

**Nicole Sawran**

**From:** Alan Averyt [aaveryt@unausa.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2008 1:24 PM  
**To:** Nicole Sawran  
**Subject:** FW: resend of completed questionnaire

Hi Nicole - See below for a completed candidate questionnaire. Thanks for tracking and compiling all the responses!

Alan

**From:** James Bordonaro [mailto:james@bordonaroforcongress.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2008 4:03 PM  
**To:** Alan Averyt  
**Subject:** resend of completed questionnaire

Dear Mr. Averyt,

I am resending the questionnaire as you requested.

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in your organizations survey process. Please let me know if there are any additional questions you would like responses to.  
 Regards, James

James Bordonaro  
 Candidate for Congress (KS-01)  
 1607 Rural Street, Emporia, KS 66801  
 (620) 341-9211



**United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA)  
 Better World Campaign (BWC)**

**2008 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire on U.S. - UN Relationship**

**U.S. Participation in the United Nations**

Working cooperatively with the international community and engaging with international organizations can be an important and cost-effective means for furthering U.S. national security interests. The UN provides a forum for the U.S. to build support for global action on enduring foreign policy interests, such as international stability, prosperity, and the promotion of fundamental freedoms. Through burden sharing, the UN allows us to advance our goals without paying all the bills or taking all the risks. Unfortunately, the United States began 2008 with \$1.5 billion in debt to the United Nations and continues to fall behind in paying its UN dues. This debt has accumulated despite the fact that the U.S. is asking the UN to undertake a wide variety of new tasks and missions, including complex missions in places like Iraq, Lebanon, and Darfur. (For further information, visit [www.un.int/usa](http://www.un.int/usa).)

*Does the United States advance national interests and security by working through the United Nations?*

**YES**

**NO**

**COMMENTS:** Yes, I believe the current funding formula is somewhat based on each country's GDP which seems a reasonable basis. I would like to see the creation of a interest producing investment fund from which U.N. operations could be funded by interest or dividends which would stabilize funding. The U.N. should also consider a funding mechanism for disaster assistance which takes into account property insurance and the potential for increased pay outs due to more frequent disasters based on global warming as well as longer term effects such as sea rise and drought.

*Do you support paying off U.S. debt to the UN? Will you work to ensure that the U.S. honors its treaty commitments to the United Nations by paying our UN dues on time, in full and without conditions?*

**YES**

**NO**

**COMMENTS:** Yes, the United States should pay its obligations. If there are unfair aspects of funding that should be addressed in the budgetary process of the U.N.

**The UN and Iraq**

The situation in Iraq has implications that extend far beyond the region, and it is in the interest of the United States to engage the United Nations in stabilizing Iraq. In August 2007, the UN Security Council renewed the UN Mission in Iraq and expanded its mandate in three key areas: (1) promoting national reconciliation; (2) facilitating regional dialogue on issues such as border security, energy, and refugee matters; and (3) providing humanitarian assistance to and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced Iraqis. These efforts build on the United Nations' prior assistance with national elections; the drafting, approval and review of the 2005 Constitution; and the coordination of reconstruction, development, and humanitarian assistance. (For further information, visit [www.uniraq.org](http://www.uniraq.org).)

*Do you support an increased role for the United Nations to help strengthen the U.S.-led effort to stabilize Iraq?*

**YES**

**NO**

*Do you support providing the necessary U.S. resources for an enhanced UN presence?*

**YES**

**NO**

**COMMENTS:** Yes to both questions. The U.N. has an obligation to the Iraqi government to stabilize the country and promote the return of refugees. As to the second

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question, I'm not sure that the United States should be required to pay any additional money to the U.N. for its assistance in Iraq as the war was (albeit with quite a bit of U.S. pressure) authorized by the Security Council. However, in practical terms, it may be helpful for the U.S. to provide additional funds for the U.N. to expand its role. A key consideration will have to be providing better security to U.N. buildings and personnel than was done in the past.

### The Fight against Global Terrorism

International terrorism is a shared challenge that can be confronted most effectively through coordinated global action. In 2006, UN member states adopted a common Global Counterterrorism Strategy that denounces all forms of terrorism and includes a detailed plan of action with practical steps for fighting terrorism at the national, regional and international levels. The UN and its member governments must now find a way to successfully implement this new comprehensive strategy. *(For further information, visit [www.un.org/terrorism](http://www.un.org/terrorism).)*

*Do you support collective action through the United Nations to address international terrorism?*

YES

NO

**COMMENTS:** Yes, because non-state actors have been increasingly the perpetrators of terrorism it is important that governments share information.

### Climate Change

Climate change is the most far-reaching environmental challenge facing the international community, requiring diplomatic, economic, scientific and technological cooperation. The UN can provide the most effective platform for much of this cooperation. Under the framework of the United Nations, the international community has begun the process of drafting a successor agreement to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change, which expires in 2012. The goal of these negotiations is the establishment by the end of 2009 of a widely-accepted comprehensive international agreement for preventing catastrophic climate change. *(For further information, visit [www.un.org/climatechange](http://www.un.org/climatechange).)*

*Do you support the development of a new international agreement for addressing climate change under the auspices of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change?*

YES

NO

**COMMENTS:** Yes, I hope that the next agreement will be more comprehensive in its coverage and provide goals or limits which actually seek to reverse global warming in the intermediate term as there is some scientific evidence which suggests that even if carbon dioxide emissions are lowered the biological processes will require decades to reverse.

### Strengthening the United Nations

There is broad support within the international community for renewing and enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations. Proposals for UN reform generally focus on the organization's three major structures: the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Secretariat. The United States has promoted numerous reforms of the General Assembly and the Secretariat, but has been less eager to engage on Security Council reform. Many other nations place a priority on Security Council reform due to concern that the permanent membership of the Council has remained unchanged since the UN was created at the end of World War II. Some argue that the unrepresentative nature of the Security Council has damaged the legitimacy of its decisions and will need to be addressed before further UN reforms can be agreed upon. *(For further information, visit [www.centerforunreform.org](http://www.centerforunreform.org).)*

*Do you support Security Council reform?*

YES

NO

**COMMENTS:** Yes, while there are many structural flaws to the overall U.N., I believe a good starting point would be to address the basic undemocratic nature of the veto provided to the five permanent members.

### UN Peacekeeping

UN peacekeeping is perhaps the world's best example of cooperating for international security—an effective means of ensuring that no nation has to pay all the bills or take all the risks associated with maintaining international peace and stability. Over the last several years, the UN Security Council has authorized an increasing number of new and expanded peacekeeping missions in places such as Darfur, Lebanon, Haiti, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Once the hybrid United Nation – African Union mission to Darfur is fully deployed, there will be more than 130,000 personnel serving in 18 different UN-led peace operations around the world. *(For further information, visit [www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko](http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko).)*

Despite its continued support for new and expanded missions, the U.S. has been negligent in paying its fair share for UN peacekeeping, resulting in more than \$1.2 billion in debt at the UN for peacekeeping operations alone. *(For further information, visit <http://www.betterworldcampaign.org/issues/funding/growing-us-debt-to-the-un.html>.)*

*Do you support UN peacekeeping operations as 'force multipliers' that can complement U.S. efforts to stabilize conflict zones around the world?*

YES

NO

*Do you support full U.S. funding for UN peacekeeping operations?*

YES

NO

**COMMENTS:** As to the first question, I believe that U.N. peacekeeping efforts should strive to maintain the appearance of non-alignment with most single-country armed forces. As to the second, I do support U.S. funding for peacekeeping efforts and would like to see more efforts at reunification and reconciliation of warring parties so that U.N. troops are able to leave countries after a reasonable length of time.

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**International Criminal Court**

The International Criminal Court is the world's only permanent international court with jurisdiction to try individuals accused of genocide, crimes against humanity, and serious war crimes when national courts are unwilling or unable to act. More than 100 countries have joined the Court, which only has jurisdiction over crimes committed on the territory or by a citizen of a country that has joined the Court or granted it special consent, or that have been referred to it by the UN Security Council. The International Criminal Court is currently investigating cases in Darfur; the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Uganda; and the Central African Republic. (For further information, visit [www.icc-cpi.int](http://www.icc-cpi.int).)

*Should the United States support and join the International Criminal Court?*

**YES****NO**

**COMMENTS:** Yes, the world hasn't done a very good job at preventing genocide following WWII and the Holocaust which would have been hoped for. So there is certainly a need for a court which can review these matters. Due consideration in charging decisions should be given to the availability and effectiveness of internal codes of military justice.

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**Global Poverty**

The scale and scope of global poverty render it a scourge that demands broad international cooperation: one third of the world's population – more than 2 billion people – live in abject poverty. At the urging of the United Nations and the international donor community, world leaders agreed in 2000 to a specific, prioritized development agenda to strengthen international focus on and commitment to anti-poverty efforts. Reaffirmed by world leaders in 2005, the UN Millennium Development Goals (or MDGs) include eight concrete objectives for achievement by 2015: cutting extreme poverty in half; achieving universal primary education; empowering women; reducing child and maternal mortality; reversing the spread of AIDS and other deadly diseases; protecting the environment; and cooperating internationally on these aims. The MDGs have been endorsed by Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. (For further information, visit [www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals).)

*Do you support U.S. efforts to help meet the Millennium Development Goals?*

**YES****NO**

**COMMENTS:** Yes, provided they are practical in scope and not simply designed to be feel good initiatives. Let's make sure that there is both the will and money available to meet these goals. I think that the goals should also be conducted in compliment to limited aims such as eradicating polio or reducing malaria. If a country's citizens are too sick to work or too much of the country's budget goes to health care then the country is unlikely to achieve the more comprehensive targets set for it. Many factors will also have to be addressed beyond providing vaccinations or medicine such as agricultural trade policy and international debt obligations which may need to be renegotiated. Efforts should also be made to increasing democratic governments and eliminating corruption which funnels off international assistance. The response in Myanmar is a good example of how non-democratic governments can exacerbate the suffering caused by natural disasters.

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Thank you for taking time to complete this survey. Your response can be emailed to [campaignsurvey@betterworldcampaign.org](mailto:campaignsurvey@betterworldcampaign.org) or mailed/faxed to:

Congressional Candidate Survey  
Better World Campaign  
1800 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, 4th Floor  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 462-2686 [fax]

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Alan Averyt ([aaveryt@unausa.org](mailto:aaveryt@unausa.org); 202.462.3446) or Nicole Sawran ([nsawran@betterworldcampaign.org](mailto:nsawran@betterworldcampaign.org); 202.462.4900).

**About the Better World Campaign**

The Better World Campaign (BWC), an initiative of the Better World Fund, works to strengthen the relationship between the United States and the United Nations through outreach, communications, and advocacy. It encourages U.S. leadership to enhance the UN's ability to carry out its invaluable international work on behalf of peace, progress, freedom, and justice. In these efforts, BWC engages policy makers, the media, and the American public to increase awareness of and support for the United Nations. For more information, visit [www.betterworldcampaign.org](http://www.betterworldcampaign.org).

**About the United Nations Association of the United States of America**

The United Nations Association of the United States of America is dedicated to educating, inspiring and mobilizing Americans to support the principles and vital work of the United Nations, strengthening the United Nations system, promoting constructive United States leadership in that system, and achievement of the goals of the UN Charter. For more information, visit [www.unausa.org](http://www.unausa.org).

I appreciate the opportunity to participate in your organizations survey process. Please let me know if there are any additional questions you would like responses to.

Regards, James  
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