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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.



1. Fondation européenne pour le développement durable des régions

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Fondation européenne pour le développement durable des régions (FEDRE) was established as a not-for-profit organization in Geneva, where it has its headquarters. It is a foundation under Swiss law.

Aims and purposes of the organization

FEDRE aims to promote decentralized sustainable development, in line with the Rio and Johannesburg objectives, among local and regional authorities throughout Europe and in the Caucasus region.

Significant changes in the organization

No significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

FEDRE supported an international conference on thorium energy and the destruction of nuclear waste, on the theme of “Thorium: the atom for peace”, which was held by the international Thorium Energy Committee (iThEC) at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva in October 2013. FEDRE also shared the conclusions of the conference with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The conference brought together around 200 participants from approximately 30 countries. The main conclusions of the conference were debated at a symposium organized by FEDRE in January 2014. On 2 October 2015, two months before the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, researchers, water specialists, climatologists, economic actors and local political officials met to discuss the challenges and economic impact of climate change in the Léman-Rhône region, and the envisaged adaptation strategies. Professor Martin Beniston, Director of the Institute for Environmental Sciences at the University of Geneva, described the extent of the impact of climate change on the Rhône Glacier, which has undergone dramatic melting over the course of a few decades. FEDRE carried out this awareness-raising activity as part of its cross-border “Diamant Alpin” programme. It is also implementing a programme to promote the use of wood as a sustainable construction material in the Diamant Alpin region.

In 2016, FEDRE developed close contact with the Forestry and Timber Section, Forests, Land and Housing Division, of the Economic Commission for Europe and of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Florian Steierer, Roman Michalak and Paola Deda), which has led to regular communication and collaboration on issues concerning architecture, the protection of forests and the promotion of local wood.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

FEDRE participated in the fifth Baku International Humanitarian Forum in September 2016. The Forum’s partners included the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

FEDRE cooperates primarily with United Nations bodies in Geneva, in particular the Economic Commission for Europe – of which the Vice-President of FEDRE, Yves Berthelot, is a former Executive Secretary – and, on climate change issues, with the World Meteorological Organization.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals/Sustainable Development Goals

FEDRE has promoted Sustainable Development Goals 7, 13 and 15 among the local and regional authorities in Europe with which it has a relationship. It has particularly promoted the aspects relating to combating climate change and the destruction of the ozone layer, reducing carbon dioxide emissions and saving energy through the adoption of appropriate measures at the local level.

2. Organisation des jeunes pour le monde d’avenir

Special, 2001

Introduction

The overall objective of the Organisation des jeunes pour le monde d’avenir (OJMA) is to support initiatives by and promote the talents of youth in various domains by combating youth illiteracy through education, professional training and scholarships, defending the rights of children and youth, combating HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections among young people and providing humanitarian services.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of OJMA is to support the initiatives and talents of youth in various domains. This is achieved through a system of education and training aimed at promoting full development that enables youth to develop skills and better serve their country.

Significant changes in the organization

An OJMA working group on income generation was established and developed a sustainability strategy to help the organization find new sources of funding and improve its sustainability in the long term, so that we will not have to rely excessively on our members. We obtained initial funding for three large projects from the private company Airtel Congo and three other local sponsors.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Our research group has developed sustainability strategies to assist us in relation to the application of United Nations recommendations and resolutions in development policy. For example, we raised awareness among youth in the East of the country of the importance of the implementation by the authorities and warlords of Security Council resolution [2250 \(2015\)](#), of 9 December 2015, which calls for youth to be protected from violence during periods of armed conflict.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Since we lack the funding to participate regularly in the work of the United Nations, we have participated, through a representative, only in the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and in the 2015 high-level political forum

on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council from 26 June to 8 July 2015.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

We are currently collaborating with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to promote peace and combat banditry in Kinshasa. We also collaborate with the United Nations Population Fund through our membership of the National Youth Council.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals/Sustainable Development Goals

(1) Eradicating poverty and hunger – activities undertaken by OJMA to self-fund and combat hunger: in 2014, our team of agriculturalists harvested and sold various crops. This is an income-generating activity that promotes microemployment with a view to eradicating poverty and famine. (2) Ensuring primary education for all and reducing child mortality/protecting children: we increased the schooling and nutrition budget (second tranche – 2013) for our orphanages and local partners. (3) Promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment, for girls: we organized advocacy activities, such as a marathon in 2013 and a peaceful march in 2015, and supported young women’s education and entrepreneurship. (4) Establishment of partnerships for development: a youth delegation from Singapore welcomed us to their country in the first week of September 2014 to discuss the establishment of cooperation among youth.
