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Note by the Secretary-General

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



1. All India Movement for Seva (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

All India Movement for Seva (AIM for Seva) is a public charitable trust founded in 2000. It is a nationwide movement with 116 projects spread over 15 states of India, with more than 80 projects launched after 2005. The movement has impacted over 10 million people, covering about 5,000 villages and 50,000 families and supporting 18,000 students largely from marginalized and backward communities, through our student home programmes. The organization administers 17 schools and a college in six states of India, with about 15,000 students in five of these schools being provided education free of cost. The non-governmental organization (NGO) looks after the health care of remote populations with a network of five hospitals, six clinics, and six mobile units in tribal and rural areas benefiting as of now over 2 million people. AIM for Seva's administrative expenses are less than 12 per cent, which is well below the accepted norms for NGOs. This has been made possible mainly because those in charge of the administration and coordination of the projects do so voluntarily. They not only have administrative capabilities, but they also have long years of experience in teaching and in public services. Local support groups have been formed for the projects to encourage grass-root level involvement.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization started in 2001 with the single Student Home; it has grown into a gigantic network of 77 Student Homes, as well as 116 projects, including schools, health-care centres, etc. The period under review, since 2000, was marked by the focused attention of the NGO in extending the outreach to as many rural, hilly and remote areas of the country as possible to ensure speedy availability of the facilities of education and health care in places of neglect. The enormous activity of growth to provide timely succour to the needy did not provide adequate resources for publicity on intimate involvement in United Nations activities. Having gained immense experience and reached a state of reasonable stability and consolidation, we are confident of involving ourselves in greater measure directly in future United Nations programmes.

Tsunami relief by AIM for Seva: In 2004, when the tsunami struck the Nagapattinam coast of Tamil Nadu, India, AIM for Seva was one of the first organizations to arrive at the site of disaster. From 29 December 2004 onwards we "adopted" the village of Serudur, a village of about 800 people, located some 18 km south of Nagapattinam, where more than 100 children were swept away and over 320 temporary shelters were provided to those who lost not only their homes, but also members of their families. In time, psychological counselling, medical help, food, clothes, fans and other amenities were provided. The then United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Kofi Annan specially commended the work of AIM for Seva and mentioned this in the United Nations report of 2005.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

We prioritized the development goals of the United Nations, while we focused on speedy expansion of our activities based on our vision and mission. Thus, during the period 2005-2008, AIM for Seva contributed in greater measure to achieving the

following Millennium Development Goals: goal 1: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; goal 2: achieve universal primary education; and goal 3: ensure environmental sustainability.

Goals/Objectives: The organization's vision is to make education accessible to every child in the tribal, rural and urban areas through Student Homes, called "Chatralayas", with a mission of constructing at least one Student Home in each district of the country over the years. The organization also works towards increasing the employment opportunities of its students by imparting vocational training skills.

Project activities: A total of 77 Student Homes, also called Chatralayas, are functioning; the seventy-fifth Student Home at Palni, Tamil Nadu, India, has been commemorated with a special postal cover by the Department of Posts, Government of India, issued on 25 June 2009. The organization found that a Student Home constructed near an existing secondary school is one of the most effective ways to enable a child to attend school regularly and address the high drop-out rates. AIM for Seva Student Homes are totally free of cost, including board and lodging, nutritious food, regular health check-ups, schooling and related expenses, including books and extracurricular activities like sports, music, yoga, and other cultural activities, evening tuition and travel to places of educational interest. They follow a disciplined daily routine that includes prayers, exercises, study and recreation. The systematic activities help bring about discipline, emotional maturity and responsibility. In addition, special emphasis is given to ethical value-based cultural education to build students' character. Students are assigned specific duties, such as cleaning their Home and care of their personal belongings. Over the weekend, students are encouraged to take up and develop an activity that helps them discover skills and talents they have. Our Student Homes enable students to grow up in a safe, healthy and conducive environment to complete their secondary/higher education. Students return to their parents/homes twice a year — during Deepavali festival and the summer break. Parents and/or guardians/relatives are permitted to visit their wards at specified times during the year.

Medical care: In November 2007, AIM for Seva set up a hospital at Aurangabad, Gujarat, offering the following facilities: (a) capacity to treat about 2,000 out-door patients in a year; (b) a ward for 30 in-door patients; (c) a state-of-the-art operation theatre complex with the latest facilities; (d) all basic equipment for eye care such as a refractor meter, slit lamp, etc. In order to carry forward the vision of Swami Dayananda Saraswati, the hospital charges only a nominal fee for registration, and the patient receives complete eye testing, with the latest equipment and a physical check-up by a qualified refractionist and medicine is given for two days free of cost.

AIM for Seva Shamlaji Hospital: Shamlaji Hospital is located in a tribal area of Sabarkantha district of Gujarat. It serves a population of 100,000 people in 80 villages where no other health care is available. It is a full service 30-bed hospital with a total staff of 34, including one gynaecologist, three MBBS doctors, eight nurses, all serving full time, and offering the following services: (a) primary and secondary medical care; (b) out-patient services, treating about 100 patients every day; (c) in-patient services, with cardiac monitoring; (d) general and gynaecological surgery; (e) complete obstetric and gynaecological services: prenatal, natal and post-natal services, including caesarean section; (f) 24/7 emergency care: all physicians are trained in trauma life-support care and all nurses and paramedics are trained in

basic trauma life support; (g) ultrasound services; (h) complete ancillary services such as laboratory and X-ray facilities. All services, including out-patient treatment, in-patient treatment, laboratories, X-rays, sonography, operations, deliveries, and medicines, are provided free of charge. About 3,000 patients are treated as out-patients and about 900 as in-patients each month.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati Jayavardhanavelu Rural Tribal Hospital, Anaikatti, located in a predominantly tribal highland in the Western Ghats, ranks low in terms of medical care, child and maternity health care. In order to resolve the problem of lack of accessibility to proper health-care facilities, AIM for Seva constructed a much-needed tribal and rural hospital at Anaikatti benefiting about 50,000 tribal and 15,000 non-tribal people. Facilities available at the hospital include: (a) 22-bed hospital with four resident doctors and other paramedical staff; (b) laboratory test facilities, X-ray, ultrasound scan with colour doppler; (c) well maintained in- and out-patient wards; (d) basic and emergency medical care, with special emphasis on maternity facility (gynaecology), i.e. recently named as RCH (Reproductive Child Health) programme; (e) maternity unit with a labour room, a post-natal ward and a neonatal Intensive Care Unit; (f) a fully equipped operation theatre, and a labour ward; (g) a pharmacy with necessary medicines, including life-saving drugs; (h) a neatly maintained canteen, providing food at subsidized rates; (i) a fully equipped dental unit, functioning with technical support from Sri Ramakrishna Hospital, Coimbatore; (j) an Ophthalmology Department, with the support of Lotus Eye Hospital, Coimbatore, on the technical side; (k) visiting doctors, including anaesthetist, orthopaedic, ENT, paediatrician; (l) mobile reach-out health services to the remote tribal hamlets of Coimbatore district, with a team of doctors, medicines, under the auspices of Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project; (m) health education: G. Kuppuswami Naidu Memorial hospital, Coimbatore, is a major partner of this tribal rural hospital. Besides the hospitals, AIM for Seva runs six mobile medical vans in five states, to reach out to the more distant villages, where people find it difficult to travel to the hospitals.

Conclusion: AIM for Seva has consistently met targets it has set for itself, as can be seen from the reduction in drop-out rates from a high of the national average of 60 per cent to less than 12 per cent. Further, it is extremely cost-effective by limiting administrative expenses, with the result that 85 per cent to 90 per cent of donations received reach the intended project. The organization has the capacity and the required skilled human resources to fulfil its goals and objectives of reducing drop-out rates and making value-based education available to every child in the tribal and rural regions of India, and thus to pose a challenge to extreme poverty and hunger by providing primary and secondary education to the most neglected sections of the population. Health-care facilities are the add-ons to complete our goal of extending education with health to send out sound citizens into society.

2. American Bar Association (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

The American Bar Association (ABA) has had a long-standing and productive relationship with the United Nations since 1943, when ABA leader Reginald Heber Smith organized a series of conferences of lawyers and legal scholars resulting in

the report, entitled “International Law of the Future”, which contained many provisions that would later appear in the Charter of the United Nations. Today, the ABA continues to be committed to advancing the rule of law throughout the world. In August 2008, the ABA’s House of Delegates revised their goals to reflect that commitment. Goal IV: advance the rule of law contains the following objectives: (a) increase public understanding of and respect for the rule of law, the legal process, and the role of the legal profession at home and throughout the world; (b) hold Governments accountable under law; (c) work for just laws, including human rights, and a fair legal process; (d) assure meaningful access to justice for all persons; and (e) preserve the independence of the legal profession and the judiciary.

The House of Delegates adopted the following policies during the reporting period at its bi-annual meetings: (a) February 2005, Salt Lake City — genocide: the ABA called upon the United States Government to take all necessary and proper action to end the ongoing atrocities (including genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes) in Darfur, Sudan; (b) August 2005, Chicago — corruption: the ABA supported the prompt ratification by the United States and by other members of the United Nations of the United Nations Convention against Corruption; (c) August 2005, Chicago — Charter of the United Nations: the ABA supported some of the reforms recommended by the United States Institute of Peace, including replacing the United Nations Human Rights Commission with a new Council and strengthening the United Nations Democracy Caucus. The ABA opposed provisions to withhold or condition funds as inconsistent with the United States legal obligations under the Charter of the United Nations; (d) February 2006, Chicago — rule of law: ABA President Michael S. Greco urged bar associations to support the rule of law by adopting the “Statement of Core Principles” to (1) ensure an impartial and independent judiciary; (2) ensure an independent legal profession; and (3) ensure access to justice for all people throughout the world; (e) August 2007, San Francisco — international treaties: the ABA supports ratification of several outstanding international treaties, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Hague Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The ABA supported ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child; (f) August 2007, San Francisco — human trafficking: the ABA urged federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to pass legislation, authorize funding, and appropriate funding that strengthens protection and assistance for victims of trafficking in persons, within the United States or abroad, as well as bolstered prevention efforts; (g) the ABA Board of Governors approved the inclusion of the rule of law and anti-terrorism as legislative priorities for the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities in the field and/or at Headquarters

2005: United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) session in Vienna, 4-22 July: the ABA delegation attended the UNCITRAL Commission session and in regard to the areas of insolvency law addressed the Commission and recommended that the Commission authorize work on the development of a legislative guide on corporate groups, both domestic and international, and, in

addition, develop a guide on the use of protocols between Courts in international insolvency proceedings. The ABA sent representatives to the UNCITRAL Working Group VI meeting in Vienna from 5 to 11 September.

2006: UNCITRAL Working Group on Secured Transactions in New York meeting from 30 January to 3 February and from 1 to 5 May. The ABA delegation attended the UNCITRAL plenary session in New York from 19 June to 7 July. In regard to the areas of insolvency law, representatives addressed the Commission and recommended that the issue of substantive consolidation be very limited and utilized only in specific circumstances, and recommended the continued work on protocols and the development of a legislative guide on corporate groups both domestic and international. ABA was present at the session of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in Vienna from 9 to 18 October and the session of the UNCITRAL Working Group on Securities Issues in Vienna from 4 to 8 December. During the session on insolvency, held from 11 to 15 December, the delegation addressed the Working Group with a number of suggestions in regard to the development of a domestic guide on enterprise groups. In addition, representatives attended the Conference of the States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held at the Dead Sea in Jordan, from 10 to 14 December, where they worked to improve the capacity of and cooperation between States parties to achieve the objectives set forth in the Convention and to promote and review its implementation.

2007: The ABA sent delegations to the UNCITRAL Working Group VI session in New York (February), and the Working Group V session in New York (May). The delegation addressed UNCITRAL Working Group V and provided background information on the use of protocols and provided recommendations in regard to the development of a legislative guide on the development of enterprise groups from both a domestic and international perspective. Representatives attended the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea in New York (June), the Congo's Civil Society Development Forum in Geneva from 28 to 30 June, the UNCITRAL Modern Law for Global Commerce Congress in Vienna (July), the UNCITRAL Working Group V session (November) and the sixty-second session of the General Assembly (November) in New York. From 9 to 12 July, the ABA delegation participated at the World Congress in Vienna and addressed the Congress, suggesting future projects for the consideration of the members in attendance with regard to insolvency issues. From 5 to 9 November, the ABA delegation attended the UNCITRAL Working Group V session and addressed the Working Group on the need and benefits of a guide to protocols and the development of a legislative guide on enterprise groups both domestic and international.

2008: (a) 29 June-3 July, UNCITRAL annual meeting, New York: the ABA delegation addressed UNCITRAL, supporting the indicators of commercial fraud that had been developed and endorsed and possible future work in the area of commercial fraud; (b) 15-19 September, UNCITRAL Working Group on Arbitration, Vienna: the ABA delegation participated in a working group session to continue the discussions on the proposed revisions to the 1976 UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules. Each year during the reporting period, the ABA held the Annual ABA Day at the United Nations, which was implemented (a) to bring about a better understanding among ABA leaders of the workings of the United Nations and the issues involved in the current relations between the United States and the United Nations; (b) to better position the ABA to promote United Nations-related policies; and (c) to

determine what the ABA can do to assist in the betterment of United States-United Nations relations. The ABA-United Nations Development Programme International Legal Resource Centre “ILRC”, formerly the “Legal Resource Unit”, was established in December 1999, on the basis of the common commitment of the American Bar Association and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to support and promote good governance and the rule of law around the world. The mission of the Centre is to provide a legal resource capability to serve UNDP global governance programmes and to assist UNDP country offices to identify candidates capable of providing legal advice, normally on a pro bono basis, on the drafting of legislation, judicial reform, building of legal institutions, and other legal dimensions of governance. On 25 September 2008, the Centre co-hosted a programme with the ABA Section of International Law Asia Pacific Committee, and the ABA Center for Human Rights on “Justice and the Rule of Law: Part II — Pakistan and Beyond”.

3. Fazaldad Human Rights Institute (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: the overall aim of the Fazaldad Human Rights Institute (FHRI) is to change the mindset of people to counter extremism and terrorism and to foster a culture of human rights to prevent violence against vulnerable groups. Fazaldad Institute also focuses to: (a) empower Pakistani women, irrespective of caste, creed, religion, or socio-economic status and to make the public aware of their full rights and potential in all spheres of life, especially social, economic, personal and political; (b) enable women to participate in the decision-making process that affects their lives and that of their families; (c) make participants aware that human rights is an integral part of Islam, which is a religion of peace and tolerance; (d) sensitize civil society on all relevant human rights issues, conventions such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Our organization is keen to attend any type of conference or work designated by the Economic and Social Council. However, during the reporting period sparse information was communicated to us for participation in conferences in local arenas.

International Conference on Gender Mainstreaming and the Millennium Development Goals (28-30 March 2005, Islamabad): a representative of Fazaldad Institute attended the meeting that was organized by All Pakistan Women’s Association with the support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network Section in partnership with the Government of Pakistan and the sponsorship of several United Nations agencies and partners.

Youth Summit 2005 (24-27 May 2005, Islamabad) and **Youth Summit 2006** (8-10 July 2006, Islamabad) organized by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Pakistan: meetings were attended by representatives of Fazaldad Institute.

The Millennium Development Goals and Youth Empowerment Conference (10-12 July 2007, Islamabad): representatives of FHRI attended this meeting, organized by UNFPA Pakistan.

Consultative meeting on United Nations reforms in Pakistan (5 August 2008, Islamabad), organized by the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO): attended by a representative of Fazaldad Institute.

Provincial Youth Assembly (Millennium Development Goals and Youth) (19-20 November 2007, Karachi): representatives of FHRI attended this meeting organized by UNFPA Pakistan.

Eighth International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (19-23 August 2007, Colombo, Sri Lanka): representatives of FHRI attended this meeting, nominated by UNFPA Pakistan.

Activities in support of Global Principles: Youth for a Safer World (21 June 2008, Peshawar, North-West Frontier Province NWFP, Pakistan): our Institute participated in the programme conducted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The purpose of the programme was to create awareness about human rights in youth, how they could participate and demonstrate their performance in the human rights field. The programme aimed to develop clarity and depth of understanding of human rights for teachers, who would then be able to effectively teach the subject of human rights, which was introduced into the curriculum of schools from Class 1 to Class 10. No programme for training teachers at the national level existed in the country. Fazaldad Institute has expanded their range and has been privileged to introduce human rights education projects in more than 100 cities of Pakistan, including remote and different areas like Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA).

Fazaldad Human Rights Institute worked closely with the Government of Pakistan and with civil society to introduce sustainable formal human rights education in the country. From 2005 to 2008, Fazaldad Institute worked closely and effectively with the Curriculum Wing, Federal Ministry of Education Islamabad, Directorate of Curriculum and Teacher Education North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), Provincial Institute of Teachers Education NWFP, Bureau of Curriculum and Extension Wing, Sindh, Baluchistan, Directorate of Curriculum Research and Development, Pakistani-Administered Kashmir, Textbook Boards, and other Education Departments.

Fazaldad Institute worked closely with the British High Commission on the countering extremism programme. During 2005, 40 one-day teachers' training workshops were conducted all over Pakistan, training about 8,800 teachers. It is one of the most successful programmes of its kind in the country. There is a huge demand for training workshops from across the country. In 2006, about 300 senior journalists from print and electronic media were sensitized in five training workshops on the issues of human rights education. In 2006 and 2007, 36 School Human Rights Days programmes and 5 one-day workshops were conducted in collaboration with the British High Commission. About 36,000 students and 4,500 teachers and parents have been sensitized. The students performed very well in these interactive programmes, which included debates, posters and speech competitions. Trainers from Fazaldad Institute gave several interactive sessions, including one on the theme "The Importance of Human Rights in Students' Practical Life". It enabled

students to understand their rights and responsibilities as members of society. The lecture highlighted that Islam is a religion of peace and that we should adopt values of tolerance, understanding and acceptance of difference in opinion. Fazaldad Institute hired a professional theatre group consisting of 10 television and stage artists and another group in Sindh, who performed the drama in Sindhi language. The medium of theatre was a success, particularly for schoolchildren who enjoyed the light-hearted performances. The interactive theatre became effective and popular, and it proved to be an excellent tool to change the mindset of the children and challenge the perceptions of the parents and teachers attending the School Human Rights Days.

From 2007 to 2008, Fazaldad Institute conducted 100 one-day teachers' training workshops in approximately 100 cities of Pakistan and trained about 20,000 teachers. It was the most successful programme of its kind in the country. The main subjects covered in the one-day workshops were concepts of human rights in the twenty-first century, women's rights, women's empowerment, which includes the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, gender equality, child rights, human rights in Islam, peace and tolerance in the twenty-first century and what teachers can do towards human rights education, etc.

From 2005 to 2008 Fazaldad Institute held six comprehensive one-week diploma courses for senior educationists and trained about 210 senior-level Master Trainers, such as principals, headmasters, education administrators, executive district officers, senior teachers, professors, lawyers, judges, instructional staff from the Civil Services Academy, Pakistan Administrative Staff College, the National Institute of Management, the Secretariat Training Institute, the Police Academies and the Judicial Academy from across Pakistan, including the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Pakistani-administered Kashmir.

From 2005 to 2008 Fazaldad Human Rights Institute organized more than 200 one-day programmes (one-day workshops for teachers' training and School Human Rights Day for schoolchildren) and participated in several programmes conducted by others, as follows.

Fazaldad Institute organized teachers' training workshops on human rights education during the period 2005-2008 in different parts of the country. The contents of the programme are concepts of human rights in the twenty-first century, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, women's empowerment, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the curriculum on human rights education, peace and tolerance, gender equality.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3: promote gender equality and empower women: (a) 34,500 male and female teachers trained on the issues of women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality issues; (b) 36,000 male and female students sensitized on issues of women's rights, gender equality and empowerment of women; (c) 50,000 items of literature, including books and handouts were distributed on these issues.

4. Human Rights Advocates, Inc. (Special; 1985)

I. Introduction

The primary activities of Human Rights Advocates (HRA) are to educate law students in the United States of America and others about the human rights bodies of the United Nations and to facilitate the attendance of students at those bodies to help further their learning processes. HRA works to educate the general public about the workings of the United Nations. The goal of HRA is to promote and develop the United Nations human rights bodies and to utilize those bodies to protect human rights worldwide. Finally, HRA participates in work outside the United Nations, including intervening in United States legal cases and assisting in human rights reports in an attempt to promote international human rights and human rights law worldwide. HRA has also filed petitions before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. HRA continues to be a volunteer-run organization with no paid staff and no offices. In the relevant time period, HRA has maintained an annual operating budget of \$10,000-\$15,000. Its funding comes from modest membership dues and small grants from local law schools. Its main expenses are for the production and mailing of its quarterly newsletter and notices for its public education events. Finally, HRA has a special earmarked fund, the Frank C. Newman Internship Fund, established by the widow of its founder and augmented by others. HRA has used the interest from the fund to pay small stipends, usually in total amounts of \$1,500-\$2,000, to cover travel costs for students who participate in various United Nations human rights bodies on behalf of HRA. Its membership during the years 2005-2008 remained around 120. While the largest group of members is from the United States, other countries included are Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Great Britain, El Salvador, Guam, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Uganda.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations Headquarters, New York:

(a) fifty-second session (2008): distributed reports and made oral statement on: The Economics of Empowerment: Financing for the Eradication of Physical and Sexual Violence Against Women; Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation; Financing to End Impunity for Perpetrators of Sexual Violence and Other Forms of Gender-Based Violence during Armed Conflict and in Post-Conflict Situations; (b) fifty-first session (2007): distributed reports on and made oral statement on: Anti-Trafficking in Persons Efforts and the Market for the Sexual Abuse of Girl Children and The Global Problem of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation; (c) fiftieth session (2006): written and oral statement on: The Role of Military Demand in Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation (E/CN.6/2006/NGO/17); (d) forty-ninth session: February-March 2005. Written and oral statement on: To Protect the Human Rights of Migrant Women and Children, National Labor Laws Must Not Discriminate on the Basis of Immigration Status (E/CN.6/2005/NGO/10). Also distributed reports on: Military Personnel's Role in the Trafficking of Women and Girls and Integration of the Human Rights of Women and the Gender Perspective: Violence Against Women.

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: seventy-second session (2009): reviews of the United States of America, fourth, fifth and sixth periodic

reports: Report on the United States of America to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and Report on the Dominican Republic. HRA also submitted a report on the Dominican Republic regarding migrants' rights.

Human Rights Council: (a) ninth session (2008): written statement: The Human Rights Impact of the Illicit Transfer of Toxic Wastes (A/HRC/9/NGO/07) (2008); (b) seventieth session (2008): written and oral statements: Holding Private Military and Security Companies and Mercenaries Accountable for Human Rights Violations (A/HRC/7/NGO/11); Protecting the Human Rights of Migrant Workers: at Borders, during Immigration Raids, in Detention Centers, and in the Workplace, (A/HRC/7/NGO/13); The Human Right to Water (A/HRC/7/NGO/12); The Human Rights Impact of the Illicit Transfer and Dumping of Toxic Wastes and Dangerous Substances (A/HRC/7/NGO/25); Juvenile Death Penalty and Juvenile Life without the Possibility of Release (A/HRC/7/NGO/24); Torture as a Method of Suppressing Political Dissent in Selected Emerging Democracies in Eastern Africa (A/HRC/7/NGO/14); The Right to Vote: Defining and Protecting an Essential Human Right (A/HRC/7/NGO/15); (c) fourth session (2007): written and oral statements: The Illicit Transfer and Dumping of Toxic Waste (A/HRC/4/NGO/11); The Death Row Phenomenon (A/HRC/4/NGO/4); Migrants and the Right to Life (A/HRC/4/NGO/5); Sexual Exploitation by Military and Peacekeepers (A/HRC/4/NGO/13); Violence Against Women In Times Of Armed Conflict (A/HRC/4/NGO/10); Imprisoning Children for Life without Possibility of Release (A/HRC/4/NGO/3); The Right to Vote (A/HRC/4/NGO/7).

Commission on Human Rights: (a) sixty-second session (2006): written statements were submitted on: The Rights of Migrant Workers; Imprisoning Children for Life without Possibility of Release; The Right to Water; Arbitrary Detention; (b) sixty-first session (2005): written and oral statements on: The Illicit Transfer and Dumping of Toxic Waste; The Death Row Phenomenon; Migrant Workers' Rights; Sexual Exploitation by Military and Peacekeepers; Poverty as a Root Factor in the Trafficking of Women and Children; Imprisoning Children for Life without Possibility of Release; The Right to Vote and Arbitrary Detention.

Human Rights Committee: HRA submitted reports at the 2006 sessions on the review of the United States report on sentencing juveniles to life without parole.

XI Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2005): made oral statement on juvenile life without parole sentences.

Commission on Sustainable Development (2005): addressed the right to water.

Relevant activities outside of the United Nations: HRA's mandate included educating about the use of international law in national courts. It sponsored educational events and participated in United States litigation on human rights issues as amicus curiae. From 2005 through 2008, HRA submitted briefs on a number of issues, such as: affirmative action; the jurisdiction of United States courts to hear claims involving international human rights law; the juvenile death penalty; the rights of immigrants; prison conditions; torture; defence of sanctuary workers; rights of protesters against nuclear weapons; and internationally recognized rights of disabled persons, women, and others. Among HRA's most recent participation in amicus curiae briefs are the following cases: *Coral Construction v. Martin*, regarding the special measures mandate in the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (California Supreme Court, 2008); *Parents Involved in*

Community Education v. Seattle School District No. 1 and Meredith v. Jefferson County Board of Education, special measures (United States Supreme Court, 2007); *Hill v. McDonough*, lethal injection as cruel and unusual punishment (United States Supreme Court, 2006); *South African Apartheid Litigation* (Court of Appeal, 2nd Circuit, 2005); *Roper v. Simmons*, juvenile death penalty case (United States Supreme Court, 2005); *Castlerock v. Gonzalez*, domestic violence (United States Supreme Court 2005).

HRA filed a petition before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in 2007 on behalf of an inmate who has been on death row in California for 15 years without having had his first appeal heard arguing that such a long time on death row constitutes cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment. The case is still pending.

Among HRA's work to educate the general public about the workings of the United Nations are a number of educational events that it has sponsored and co-sponsored on varied topics such as: celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the right to information about toxics; climate change and peace; Haiti's hunger crisis; racial discrimination and international human rights standards; labour rights and international law; the United States, racial discrimination and the United Nations; the United Nations and the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; facing State violence; the International Criminal Court; human rights in the United States; and public shadow reports by members of HRA delegations to various United Nations Human Rights meetings and sessions. HRA published volumes 45-52 of its Newsletter during 2005-2008.

5. Indigenous World Association (Special; 1985)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: The Indigenous World Association (IWA) was founded in 1980 and was granted consultative status in 1985. The aims of the Indigenous World Association are: (1) to provide education in the application of international human rights initiatives, law and processes and to promote the rule of law domestically and internationally in relation to the rights of indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities and uprooted peoples; and (2) to inform the concerned groups and civil society in various countries about the achievements and work of the United Nations system in those fields. The means of achieving these aims include: documentation and information in English and Spanish; organization of conferences, seminars, forums, and course curricula; emergency meetings on urgent situations; cooperation with other non-governmental organizations in the field; consultations with institutions and religious bodies regarding the rights of vulnerable peoples; participation in all relevant United Nations forums. The IWA focuses its work, although not exclusively, on indigenous peoples issues in the Western Hemisphere and the Pacific. Since our last submission, an IWA affiliate, the ALDET Centre (indigenous peoples of the Caribbean), has been granted consultative status. The ALDET Centre continues to work with the IWA to advance indigenous inclusion in the United Nations system.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

Throughout the reporting period, and since its founding, the IWA has sent indigenous delegations to yearly United Nations meetings in the human rights field, including of the Human Rights Council and the Expert Mechanism on Indigenous Peoples, as well as the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Included in the organizations' delegations, and as part of the organizations' ongoing commitment to education and capacity-building with indigenous peoples, there are representatives of indigenous communities who we train to work within the Economic and Social Council to promote the human rights of indigenous peoples. The Indigenous World Association made a priority the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the creation of the new Expert Mechanism on Indigenous Peoples, an advisory mechanism to the Human Rights Council. In this regard IWA representatives participated in numerous consultations relating to the Declaration, including meetings hosted by the Government of Mexico held on 26 and 30 September 2005, in Patzcuaro, Mexico, and in the indigenous preparatory meeting for the Human Rights Council held in December 2008 in Geneva.

During the period under review, the organization co-sponsored and participated in the first meeting of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (1-3 October 2008, Geneva), attended the sixth session of the Human Rights Council (10-14 December 2007, Geneva) and the seventh session of the Human Rights Council (3-28 March 2008, Geneva).

IWA sent delegates to the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005) on the theme "Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples, with a focus on Goal 1 to eradicate poverty and extreme hunger, and Goal 2 to achieve universal primary education"; the Forum's fifth session (2006) on the theme "The Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples: re-defining the Millennium Development Goals"; its sixth session (2007) on the theme "Territories, lands and natural resources"; and its seventh session (2008) on the theme "Climate change, bio-cultural diversity and livelihoods: the stewardship role of indigenous peoples and new challenges".

IWA representatives attended the International Conference on Education (25-28 November 2008, Geneva) and participated in the Durban Review Process (21 April-2 May 2008, Geneva).

Activities in support of Global Principles: During the period under review, the IWA sponsored indigenous observers from the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission to the meetings of the International Whaling Commission: fifty-seventh session (2005); fifty-eighth session (2006); fifty-ninth session (2007); sixtieth session (2008).

In keeping with its commitment to advance the education of indigenous peoples in United Nations procedures and international human rights initiatives as well as the rule of law, domestically and internationally, the Indigenous World Association provided a teacher/trainer to the International Training Center for Indigenous Peoples in Nuuk, Greenland, for their summer programme (2004 and 2006), and participated in a seminar for curriculum development for the International Training

Center for Indigenous Peoples sponsored and hosted by the University of Arizona Indigenous Law Program (2004). During the period under review, the IWA collaborated with the Hawaiian Civic Clubs to sponsor an educational training programme for Kanaka Maoli on indigenous human rights issues arising under the Convention on Biodiversity. The Ford Foundation funded this project for 2007 and 2008. In 2007-2008 the IWA Administrative Officer was requested to write the final chapter of the first Global Report on the Status on Indigenous Peoples by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The chapter covered global emerging issues facing indigenous people in the coming millennium. The publication was meant to be a comprehensive report for use by States, agencies, the United Nations system, and indigenous peoples alike.

In 2006 and 2007 IWA delegates to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues met at the Forum to discuss implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Non-Self Governing Territories.

During 2008: (a) the IWA nominated and sponsored one of its members to the United Nations Voluntary Fund; (b) IWA and other indigenous groups proposed that the Forum conduct an expert seminar on the impact of the United Nations decolonization process on indigenous peoples. This recommendation was adopted by the Forum in its report to the Economic and Social Council in 2008, but has yet to be implemented.

6. Penal Reform International (Special; 1993)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: Penal Reform International (PRI) is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1989 to develop and promote international standards and norms, and within those norms to implement site-specific solutions to penal and criminal justice reform. It operates worldwide at policy, advocacy and implementation levels under three broad headings: reducing the unnecessary use of imprisonment, developing and implementing human rights standards, responding to special needs. Its Head Office is in London.

Significant changes in the organization: In 2005, the Paris, San Jose and Kathmandu offices were closed and a regional office was established in Jordan for the Middle East and North Africa region. Upon Romania's accession to the European Union (EU), the status of the Central Europe office became that of a national, independent NGO. In 2007, responsibility for the paralegal programme, a core achievement of PRI in Africa was handed to a local Independent Paralegal Advisory Service Institute and the office was closed. At the end of 2008, Penal Reform International regional offices were operating in Georgia (South Caucasus), Jordan (Middle East and North Africa), Kazakhstan (Central Asia), Russia (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus), Rwanda (Great Lakes region) and the United States of America (North America).

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (18-25 April 2005, Bangkok): PRI supported a senior government delegation that tabled the Lilongwe Declaration on Accessing Legal Aid in the Criminal Justice System in Africa (Lilongwe Declaration on Legal Aid in Africa). PRI made four oral statements under the agenda items concerning: effective measures to combat transnational organized crime; making standards work; corruption; and international cooperation against terrorism. PRI initiated and co-hosted ancillary meetings on safeguarding the fundamental rights of prisoners; the cost benefits of reducing imprisonment; legal advice and assistance; prison privatization; too many women in prison; protecting the rights of children in conflict with the law; and HIV/AIDS in prisons.

Fifteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2006): PRI promoted recognition for the Lilongwe Declaration on Legal Aid in Africa, later adopted at the fortieth ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights. PRI made oral statements under the agenda items: follow-up to the eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; and strengthening international cooperation in the fight against terrorism. It held a side meeting on Malawi's Paralegal Advisory Service.

Sixteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2007): PRI promoted the Lilongwe Declaration on Legal Aid in Africa, which was recognized in adopted resolutions.

Substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (2007): The Lilongwe Declaration on Legal Aid in Africa was recognized in resolution 2007/24 on international cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa.

Seventeenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2008): PRI participated in three side events: to discuss the draft United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Handbook on Prisoners with Special Needs; to present on prisoners and mental health; and to promote juvenile justice best practice at a meeting organized by the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice. PRI was during this period an active member of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, established by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1997/30, which called for a "coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice" and comprising a number of United Nations agencies and specialist NGOs. PRI participated in the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice common statements, including at the seventeenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. PRI provided information to Governments in support of the resolutions on the death penalty adopted in the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

2005: PRI met the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and representatives of the Office of the United Nations High

Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to assess penal reform needs and priorities. Throughout the period, PRI continued to be a member with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) of the Jordanian National Steering Committee for Juvenile Justice, established in 2004. The same year, PRI participated with UNICEF and UNODC in an exploratory mission to Egypt, and published for UNICEF the results of a study in Nepal on the situation of juveniles in the criminal justice system.

2006: PRI was on a UNODC expert panel developing a series of "tools" for criminal justice impact assessment, and began to develop a handbook for UNODC offering practical recommendations and best practice for improving prisoner file management systems. Also in 2006, in Liberia, PRI worked with UNODC and the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) on the development of paralegal services. With the support of UNODC, PRI organized a regional paralegal training course in Malawi, to enable paralegals from Malawi, Uganda and Kenya to be deployed as mentors in Liberia and other post-conflict environments. PRI in Jordan supported the creation of two specialist police centres for juveniles; officers received specialist training from UNICEF.

2007: PRI translated into Arabic the Juvenile Justice Training Manual, produced by UNICEF and PRI. In Georgia, PRI worked with UNICEF against lowering the age of criminal responsibility from 14 to 12, and contributed to the preparation of alternative reports to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. It prepared a report for UNICEF assessing the potential for diversion projects for children in conflict with the law, made a project proposal to UNICEF and, in 2008, began the implementation of a juvenile justice support project.

2008: PRI took part in a UNICEF conference to review juvenile justice work in the former Soviet Union. PRI participated in the seventh, eighth and ninth sessions of the Human Rights Council, in Geneva, training all PRI senior staff in United Nations institutions, the universal periodic review process, the special procedures and treaty bodies, and the work of OHCHR. In Georgia, to publicize the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, a Committee member was a keynote speaker at a PRI seminar on protecting rights and preventing mental health problems among children in closed institutions. On the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, PRI co-organized with OHCHR in Georgia a round table. In the Sudan PRI collaborated with UNDP on prison staff training programmes. PRI met with UNICEF Iraq to discuss juvenile justice work conducted in Yemen and North Africa; a tentative juvenile justice programme was prepared for Iraq. PRI involved OHCHR in the death penalty conference organized by PRI and others in Alexandria, Egypt, and attended by delegates from nine Middle East and North African countries and Turkey. In Kyrgyzstan PRI worked with OHCHR to organize high-level information and training events on independent monitoring of all places of detention. PRI participated in a round table at the International Criminal Court, The Hague, to discuss issues surrounding family visits. PRI, launched at the forty-third ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, the English-French language publication *Africa's Recommendations for Penal Reform*, which includes declarations and action plans and the Economic and Social Council resolutions where these are reflected. PRI publicized the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' initiative "Dignity and Justice for Detainees".