

Media release – United Nations Association of Australia National President to step down in 2019

United Nations Association of Australia
15 January 2019, Canberra

Major General (Ret'd) Michael Smith AO will not be seeking a further term as National President of the United Nations Association of Australia, the peak body for promoting the United Nations in Australia.

The UNAA National Board expressed deep appreciation for the role the President has played and regret he will not be seeking a further term. The Board however, accepted the decision and thanked the President for his significant contribution, leadership, drive and energy in revitalising the UNAA and lifting the organisation to another level.

National Executive Director Lachlan Hunter said of the President - "Michael Smith has been unwavering in his dedication and support across the entire organisation, to revitalise the UNAA. Michael's unique experience across the UN, the military, government and the not for profit sector have been invaluable in driving change. This, combined with his extensive network and energy for the role has positioned the organisation to continue to grow and inform Australians on the Sustainable Development Goals and issues such as climate action, refugees and asylum seekers, the rights of Indigenous Peoples and gender equality."

The President said "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your National President and my passion for the United Nations remains undiminished."

The UNAA National Board will now commence a recruitment process and calls for expressions of interest for the role of National President of the United Nations Association of Australia.

Experience and networks across business, government, not for profits and academia will be considered. In particular, experience in leadership roles and leading change in not for profits will be given special consideration. Expertise in and knowledge of the UN system is not a pre-requisite, but is highly desirable.

For further information, contact:

UNAA National Executive Director, Lachlan Hunter - lachlan.hunter@unaa.org.au

United Nations Association of Australia

National Patron: His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Ret'd)

National President: Major General Michael G Smith AO (Ret'd)

Office 206, Griffin Centre, 20 Genge St, Canberra, ACT 2601

P: 0414 266 932 | E: admin@unaa.org.au | www.unaa.org.au