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UNA-NCA Emphasizes Conversation on Human Rights and the United Nations

“The UN and Human Rights in 2019” to close UNA-NCA’s full schedule of UN Month events

WASHINGTON, DC – (October 25, 2019) – On the evening of Monday, October 28th, 2019, the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) will host “The UN and Human Rights in 2019,” an event that will serve to provide an overview of the main current actions, challenges, and opportunities before the United Nations in the field of human rights, as well as to foster engaging dialogue. UN Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Andrew Gilmour, will provide keynote remarks, and then be joined in discussion by Ambassador Keith Harper (ret.) and Ambassador Sarah Mendelson to link the global and local dimensions of key human rights challenges.

Gilmour assumed his position as Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights on October 1, 2016, and celebrates a three-decade long career with the United Nations. He is certain to highlight the connection between support for the United Nations, and support for the promotion of human rights globally. In a 2018 reflection to the International Service of Human Rights, Gilmour said, “Without civil society engagement, the UN’s effectiveness in promoting and protecting human rights is weakened. We need to challenge such tactics energetically and consistently.”

To further the discussion on current actions, challenges, and opportunities that lie before the UN in the field of human rights, Gilmour will be joined by discussants Ambassador Keith Harper (ret.) and Ambassador Sarah Mendelson. Harper, former U.S. Representative to the UN Human Rights Council, is a current partner at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, and Mendelson, former U.S. Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council, now serves as Distinguished Service Professor of Public Policy and Head of Heinz College in Washington, DC.

The United Nations Association of the National Capital Area (UNA-NCA) has teamed up with the United Nations Foundation, the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), and others to celebrate UN Month throughout the month of October, and varying types of events have been planned as opportunities to network and learn about the multifaceted efforts of the UN and its partner organizations. “The UN and Human Rights in 2019” will close the UNA-NCA’s full schedule of October programming for UN Month.

The event will be held in the Gold Room of the Rayburn House Office Building, and doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for registration and reception, with the program to begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information, visit our website www.unanca.org. Members of the media interested in attending are asked to register by contacting Executive Director Paula Boland at paula@unanca.org or 202-223-6092 for details.

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ABOUT UNA-NCA

Established in 1953, UNA-NCA is one of the oldest and largest chapters of the United Nations Association of the USA. UNA-NCA is a not-for-profit membership-based organization that works with foreign policy and political decision makers, schools of all levels, and other organizations in the National Capital Area to build knowledge, understanding, informed opinion, and new ideas on the United Nations, its specialized agencies, and its relationship with the United States.

Established in 1952, UNA-NCA is one of the oldest and largest divisions of the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA), and member of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA). For more information, please visit http://www.unanca.org