Korean Council on Foreign Relations, spoke about the possibility of an undersea tunnel between Japan and South Korea as a project that can foster friendship between the two countries and said, "We need people who will realize Dr. Hak Ja Han's vision. Let us be the pioneers in achieving that vision."

The banquet concluded with a joint performance by the Little Angels Children's Folk Ballet of Korea and the Sunhak Children's Choir. They sang songs from both Japan and Korea, creating an atmosphere of friendship between the two countries. ❖

– Written by UPF-Japan

To read more about this summit, please visit [UPF.org/article/8740](http://UPF.org/article/8740)

from both military and civilization aspects, noting how North Korea is expanding its military power.

Hon. Myung-chul Cho, a former member of the National Assembly of Korea, remarked that a collaborative relationship between China and Russia has formed and they are also strengthening their ties with North Korea, while the alliance between Japan, Korea and the U.S., who supposedly share the same values of freedom and democracy, is not centered on these principles anymore and has become a businesslike relationship.

H.E. Parmanand Jha, the first vice president of Nepal, praised the global activities of UPF. He mentioned that in order to realize a peaceful world, participation from private and religious organizations should also be welcomed. He also noted the importance of the values that UPF has to offer, the values of living for others and caring for family.

The theme for Session 2 was "Declining Birthrate and Multicultural Society: Restoring Family, Vitalizing Society." First, Hon. Hiroko Oizumi, a former member of the Japan House of Representatives, in her presentation stated: "We have to stop thinking the declining birth rate issue is a childcare policy issue. Since marriage is correlated with academic background, bringing down the starting school age to five will have a positive impact on Japan's demographic structure."







# SUMMIT EXPLORES SOUTHEAST EUROPE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

Tirana, Albania | October 25-27, 2019

**P**articipants from over 50 nations attended the Southeast Europe Peace Summit organized by UPF from October 25 to 27, 2019.

Three main events were held at the Tirana Congress Hall. On October 26, the Opening Plenary was attended by UPF founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon; the president of North Macedonia, H.E. Stevo Pendarovski; and the president of Kosovo, H.E. Hashim Thaçi; as well as ten former heads of state and government and key political figures from the Balkan region.

Also on October 26, a rally of Youth and Students for Peace, an organization that is affiliated with UPF, drew more than 2,000 young participants. On October 27, the summit concluded with a standing-room-only Family Blessing Festival.

Also on October 27, the groundbreaking for the new UPF regional headquarters was held in the presence of Tirana Vice Mayor Anisa Ruseti.

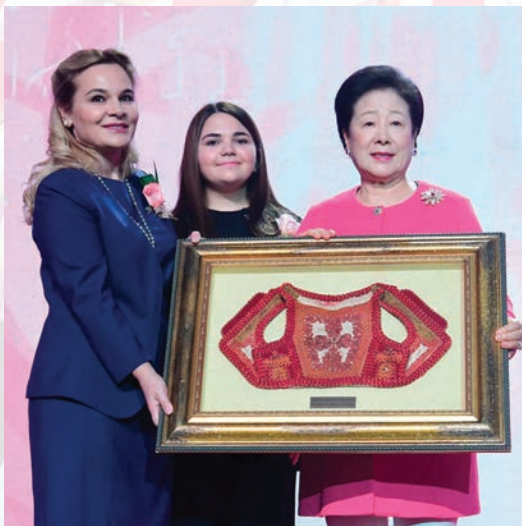
More than 70 current and former parliamentarians and government ministers attended the event, including Dr. Enver Hoxhaj, the deputy prime minister of Kosovo; H.E. Skender Reçica, the minister of labor and social welfare

of Kosovo; and H.E. May Chidiac, the minister of state for administrative development of Lebanon.

The Albanian religious community was represented by Mr. Bujar Spajiu, the leader of the Muslim Community; Father Edmond Brahimaj, the world leader of the World Bektashi Order; Mrs. Nikki Doçi, representing the Albanian Evangelical Alliance; as well as Dr. Genti Kruja, the secretary general of the Interreligious Council of Albania. Africa was represented by Sheikh Mansour Diouf from Senegal, the co-chair for Africa of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, a UPF initiative.

The Opening Plenary began with speeches on the theme “Perspectives for Peace in the Balkans,” moderated by Albanian Deputy Speaker Hon. Vasilika Hysi. The president of the North Macedonian National Assembly, Hon. Talat Xhaferi, initiated the session, followed by Hon. Albin Kurti, the recent election winner and future prime minister of Kosovo, and Ambassador Christopher Hill, who served as US ambassador in the Balkans during the 1990s.

The launch of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP), a UPF initiative, began with a speech by H.E. Elisa Spiropali, the Albanian minister of relations with the Parliament, given on behalf of Prime Minister Edi Rama under whose patronage the summit was convened. She was followed by H.E. Stevo Pendarovski, the president of North Macedonia, and by H.E. Hashim Thaçi, president of Kosovo. Former Albanian President Alfred Moisiu, co-chair of the summit, introduced UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.





Dr. Moon said that she envisioned a bright future for Albania and for the Balkans. Pointing to the historical role of peninsulas as cradles of civilization, she expressed her conviction that the Balkan nations had come to a time of opportunity. If Albania and the Balkan nations focus on strong families and spiritual values, she said, they will become a transforming power for Europe. Drawing great applause from the audience, she concluded that although Albania was considered last in Europe after a long history of suffering, the time had come for the last to become the first.

Eight former heads of state from nations that had been in conflict during the Balkan wars received an ISCP founding medal from Dr. Moon: President Stjepan Mesić of Croatia (2000-2010); Prime Minister Hasan Muratović of Bosnia-Herzegovina (1992-1995); President Fatmir Sejdiu of Kosovo (2006-2010); Prime Minister Mirko Cvetković of Serbia (2008-2012); President Živko Budimir of Bosnia-Herzegovina (2011-2015); Acting President Jakup Krasniqi of Kosovo (2010-2011); Prime Minister Vilson Ahmeti of Albania (1991-1992); and Prime Minister Bajram Kosumi of Kosovo (2005-2006).

The signing of the ISCP Declaration was done at the luncheon that followed the Opening Plenary.

Ten summit sessions were held at the Tirana International Hotel, attended by around 400 participants. They dealt with six areas of focus recently launched by UPF: the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP) for heads of state and government; the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP); the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD); and peacebuilding initiatives for the media, academics and business leaders. Other sessions addressed the themes of migration, education for peace, interfaith activities, and the role of women in peace and reconciliation.



On October 26 a Global Women's Peace Leadership Banquet for 150 participants was organized by WFPW and a dinner for interfaith leaders was hosted by Father Edmond Brahimaj.

At the Closing Plenary, two distinguished speakers addressed "Peace Perspectives in Southeast Europe": Austrian Minister of Defense Dr. Werner Fasslabend (1990-2000) and H.E. President Bujar Nishani of Albania (2012-2017). Dr. Michael Balcomb, head of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) for Europe and the Middle East, concluded by explaining the UPF founders' perspective for the development of ISCP in the Balkans and the greater region.

A high point of the summit was the Family Blessing Festival, held at the Tirana Congress Hall on October 27. Representing all the regions of Albania and the 61 UPF Local Peace Councils created since 2018 in each of Albania's municipalities, 1,200 Albanian couples participated in a marriage rededication ceremony officiated by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, under the watch of a full audience and live coverage by TV cameras.

Affirming the importance of the family as the cornerstone of a peaceful and stable society was the congratulatory message given by Mrs. Monika Kryemadhi, the wife of Albanian President Ilir Meta, a well-known political figure and party leader in her own right.

After performances of traditional dances and songs, Dr. Moon spoke again about the importance of promoting family values.

She asked President Alfred Moisiu to lead the Steering Committee of the International Summit Council for Peace in the region, offering publicly her support for this initiative. She then offered a donation to three charities in Albania: the Mother Teresa Foundation, a children's charity, and the World Bektashi Order. ❖

*– Written by Mr. Jacques Marion,  
President, UPF-Europe, Eurasia  
and the Middle East*

*To read more about this summit,  
please visit [UPF.org/article/8707](http://UPF.org/article/8707)*





# ASIA PACIFIC SUMMIT 2019 CONVENES IN CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh, Cambodia | November 18-21, 2019

**T**he Asia Pacific Summit 2019 – Cambodia was convened in Phnom Penh from November 18 - 21, 2019 with over 500 international guests from 46 nations in attendance. The theme for the four-day summit was “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Peace, Reconciliation, Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values.”

Among the dignitaries who attended the event were two current vice presidents (Myanmar and Palau), a current speaker and deputy speaker (Bangladesh and Pakistan), a Nobel Laureate, and nine former heads of state and government officials (Afghanistan, Colombia, Indonesia, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, and two from Timor-Leste). From Cambodia, in attendance were deputy prime ministers, ministers, governors, mayors, and chief provincial council members, among others. In addition, all diplomatic missions in Phnom Penh were invited and most joined the summit.

At the personal invitation of Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, the summit on November 19 was held inside the Peace Palace, the office of the prime minister. It was attended by 800 delegates. Just prior to the opening of the summit, the Prime Minister received Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founder of UPF, as the head of the international delegation from 46 nations at his personal invitation.

The welcome banquet on November 18 at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel was for international guests attending the summit.

The co-founder of UPF, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and the prime minister of Cambodia walked on stage together to inaugurate the Asia Pacific Summit in Phnom Penh on November 19. This event followed the first Asia Pacific Summit held in Kathmandu, Nepal in December 2018 and was officially hosted by the Royal Government of Cambodia and co-organized by the UPF and the Civil Society Alliance Forum.

After the national anthem, Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen was first to speak. He highlighted the win-win policy of his government in the mid-to-late-1990s which brought a peaceful end to decades of civil war in Cambodia, helped establish peace in the Greater Mekong region of Southeast Asia, and laid the foundation for an economic boom in Cambodia. But peace-making and nation-building require different skill sets. In highlighting Cambodia’s socio-economic marvel, the Prime Minister noted that the intact family unit was essential for peace.

Next, Dr. Moon, the co-founder of UPF, emphasized the same point about the importance of the family, albeit from a different perspective. Mother Moon, as she is warmly referred to, examined the root cause of our social problems, starting with the family of our first human ancestors. Adam and Eve failed to







form a God-centered union at the beginning of human history and, regrettably, created a lineage that grew into a culture disconnected from Heaven and full of selfishness and conflict.

“That is why people have been pursuing peace but have not been able to usher in a peaceful world,” Dr. Moon explained. “The family must be healthy. This was Heaven’s dream (and the purpose of creation).” The life mission of Mother Moon and her late husband, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, is to strengthen the institutions of marriage and family in order to create a culture and world of peace. A God-centered, family-friendly moral and ethical system is the basis for universal values and lasting peace.

Dr. Moon called for the formation of the Asia Pacific Union, saying, “Unlike the Atlantic civilization, the Pacific civilization is a movement that embodies the true love of living for the sake of others... with a heart of filial piety toward Heaven.” At the gala banquet that same evening, hosted by the Royal Government of Cambodia, this proposal was adopted unanimously.

Mother Moon then proceeded to give ISCP medals to each of the eight speakers in the inaugural session. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, in turn, honored Mother Moon with a very special award called the Maha Sirivudha, Grand Cross Royal Order of Sahametrei, the highest honor to be bestowed on a foreign national. This same award was then presented to H.E. Dmitry Tsvetkov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Cambodia, by the Prime Minister.

The finale of the inaugural session was Mother Moon awarding the Cambodian prime minister, UPF’s highest distinction, the Leadership and Good Governance medal.

Following lunch, the keynote session was held under the theme, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Government, Parliamentarians and Civil Society.” The speakers were mostly former heads of state and government officials.

Three concurrent sessions, also held in the Peace Palace, followed. Each had nine speakers. The themes for each of the three sessions were: “Paradigms of Peace and Economic Development”; “The Role of Media and Education in Nation-building and Peace”; and “The Role of Faith-based Organizations, Youth and Civil Society in Peace and Reconciliation.”

The gala banquet, hosted by the Prime Minister, was held at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel. One thousand guests had been invited. The Phnom Penh Declaration was read and the Asia Pacific Union (APU) initiative was launched with unanimous support from the audience. APU will foster cooperation between governments and civil society, including inter-governmental bodies, UN agencies and faith-based organizations, centered on universal values.

The Youth and Family Festival for Nation-Building and Peace was held at the Koh Pich Theater where Dr. Moon officiated over the rededication of marriages for 3,800 dignitaries and the Pledge of Filial Piety for 500 youth. This was followed by the Asian Cultural Festival, which included artistic performances from six nations. ❖

– Written by UPF-Asia Pacific

To read more about this summit, please visit [UPF.org/article/8754](http://UPF.org/article/8754)





# FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS DISCUSS CRIME PREVENTION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE

San Francisco, United States | November 12-13, 2019

**T**he Spirituality and Justice Initiative of the Coalition of Faith-Based Organizations organized two side-meetings to the annual conference of the American Society of Criminology. Building on the momentum of previous meetings held in Vienna, Austria, the coalition hosted a working group meeting at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis hotel on November 12, 2019, and an interfaith program at the historic Grace Cathedral the following day. Participants emphasized the importance of developing partnerships among faith-based organizations (FBOs), UN agencies, and national and local governments.

Dr. Thomas Walsh, co-chair of the Coalition of Faith-Based Organizations and chair of UPF International, moderated the gathering on November 12th and set the tone in seeking a new unity between FBOs and secular bodies.

Dr. Jay Albanese, a criminologist at Virginia Commonwealth University, emphasized the need for education in ethics as a path to raising the level of our leaders' character and making them accountable for their own bad behavior.

Stephanie Mann, founder of Safe Kids Now National Network, called for teaching spiritual values in the home, at school and in the public square. "Without spiritual values," she said, "our children become vulnerable and even dependent upon those who do not have their best interests in mind."

Dr. Irvin Waller, from the University of Ottawa and author of *Science and Secrets of Ending Violent Crime*, noted that the United States, the richest country on earth, has the highest proportion of incarcerated persons. "Punishment is not the answer, but prevention is."

Ven. Bhante Chao Chu, president of the Los Angeles Buddhist Union, noted that human beings must live by ethical values that respect and value all life.

Imam Mohammad Ismail, Muslim chaplain at the University of Sheffield, said that FBOs are very important in solving society's problems but "must do a better job in expressing their values."

Dr. Michael Jenkins, president of UPF International, emphasized partnering with the police and "encouraging them to interact with religious communities, inviting them to visit places of worship."

Rev. Dr. Luonne Rouse, national co-chair of American Clergy Leadership Conference, spoke about the need to teach and practice good social and sexual ethics.

Dr. Muzammil H. Siddiqi, imam of the Islamic Society of Orange County, California, offered that "We must value the mind, life itself and property."

The next day, on November 13, the coalition hosted an afternoon program at historic Grace Cathedral on the topic of Spirituality and Justice, with more than 120 local, national and international leaders from the civic, academic, social and faith communities attending.

An interfaith ceremony offered prayers and sacred texts representing the major faiths. The Rev. Dr. Ellen Clark-King, vice dean and canon for social justice, graciously opened the event and welcomed everyone on behalf of Grace Cathedral.

Representatives from local political leaders shared encouragement and support, including: Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, and Member of Congress Barbara Lee.







Dr. Thomas Walsh opened the program by offering an overview of the work of the coalition, which was launched in May 2019.

Mr. Herb Behrstock, past president, United Nations Association, East Bay chapter, said: “I salute the coalition and UPF. We must focus on the big picture and see the links between government, the UN and the criminal justice system of each nation.”

Dr. Bidyut K. Bose, founder and executive director, Niroga Institute, said: “How do we heal our trauma? The internal, quiet ways of meditation and mindfulness have the quality to do that.”

Rev. Dr. Amos C. Brown, president of the San Francisco branch of the NAACP and pastor of the Third Baptist Church, asked: “Do you have good religion? We must be certain that our religion and our spirituality are being practiced without contradiction.”

Mr. Julio Escobar, of the California Catholic Dioceses’ Restorative Justice Directors Team, represented the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Mr. Escobar grew up in El Salvador and experienced the civil war between the government and the guerrillas; he gave a testimony about witnessing that nightmare during the 1980s.

Imam Mohammad Ismail mentioned “rampant materialism and antisocial behavior among our youth.” He observed: “How we behave when alone and no one is looking is critical to the quality of our spirituality.”

Venerable Chu spoke about the need for wisdom, “which will show us how interconnected we are.”

Jeanine Nicholson, San Francisco’s fire chief, said: “My mission is interconnectedness and serving. Our mission at the

fire station is serving others, protecting others when the danger of fire arrives.”

Mr. G. Jagannathan, Sathya Sai International Organization, described a faith-based approach to crime prevention based on the teachings of the Indian guru Sathya Sai Baba. “Brothers and sisters, Baba taught us how to love; it is our duty to love.”

Pastor Michael McBride, national director, Faith in Action Live Free Project, said it is the role of Christianity to champion the cause of true peace by following Jesus’ way.

Stephanie Mann asserted that “people of faith and values must stand up and speak up.”

Dr. Wendy O’Brien, legal officer of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, urged us to reflect upon that which binds us in strength—our common humanity.

Dr. Muzammil Siddiqi said: “Treatment is crucial and is preferred over simply punishment and imprisonment. We must work together and must agree upon a moral code of conduct to be our ethical guide.”

Dr. Irwin Waller described the event as “a call to action” and said: “We must hold our government’s feet to the fire.”

Closing the event, Dr. Thomas Walsh expressed warm wishes to all participants. Many remained to begin the task of forming meaningful relationships that will grow in the days ahead. ❖

– Written by Mr. Wayne Hankin, Community Volunteer,  
Coalition of Faith-Based Organizations,  
and UPF International

To read more about this summit,  
please visit [UPF.org/article/8717](http://UPF.org/article/8717)





# AFRICA CONTINENTAL SUMMIT CONVENED IN NIGER

Niamey, Niger | November 27-29, 2019

The first Africa Continental Summit of Niger, held from November 27 to 29, successfully concluded with the participation of more than 2,000 national and international delegates, including current and former heads of state and government from 70 nations across Africa and around the world.

Centered on the theme “Building a Peaceful and Prosperous Africa: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values,” UPF organized the summit with the full cooperation and endorsement of Niger’s government, as well as the support of the representatives of the African Union, ECOWAS (a regional union of 15 countries), and the G5 Sahel (a regional union of five countries dealing with jihadist organizations). It was hosted by H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou.

Much of the discussion during the two-day summit was based on the “Africa Continental Free Trade Area” and addressed issues related to the “New Vision for Peace” and the “Blessed Africa Initiative,” launched at the Africa Summit in Dakar, Senegal, in January 2018 by UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon in the presence of Senegalese President H.E. Macky Sall and other current and former heads of state and government and other dignitaries. Other important topics included SDGs, climate change, terrorism, women’s rights,

and economic growth and development.

Upon her arrival at Niamey’s Diori Hamani International Airport, UPF Co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon was received by the prime minister along with the minister of foreign affairs, the minister of economy and finance, the African Union minister’s representative, the chief presidential secretary, the head of the protocol office, and many others.

The welcome dinner at the Radisson Blu Hotel was hosted by President Issoufou and First Lady Lalla Issoufou, who met privately with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and then entered the banquet hall together with her. During dinner, Dr. Moon sat at the head table with President Issoufou, H.E. Assoumani Azali, the president of Comoros, and other heads of state and government, including the former president of Nigeria, H.E. Goodluck Jonathan.

At the Opening Plenary in the Palais des Congrès on the banks of the Niger River, Dr. Moon delivered the Founder’s Address,

expressing her appreciation for the president and the country. “The people of Niger are truly a blessed people. I wish to thank these handsome sons and daughters of Niger as my children.”

In the President’s Address, H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou spoke about the successful African Union summit held in Niamey earlier this year and the important issues it dealt with, including migration







and refugee flow, climate change, terrorism, and the “hundreds of millions in the midst of uncertainty.” He thanked Dr Moon for “leading the war against the forces of intolerance” and for encouraging the summit participants to act in the public interest. He pointed out that living for the sake of others and interdependence are important principles for Islam.

Two significant documents were approved and signed during the Plenary. First was the Africa Continental Summit Declaration–Niger 2019, read by H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, which recognizes “Africa’s potential to rise as a unified continent that manifests values of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.” It was signed by representatives of ECOWAS, G5 Sahel, and the African Union.

The second document of historical importance was jointly signed by President Issoufou and Dr. Moon. The Blessed Africa Initiative represents a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to affirm the UN Sustainable Development Goals and find ways for UPF to support the African Union’s Africa Continental Free Trade Area, which ratified supporting operational instruments during the African Union Summit held in Niamey in July 2019.

On November 29, all the participants attended the Family Renewal Festival at the Palais des Congrès. Representing the president, H.E. Brigi Rafini, the prime minister and head of the government, expressed gratitude to Dr. Moon for hosting the event and extended his congratulations, on behalf of the president, to the participating couples, many of whom were dressed in traditional Muslim attire.

Reports were presented at concurrent sessions that were based



on UPF programs and initiatives, namely the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP), the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD), the International Association of Traditional Rulers for Peace (IATP), government ministers, heads of enterprise and business leaders, the Women Leaders Forum, and Youth and Students for Peace.

As of this date, the MOU to implement the Africa Project (the Blessed Africa Initiative) has been signed by a number of nations with the purpose of affirming UPF’s support for the UN Sustainable Development Goals and for building a world of peace centered on universal spiritual and moral values.

Summit participants, by category, included current heads of state and government; official government representatives; former heads of state and government; presidents and vice presidents of national assemblies; ministers; parliamentarians; religious leaders; traditional rulers; leaders of civil society, including women leaders, youth leaders, heads of businesses and companies; delegations from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and the United States; plus couples participating in the Family Renewal Festival. ❖

– Written by UPF International

To read more about this summit, please visit [UPF.org/article/8732](http://UPF.org/article/8732)







# ASIA PACIFIC FIRST LADIES SUMMIT CONVENES IN PALAU

Koror, Palau | December 9-11, 2019

Palau hosted a series of three high-profile events, held between December 9 and 11, 2019, in Koror, Palau. Each of the three events—the Asia Pacific First Ladies Summit, the Interfaith Family Festival, and the International Youth Assembly—was unprecedented and uniquely successful.

The summit on December 10 had the theme, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values.” Five current first ladies (Palau, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea and Mariana Islands) along with three former first ladies (Fiji, Kiribati and Marshall Islands) attended. In addition, more than 500 delegates from 38 nations were at the Ngarachamayong Cultural Center for the summit.

During the inaugural session, the International Association of First Ladies for Peace was launched.

In the afternoon there were two sessions: “The Role of Women Leaders in Addressing the Critical Challenges: Solutions and Best Practices,” which was followed by “Palau: Preserving the Environment through Cultural Wisdom.”

The next morning, on December 11, the Interfaith Family Festival was held. Couples from various religious traditions rededicated their marriages. On stage was the presidential couple, the President of Palau H.E. Tommy Remengesau, and First Lady Debbie Remengesau, along with other first ladies

and international dignitaries.

In the afternoon, Youth and Students for Peace (YSP) held an International Youth Assembly. In attendance were 680 students from 14 public and private educational institutions, representing nearly 30 percent of all the students in Palau. The Ministry of Education supported the event during which students took the Pledge of Filial Piety.

The welcome banquet, hosted by the Office of the President, took place on December 9 and was for the international delegates participating in the summit. A short program, organized by the First Lady of Palau, was followed by a buffet dinner and light entertainment.

The opening plenary was held on December 10 under the theme, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values.” Speakers included first ladies, eminent women leaders from around the world as well as a representative of UPF co-founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. A resolution to launch the International Association of First Ladies for Peace was presented and signed.







In the afternoon, two plenary sessions were held. During the second session, distinguished women leaders from government and civil society offered their ideas related to the session theme, “Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role of Women Leaders: Solutions and Best Practices.”

During the third session, “Palau: Preserving the Environment through Cultural Wisdom,” distinguished local leaders discussed Palauan programs and projects that have helped mitigate climate change by increasing awareness of and concern about the environment, such as the Palau Pledge.

On December 11, four events were held; the Interfaith Family Festival, the First Ladies Special Meeting, International Youth Assembly, and the WFWPI Special Interactive Session.

The Interfaith Family Festival, designed to help raise healthy families as the foundation for building a harmonious society and prosperous nation, featured a marriage and family rededication ceremony and the conferral of the Leadership and Good Governance Award to the President of Palau, H.E. Tommy Remengesau.

The First Ladies Special Meeting, hosted by the First Lady of Palau, whose theme was the “The Palau Pledge Tour,” was a boat trip introducing the beauty and fragility of Palau’s natural environment and ancient culture. Taking place at Palau’s stunning Southern Lagoon, guests heard from experts about the importance and urgency of protecting Palau and all Pacific Island nations in the face of the many unique threats facing the region.

The International Youth Assembly was designed to empower youth to commit to practicing healthy lifestyles by encouraging them to build good and lasting relationships

and living more for others than themselves. They made a pledge of filial piety as the best way to prepare for their roles as faithful spouses and loving parents.

The WFWPI Special Interactive session showcased the Women’s Federation for World Peace (WFWP)’s best practices in the field of education, humanitarian service outreach and peace-building initiatives in the Asia Pacific region.

The First Lady and the Office of the President of the Republic of Palau jointly co-hosted the Asia Pacific First Ladies Summit with UPF, and WFWP. Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon co-founded UPF and WFWP, along with her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon. Mother Moon, as she is lovingly called, sent her two daughters-in-law, Prof. Yeon Ah Moon and Dr. Julia Moon, on her behalf. ❖

– Written by Asia Pacific

To read more about this summit, please visit [UPF.org/article/8752](http://UPF.org/article/8752)





# LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN SUMMIT LAUNCHES REGIONAL ISCP

Santiago, Dominican Republic | December 14-15, 2019

UPF's 2019 Latin America and Caribbean Summit drew over 500 participants from 43 nations on December 14 and 15, 2019. The conference's attendees included President Jimmy Morales of Guatemala and the former presidents of Trinidad and Tobago, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Bolivia and Haiti. Ten current and former speakers of parliaments, 30 parliamentarians, and interfaith and civil society leaders, as well as business and media leaders, also graced the conference as guests. Regional associations and their members participating in the event were Foro de Presidentes de Poderes Legislativos (FOPREL) and Central American Parliament (PARLACEN).

The two-day program began on the afternoon of December 14 at the Santiago Government Hall and was opened by Governor of Santiago Hon. Ana Maria Dominguez, who was representing Danilo Medina, president of the Dominican Republic. This was followed by remarks by Rev. Kim Sang Suek, chairman of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification of Latin America. The first topic of discussion was "The Vision and Work of UPF and IAPP in Latin America and the Caribbean," which was addressed by Hon. Andy Glenn Daniel, speaker of the House of Assembly of St. Lucia; Hon. Winston Garraway, Minister of State, Granada; and Cesar Regalado, secretary general of UPF-Dominican Republic. The president of Guatemala, Jimmy Morales, was present at this session, together with former presidents from Haiti, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Bolivia and Trinidad and Tobago.

The second session, "Peace and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: Building Peaceful, Secure and Healthy Societies," was moderated by Cesar Regalado, secretary general of UPF-Dominican Republic. Its speakers were Hon. Dalia Bernald, member of the National Assembly of Panama, Hon. Salvador Alejandro Nasralla, president of the Honduras Anti-Corruption Party, Dr. Santiago Rivas Leclair, executive secretary of FOPREL, and Hon. Guillermo Osorno, representing Nicaragua at the Central American Parliament (PARACLEN).

The Latin America and Caribbean Summit officially opened on the morning of December 15 at the Hodelpa Gran Almirante Hotel. The first section of the program focused on the theme of the summit, "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time:

Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values." Orienting the guests were Emcee Dr. Simao Ferabolli, secretary general of UPF-Latin America, and Dr. Charles Yang, chair of UPF-Latin America and president of the summit's organizing committee. Governor Dominguez, representing President Medina, gave the Welcoming Address, which was followed by the Congratulatory Address by President Morales, who spoke about the importance of educating the next generation about peace.

Next, H.E. Maria Fernanda Flores de Aleman, First Lady of Nicaragua (1997-2002), offered background of UPF Co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, stressing that she has lived for the sake of others and worked around the world to build lasting peace. Representing Dr. Moon was her daughter, Dr. Sun Jin Moon, who conveyed Dr. Moon's Keynote Address. She followed her delivery by bestowing UPF's Leadership and Good Governance Award to President Morales and Governor Dominguez.

Highlight and conclusion of the summit's opening plenary session was the launch of the Latin America chapter of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP), presided over by UPF International Chair Dr. Thomas Walsh. The importance of this new creation was attested to by four regional dignitaries: H.E. Anthony Thomas Carmona, former president of Trinidad and Tobago, H.E. Lupe Rosario Serrano, former president of Ecuador, H.E. Jocelerme Privert, former president of Haiti, and H.E. Jaime Zamorra, former president of Bolivia.

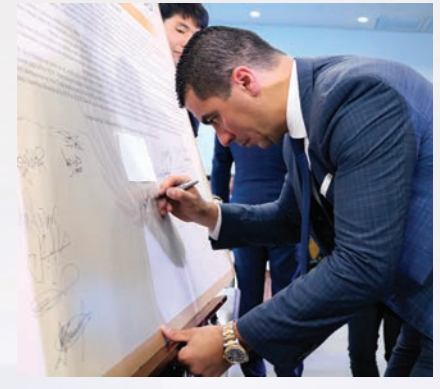
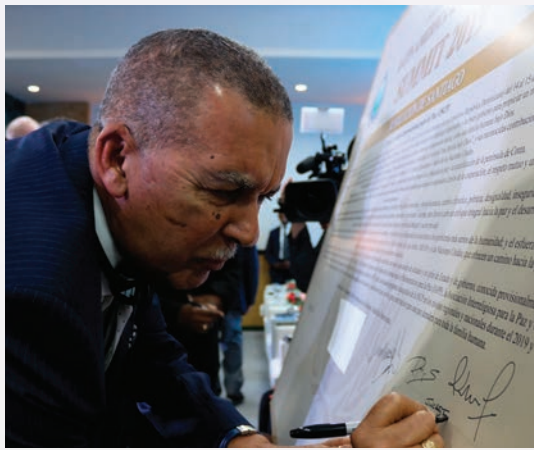
Dr. Moon presented fifteen award medals to representatives from fifteen countries, after which Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon was honored by representatives from the Dominican Republic Congress, who gave her a certificate recognizing her at "Mother of Peace" and declared that she is an honorary citizen of the Dominican Republic.

Hon. Dan Burton, former U.S. congressman and president of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP), concluded the morning's session by introducing the resolution establishing ISCP-Latin America, which was signed by all former and current heads of state in attendance.

In the afternoon of December 15, participants were offered a change of pace in the form of being guests at the Family Peace Festival at the Gran Arena del Cibao, attended by 12,000 people. The festival, cosponsored by the Family Federation of World







Peace and Unification and the Dominican Republic Municipal Police, was an interfaith marriage blessing ceremony involving some 6,000 couples, opened by President Morales and officiated by Dr. Sunjin Moon and her husband, Dr. In Sup Park.

Summit participants reconvened after the Family Peace Festival for the conference's closing session. Addressing the session's theme, "Development and the Role of the Leaders of Civil Society," were Rev. Dong Mo Shin, president of UPF-Latin America, Hon. Antero Flores-Araoz, former minister of defense of Peru, and Hon. Ubraj Narine, mayor of Georgetown, Guyana. Following a performance by a traditional dance group, closing reflections were offered by Hon. Dr. Amarilis Santana de Martinez, president of IAPP-Dominican Republic, Hon. Luis Miranda, Brazilian congressman; and Hon. José Alfaro, president of IAPP-Central America and Caribbean.

The activities of the weekend were closed with all guests signing the Santiago Declaration. ❖

– Written by UPF-Latin America

*This report can be found online at [UPF.org/article/8753](https://upf.org/article/8753)*







# FAITH LEADERS PROMOTE STRENGTH OF PEACE AND DIVERSITY AT SUMMIT

New York, United States | December 27-30, 2019

**F**aith leaders from dozens of nations gathered here over the weekend to promote unity, imploring each other to see diversity not as a stumbling block, but as the “cornerstone” for developing a peace that can elevate nations and its leaders.

President Trump’s personal spiritual adviser Paula White-Cain called for the leaders to push past barriers that have divided denominations for far too long.

“When we come into unity, we can shake nations,” she said to rousing applause from hundreds of pastors, reverends, bishops and others assembled Friday at the opening of the two-day summit in the renown Hammerstein and Grand ballrooms of the Manhattan Center in midtown Manhattan.

The presence of Ms. White-Cain at the summit — titled the Inaugural Convocation of World Clergy Leadership Conference and inclusive of all denominations, evangelical or not — brought a sense of connectivity with American political power. Ms. White-Cain’s participation came against a backdrop of Mr. Trump’s own efforts to unify U.S. evangelicals around his run for a second term.

Others who spoke Friday with no affiliation to Mr. Trump drew focus to a subject long-contemplated by some theologians: How to positively embrace pluralism in religion as a divine bedrock for promoting harmony and equanimity in the world, rather than allow it to be a source of acrimonious division.

“My friends, if we truly believe in Jesus Christ, then we have to put aside our differences,” said Rev. Charles Mendies, senior pastor of the Nepalese Christian Society, drawing heartfelt hoots and hollers from the crowd.

“We have to stop being Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian, Protestant, Catholic — we have to be believers in Jesus Christ.”

The summit in Manhattan set in motion what organizers

described as new international association of faith leaders, backed by the Universal Peace Federation, Family Federation International and the American Clergy Leadership Conference — a multi-denominational organization with more than 12,000 affiliated clergy from all 50 U.S. states.

Friday’s gathering was followed by a massive peace rally on Saturday that was attended by tens of thousands from churches around the greater New York City area, as well as from around the nation, who packed into the Prudential Center arena in Newark, New Jersey.

Known by her followers as “Mother Moon,” Mrs. Moon praised the formation of the WCLC in a keynote address at Saturday’s rally, calling it a “realization of God’s will.”

“Please remember that the launch of WCLC is heaven’s blessing,” she told the near-capacity crowd at the Prudential Center. “Today I wish to tell each one of you, I believe in you and in particularly members of the clergy leadership of the Christian world gathered here today.

The World Clergy Leadership Conference (WCLC) inaugural convocation on Friday was celebrated at the rally. Both events were initiated by Hak Ja Han Moon, widow of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon and the leader of the Unification movement that grew from the Unification Church the Rev. Moon founded in 1954.

Mrs. Moon has led the movement since a few years before the 2012 death of the Rev. Moon, whose ministry grew from a tiny, embattled church in his native South Korea to a global spiritual movement and an affiliated commercial empire comprising real estate, manufacturing and agricultural operations, as well as media properties including The Washington Times.

The rally featured thumping Christian gospel choirs, dance







routines and collective prayers of peace, and was highlighted by a performance from Dionne Warwick.

The six-time Grammy Award-winning singer — now in her late 70s — brought tears to the eyes of many in attendance with a stirring delivery of the lyrics, “What the world needs now, is love, sweet love,” from 1965 popular song by Hal David and Burt Bacharach.

The arena also thumped with gospel music from Bishop Hezekiah Walker, the two-time Grammy winner and founder of the Love Fellowship Tabernacle in Brooklyn, who performed with his 500 Voice Choir. Grammy winning vocalist and famed radio host Yolanda Adams offered a crowd-moving performance as well.

But it was the initial summit gathering of clergy leaders in Manhattan on Friday that underscored the philosophical and spiritual outlines of the weekend’s broader proceedings.

Prophet Samuel Radebe from the Revelation Church of God in South Africa, spoke of the intersection between religion, spirituality and politics around the world.

“Religious people, especially the clergy, have the responsibility to guide politicians and help them rule with impartiality,” Prophet Radebe said. “Many times we have failed in our mission.”

Others offered similar messages, with remarks given by a range of clergy leaders, including but not limited to Archbishop Augustus Stallings Jr., chairman of the U.S.-based Interreligious Association for Peace and Development; Mrs. Martina Viktorie Kopecka of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church in the Czech Republic; and Bishop Noel Jones of the City of Refuge Church in Los Angeles.

“We need spiritually inclined religious leaders,” Prophet Radebe said. “I was impressed to see the adviser of the president of the United States being here today and speaking the way she speaks — that means we are heading to the right direction.”

Indeed, Ms. White-Cain drew a hush over Friday’s gathering by speaking frankly about the history of her relationship with the president, telling the crowd she first met Mr. Trump nearly two decades ago.

“I get on the line and he said, ‘You’re fantastic, you have the ‘it factor,’” she told the summit in Manhattan, adding to laughter that she responded to Mr. Trump: ““Oh sir, we call that the anointing.””

During that first call, Ms. White-Cain said, Mr. Trump “repeated to me three of my sermons almost verbatim. At the time, my church was a little under 20-something-thousand members and we had thousands of churches under us, and I thought to myself, ‘he listens better than most of my congregation!’”

“The lord spoke to me and said, show [Mr. Trump] who I am, and I just thought it was an assignment from God to simply live as a Christian and show the love of God to him,” Ms. White-Cain said.

“I had no idea 18 years later what that would hold,” she said, recalling that on just their second meeting in New York, where she was famously involved at the time in leading a Bible study for the New York Yankees, that she told Mr. Trump: ““Sir, I don’t want your money, I have enough of my own. I don’t want your fame, I have enough of my own.””

“I said, ‘I want your soul,’ and I walked out — and I just think he thought I was crazy enough or either God really anointed me,” she said, drawing laughter and applause from the faith leaders gathered on Friday.

“We continued to build relationships with him, his family, his staff, praying, meeting, doing Bible studies and, more than anything, living out the love of God,” Ms. White-Cain added. “Many, many years later, he would say: ‘Paula, would you come pray? I’m thinking about running for president.’”

In November, the Trump administration announced that it had officially hired her to advise the president’s “Faith and Opportunity Initiative.” ❖

– Written by Mr. Guy Taylor,  
The Washington Times

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