

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

International Day of Vesak 2020

On behalf of the United Nations Association of Australia, it gives me great pleasure to extend our best wishes to the Buddhist Federation of Australia and to Buddhists and non-Buddhists the world over, on the International Day of Vesak.

In this time of uncertainty, the Buddha's message of peace, compassion and the service to others is as meaningful as ever. Indeed, this message aligns directly with our work and the goals and values of the United Nations, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The UN plays a key role in supporting people and countries to work together to overcome the unprecedented challenges we face, and as we do so, we can continue to draw inspiration from the teachings of the Buddha.

We are delighted to join you on this sacred day as we celebrate the Buddha and his teachings, which are fundamental to the mission of the UNAA – to create a safer, fairer, more sustainable world.

We appreciate being included in this very important Vesak celebration and look forward to continuing the long tradition.

Yours sincerely



Mario D'Elia
National President

29 April 2020