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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. International Youth Hostel Federation

Special, 2004

Introduction

The International Youth Hostel Federation is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization recognized by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It is active over 90 countries offering approximately 4,000 youth hostels and over 400,000 beds. The International Youth Hostel Federation operates under the name Hostelling International, which is the brand name that is used worldwide.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- 2008: Representatives attended the thirty-second session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, held in Quebec City, Canada, and World Heritage City.
- June 2009: Representatives attended the thirty-third session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Seville, Spain.
- July, 2010: Representatives attended the thirty-third session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Brazil with the presence of the leading authorities of culture and heritage of Brazil.
- 2011: Representatives attended the following meetings in Europe related to environmental responsibility; Brussels, 3 May; Brussels, 24 and 25 November; European Commission, EMAS workshop on best environmental management practice in the tourism sector.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- 2008-2010: International Youth Hostel Federation/UNESCO World Heritage, The Hostelling International-Christina Cameron Award. This award is a new scholarship for Hostelling International that is aimed at young people participating in the annual Youth Forum meetings of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO. This initiative contributes to training a well-informed next generation and ready to involve themselves in the preservation and enhancement of natural and cultural world heritage. Projects designed by the award recipients can really take shape.
- 2009: International Youth Hostel Federation/UNESCO Organization of World Heritage Cities, heritage hostels web page, Canada. There are approximately 1,200 hostels in or near the 878 World Heritage Sites recognized by UNESCO. The new website was officially unveiled in the presence of the secretariat of World Heritage City Hostels. The project aimed at developing a website where visitors can share their photos or stories linked to world heritage experiences.
- 2010: International Youth Hostel Federation/UNESCO, Alliance for Sustainable Learning, Germany. Thirty-three youth hostels in the north-west Germany became part of the Alliance for Sustainable Learning of the German UNESCO Commission. They implemented a sustainable business concept and offered a wide range of programmes on education for sustainable development.

- September, 2011: UNESCO/International Youth Hostel Federation, UNESCO Award, Australia. Youth Hostel Federation Sydney Harbour and the Big Dig Archaeology Education Centre was awarded by the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

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

Promotion of peace and international understanding, intercultural exchange and environmental sustainability in tourism are cornerstones of the International Youth Hostel Federation's activities today.

The International Youth Hostel Federation concentrates on supporting the Millennium Development Goals through the following:

- Health education campaigns in local hostels and through members' media, primarily highlighting the importance of condom use and safe sex (these campaigns have led to numerous associations now offering condoms for sale in hostels)
- Environmental awareness-raising campaigns targeting the young traveller, e.g., through widespread information media (in most hostels), exhibitions and other educational programmes (in specially equipped and located hostels), consistent encouragement of waste separation, development of sustainable forms of group tourism
- Promotion of advanced ecological and sustainable practices in accommodation architecture and management through the use of appropriate building materials and methods in youth hostel planning/construction, use of renewable energies and recycling techniques wherever possible, environment-friendly practices in day-to-day hostel management

2. ISIS: International Women's Information and Communication Service

Special, 1996

Introduction

ISIS: International Women's Information and Communication Service (ISIS International) is a 38-year-old international feminist development organization that works for women's human rights and empowerment; and active participation and leadership within social justice movements. The primary approach of the organization is through the practice and advancement of feminist development communication. Its strategies are generally directed at challenging development paradigms that are biased towards western male and market-driven interests at local, regional and global levels. Today, the organization continues its commitment to working towards women's empowerment for active citizenship, shaped by social justice and respect for diversity. It engages in research, knowledge and capacity-building, policy advocacy, and the production and dissemination of multimedia products on cutting edge issues, in close cooperation with women's groups and other civil society organizations.

Aims and purposes of the organization

ISIS continues to strengthen movement building between and among activists working with marginalized women and communities in the Global South. It does this through facilitating access to information and frames of analyses, supports strategies and activities for gender equality and empowerment. It intends to strengthen the visibility of women's narratives, perspectives, analyses and advocacy initiatives with other stakeholders.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- 2008-2010: ISIS conducted research on strategizing and capacity-building for women's participation in peacebuilding with the objective of examining women's everyday realities as they are linked to issues of conflict resolution and peacebuilding and to United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on increasing women's participation in peace negotiations
- 2009: In collaboration with Miriam College, Philippines and Asia Pacific Women's Watch, ISIS organized the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+15, Philippines
- 2010: ISIS conducted an Activist School on Engendering Climate Justice, with the aim of highlighting southern women's perspectives and feminist analyses on climate change and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as strengthening feminist positions on gender and climate change in NGO-led processes.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

ISIS representatives attended the following meetings:

- UNFCCC: fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties, Copenhagen, December 2009
- Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-second to fifty-fourth sessions, New York, 2008-2010
- Human Rights Council, sixteenth to eighteenth sessions, Geneva, 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- 2008: In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ISIS conducted a three-week community radio training programme with Khoun Community Radio for Development and produced a guide on setting up community radio Laos.
- 2009: In collaboration with UNDP, the organization conducted a five-day community radio training in programming and strategic planning with Thateng Ethnic Community Radio for Development. An action plan towards financial sustainability was developed in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.
- 2009: In collaboration with UNDP Laos, the organization made a statement at the Mekong Media Forum, Thailand.

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

ISIS conducted the following events:

2008: In collaboration with the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) and Jaringan Radio Komunitas Indonesia, a training of trainers on the role of community radio in poverty alleviation and disaster management, in Yogyakarta; in collaboration with AMARC Asia Pacific and Voices, a community radio training for members of the Self-Employed Women's Association, in Bangalore, 2010; a communications and advocacy training on the theme "Engendering Climate Justice: The Southeast Asia Experience", in Manila; and a community radio training on engendered peacebuilding, disaster mitigation and climate justice, in Mysore.

3. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco

Special, 2008

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- (1) The Economic and Social Council 2011 high-level segment: written and oral contributions on teachers' training, in Geneva
- (2) Human Rights Council:
 - Inputs for resolutions A/HRC/16/L.13/Rev.1, A/HRC/16/L.1 and A/HRC/18/L.23; oral statements on items 6 and 10; joint statements on items 2 and 3 of the Council agenda
 - Written statements for the universal periodic review: Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, India, Lebanon, Mozambique, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
 - Meetings with Special Procedures: Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti (Port-au-Prince, August 2010); Special Rapporteur on adequate housing (Buenos Aires, April 2011); Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (San José, April 2011; Argentina, November 2011)
- (3) Committee on the Rights of the Child: reports on Cambodia and Costa Rica, 2011
- (4) Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: report on the right to adequate housing in Argentina, 2011
- (5) Social Forum 2011: written and oral contribution on the right to education
- (6) Training courses of the organization, Geneva: 5 to 12 March 2009, Educational strategies for street children in Latin America and Asia (six participants); 2 to 18 June 2009: The right to education in urgency situations in Latin America (four participants); 28 February to 11 March 2010: Education for children at risk in francophone Africa (five participants); 29 May to 12 June 2010: Educational continuity after the earthquake in Haiti (four participants); 10 to 24 September 2010: Quality education for indigenous children in Latin and Central America

(six participants); 27 February to 11 March 2011: The right to education for street children (nine participants); 9 to 21 September 2011: Young volunteers and human rights (10 participants).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

1. Tenth to eighteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council, Geneva; took part in the organization of 11 side events:

2009:

- Right to education for street children in Latin America (9 March)
- Right to education for street children in Asia (10 March)
- Right to education in urgency situations in Latin America (10 June)

2010:

- Right to education of at-risk children in Africa (8 March)
- Right to education of vulnerable girls in Africa (10 March)
- Haiti: Educational continuity in emergency situations (4 June)
- Quality education for indigenous children in Latin and Central America (21 September)

2011:

- The right to education of street children (4 March)
- Equal opportunities in education (7 June)
- Young volunteers and human rights (16 September)

2. Attendance of treaty body sessions, Geneva:

- Human Rights Committee, ninety-seventh to 103rd sessions
- Committee on the Rights of the Child, fifty-second to fifty-ninth sessions
- Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, forty-third to forty-seventh sessions
- Committee against Torture, forty-fifth to forty-seventh sessions
- Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions
- Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, forty-fifth, forty-seventh, forty-eighth and fiftieth sessions

3. Participation in the fifty-third to fifty-fifth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and organization of three parallel events, in New York:

- The love matters programme in South Africa, 10 March 2009
- The empowerment of indigenous women in Bolivia, Ecuador and Guatemala, 4 March 2010
- The education of girls and women in science and technology in Brazil, 25 February 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

We worked with the following agencies in the respective countries: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): Austria, Ireland; Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Benin, Angola, Zambia; Philippines, Timor-Leste; Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): Austria, Ireland; International Organization for Migration (IOM): Austria; UNDP: Argentina; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO): Sudan, Paraguay; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS): Zambia; International Labour Organization (ILO): Timor-Leste, Paraguay.

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

The organization contributed to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in 95 countries, including:

- Goal 1, by financing microcredit (13,000 projects), providing food supplies (about 200,000 persons per day) and professional courses (30,000 beneficiaries)
- Goal 2, by providing primary (500,000 students), secondary (300,000 students) and university (100,000 students) education
- Goal 3, by providing 10,000 scholarships, financial support to 5,000 families, and 16,000 professional courses, of which 70 per cent addressed women in rural areas
- Goal 4, by providing medical care through dispensaries and hospitals (400,000 beneficiaries)
- Goal 5, by providing medical care and training courses on sexual and reproductive health for 45,000 women
- Goal 6, by organizing training courses for 200,000 beneficiaries
- Goal 7, by building 300 wells, 600 water tanks and 25 filters
- Goal 8, by providing financial support to about 7,000 families and financing 100 solidarity projects.

4. Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights

Special, 2004

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

2008: The organization undertook "Human Rights Talk" in Tokyo on 5 December, holding meetings with the ministries concerned.

2009: The organization held "Human Rights Talk" in Tokyo on 10 December, gathering 20 participants.

2010: The organization jointly organized a meeting with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Tokyo from 12 to 15 May, and discussed human rights issues with the United Nations High Commissioner. The organization held the "Human Rights Talk", exchanging opinions with the ministries concerned on 6 December.

2011: On 29 March, the organization made a statement concerning relief for the victims of the great disaster of 11 March. The organization held a meeting on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Tokyo on 15 February with 30 participants. The organization held “Human Rights Talk” and exchanged opinions with the ministries concerned.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2008: The organization submitted its NGO report for the universal periodic review of Japan on 27 February and two representatives attended the review from 6 to 11 May. It submitted a parallel report against the fifth Japanese Government periodic report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on 21 March. A representative attended the seventh session of the Human Rights Council from 10 to 14 March and the organization submitted three written statements: A/HRC/7/NGO/18, A/HRC/7/NGO/19 and A/HRC/7/NGO/20. Three representatives attended the Human Rights Consultation in Tokyo on 11 April. The organization submitted a written statement (A/HRC/8/NGO/13) to the eighth session of the Human Rights Council on 2 June. A representative attended the first Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council on 4 August. The organization participated in the symposium with the Chair of the Human Rights Committee in Tokyo on 22 September. It also sent its members to attend the ninety-fourth session of the Human Rights Committee from 15 to 16 October, and had an official meeting with the members of the Committee to discuss human rights issues.

2009: The organization submitted a written statement (A/HRC/10/NGO/48) to the tenth session of the Human Rights Council on 2 March. It visited Spain to study Historical Memory Law from 21 to 28 March. It attended the Human Rights Consultation at United Nations University in Tokyo on 6 November. It also submitted the NGO parallel report on the follow-up of the concluding observations (CCPR/C/JPN/CO/5) to the Human Rights Committee on 1 December.

2010: The organization submitted a written statement (A/HRC/13/NGO/41) to the thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council on 22 February. A representative made an oral statement on the right to peace at the fifth Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council on 5 August.

2011: The organization submitted a written statement (A/HRC/16/NGO/8) and its representative made oral statements on the right to peace and the minorities in Japan on 11 and 15 March at the 16th session of the Human Rights Council. It visited Spain to exchange opinions with a member of the Committee against Torture on the Historical Memory Law, and to hear the voices of victims of the civil war, from 26 June to 3 July. A representative made an oral statement on the right to peace at the seventh session of the Human Rights Council on 8 August.

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

2009: The organization jointly held a symposium on the theme “International standards of human rights in Japan” in Tokyo on 28 February, with 150 participants. It held jointly the same symposium in Osaka on 17 March, with 50 participants. It also held a meeting on individual communications, in Tokyo on 25 June, with 30 participants.

2010: The organization supported holding the meeting on the theme “Ratify individual communications now”, in Tokyo on 15 January. It had a meeting with an officer of the American Embassy in Tokyo on 16 March on human rights issues including “karoshi”, death from overwork and the Red Purge problem. It also organized the meeting on individual communications, in Gunma on 23 March.

2011: The organization supported holding the meeting on individual communications, in Tokyo on 25 February, with 80 participants. It supported the organization of the symposium on the human right to peace, in Tokyo on 10 December, with professors of the Spanish Society for International Human Rights Law, and 90 participants.

5. Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children

Special, 2000

Introduction

Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children was launched in 1988, as a National NGO Liaison Committee on the Rights of the Child. The primary duty of the organization is to monitor and evaluate the implementation and non-observance of the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Kenya. The organization was registered on 22 June 1995 as a national NGO in Kenya.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Vision: a society that protects the rights of children and youth; mission: to advocate and promote realization of the rights and responsibilities of children and youth

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Held consultative meetings aimed at incorporating the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment into Kenya legislation
- Spearheaded the reporting on the situation of children in Kenya under the universal periodic review on human rights
- Took part in the twentieth anniversary celebrations of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in Geneva
- Participated in the eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva and made a presentation on violence against children at learning institutions during Rights of the Child Day, in partnership with the NGO Liaison Group
- Participated in the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, United States of America
- Participated in the Committee on the Rights of the Child — Day of General Discussion 2011 and Social Forum 2011
- Sensitized civil society organizations and the National Council for Children Services on the Orphaned and Vulnerable Children policy documents
- Held annual Children’s Voices Conferences of over 300 children to enhance child participation

- Participated in the third Civil Society Organization Forum on the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in Addis Ababa
- Participated in the annual General Assembly of the Consejo Nacional de Fomento Educativo, in Bamako
- Participated in the Third World Congress on Sexual Exploitation of Children, in Rio De Janeiro
- Participated in the 13th meeting of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- Participated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child conference “From moral imperatives to legal obligations — in search of effective remedies for child rights violation”, International Centre of Geneva
- As the secretariat of the NGO Committee on UNICEF for East and Southern Africa, the organization participated in an interview to reform the committee with one of the co-presidents who visited Kenya.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

See above

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization collaborated with the UNICEF Kenya country office to review laws and prepare two State party reports to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. It also collaborated with ILO to run a project on fighting child labour, using the Supporting Children Rights through Education Arts and Media (SCREAM) methodology.

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

- Coordinated children to participate in World AIDS Day
- Supported boys and girls from needy backgrounds with school fees
- Trained teachers on child participation; provided girls with packets of sanitary towels
- Sensitized parent-teacher association members on adolescent reproductive health
- Facilitated sensitization of children and teachers on alternatives to corporal punishment
- Sensitized children on fighting child labour using the SCREAM methodology in partnership with ILO/International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour.

6. Kindernothilfe

Special, 2004

Introduction

Kindernothilfe is a non-governmental organization founded in Germany in 1959. It partners with local organizations in 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe to realize and protect children's rights. We reach out to 779,540 children with programmes that help vulnerable and marginalized children to access.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

All activities of the organization support the development agenda of the United Nations. The organization's projects in 30 developing countries directly contribute to poverty reduction and community development by providing education and vocational training, support for children at risk and nutritional care in humanitarian crises. In advocacy, the organization focuses on development as a member of the Global Campaign for Education, the German Coalition against AIDS and the German Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, for instance, and through lobbying with German stakeholders. Advocating for a third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child was one of the main activities of the organization in the past four years. Additionally, awareness-raising on global issues in Germany contributes to the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

18 January 2008, Geneva: participation of a Kindernothilfe Advocacy Officer at the forty-seventh session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child related to the German state report on children in armed conflicts

2008: As member of the International NGO Working Group for a Communication Procedure for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Kindernothilfe actively pursued the launch of an international campaign.

6 March 2008, Geneva: A Kindernothilfe Advocacy Officer, Kindernothilfe partner organization The Cradle (Kenia), together with the International NGO Working Group, organized a side event during the seventh session of the Human Rights Council related to a communications procedure for the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

8 September 2008: A Kindernothilfe Advocacy Officer, in cooperation with the German National Coalition for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Forum Menschenrechte, submitted a document (A/HRC/WG.6/4/DEU/3) to the fourth session of the universal periodic review of Germany.

17 and 18 December 2009, 6 to 10 December 2010, 10 to 16 February 2011: a Kindernothilfe Advocacy Officer, together with the International NGO Working Group, participated at three sessions of the open-ended working group to explore the possibility of elaborating an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, issued several oral statements and presented amendments to the first draft of the optional protocol.

June 2011: oral statement of a Kindernothilfe Advocacy Officer at the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council with reference to the draft for a third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

10 June 2008, Berlin: contribution to a national conference on sexual exploitation of children, organized by UNICEF and others.

10 to 11 May 2010, The Hague: participation at The Hague Global Child Labour Conference organized by ILO.

8 September 2010, Berlin: organization of a national conference on Millennium Development Goal 2: Basic Education for All, in cooperation with UNICEF and Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung.

2010: Kindernothilfe Office Haiti regularly participated in the meetings of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs after the earthquake on 12 January 2010. Starting with joint United Nations cluster meetings, Kindernothilfe closely cooperated with UNICEF.

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

In the field Kindernothilfe supported:

- 509 projects promoting Millennium Development Goal 2: 284 in Asia, 92 in Africa and 133 in Latin America; activities: early childhood education, primary education, scholarship programmes, vocational training
- 52 projects promoting Millennium Development Goal 3: 14 in Asia, 33 in Africa and 5 in Latin America; activities: self-help groups, microloan programmes, community development programmes
- 248 projects promoting Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5: 61 in Asia, 91 in Africa and 96 in Latin America; activities: care and rehabilitation programmes for disabled children, assistance to traumatized children and working children; 71 projects promoting Millennium Development Goal 6: 20 in Asia, 48 in Africa and 3 in Latin America; activities: HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, self-help groups, trauma care for AIDS orphans.

In support of global principles, Kindernothilfe is part of Global Call to Action against Poverty and the United Nations Millennium Campaign. International Day for the Elimination of Poverty has been observed every year on 17 October. Kindernothilfe organized, as a member of an international consortium of five organizations, the international campaign on the theme “Act positive: AIDS affects us all”; main goals: awareness-raising and lobbying to the European Parliament for the realization of current policies regarding young people affected by HIV/AIDS; at youth conferences petitions were developed, signatures collected and discussions with parliamentarians held and more than 200,000 young people in Europe were reached through theatre and educational material.

7. Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped

Special, 2000

Introduction

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization established in 1984, which has been in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2000. The organization has come a long way since then to become a prominent rehabilitation foundation with 39,145 registered patients.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Loyal to its mission to improve the quality of life for people with special needs and enhance their dignity, independence and productivity, the organization provides full medical and rehabilitation services, which are constantly updated to incorporate the latest technological advancements, including: (a) diagnosis and treatment; (b) physical rehabilitation; (c) psychosocial rehabilitation; (d) educational rehabilitation; and (e) vocational rehabilitation.

Significant changes in the organization

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped obtained ISO certification 9001:2008 after effectively implementing the set of requirements for several years, ensuring quality management.

It also introduced occupational therapy into its rehabilitation programmes, and expanded existing departments.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped, in its mission, vision, objectives and day-to-day activities, aims to contribute to the work of the United Nations, promoting good practices and better life opportunities for persons with disabilities.

The organization also participated in different seminars and workshops in line with United Nations work, including:

- (i) The second meeting of State parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (2011);
- (ii) The first training workshop on empowering women with disabilities (2011);
- (iii) The second ministerial review conference on the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development (2011).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped attended the launch of the campaign on war and disability commissioned by the Office of the Special Rapporteur on disability (February 2008)

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- (i) In cooperation with the Lebanese Mine Action Center, the Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped regularly conducts awareness lectures on the hazards of landmines in risky areas. The lectures were funded in part by UNICEF (2008-2011);
- (ii) 147 persons attended vocational training sessions funded by ILO (2010);
- (iii) Follow-up and coordination with United Nations organizations such as the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, UNICEF and others, through periodical meetings, conferences and seminars on an ongoing basis.

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

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:

- (i) Compensated for losses in small economic ventures for 21 landmine survivors suffering from permanent disabilities to help them recover their businesses and support their families, following the July 2006 war in Lebanon (2008);
- (ii) Graduation of 387 students (2008-2011) from a nine-month intensive vocational training, on an ongoing basis; certificates in typing and computer programming, chef assistance, aesthetics and maintenance of wire and wireless equipment will help disabled and non-disabled students acquire skills for better job opportunities;

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education:

- (i) Expansion of the Special Education Department at the Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped to include classes for autistic and down syndrome students on an ongoing basis; 121 students suffering from disabilities are enrolled in the ongoing programme, as are 23 school dropouts. The number increases annually;
- (ii) Coverage of school registration fees and school materials for children whose fathers or mothers suffer from a severe disability;

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases:

- (i) The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped completed its breast cancer awareness campaign, launched in 2007, in 125 villages of south Lebanon. The campaign included lectures about the importance of early detection, the definition of breast cancer, its symptoms and prevention methods, in addition to free screening (mammography and ultrasound); 2,000 women were screened and those found with malignant tumours received additional follow-up and were treated free of charge at local hospitals (2007-2008);
- (ii) Awareness campaigns on disability, early intervention and other health issues;

Goal 8: Ensure environmental sustainability:

- (i) The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped provided agricultural guidance to farmers, improving their planting techniques; the organization's soil and water laboratories were a first resource for the programme;
- (ii) The organization equipped 32 public schools with 70 new potable water reservoirs and 38 water filtering systems.

Activities in support of Global Principles: the Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped encourages sports for the disabled, including wheelchair basketball, mini-football for landmine survivors, swimming and weight-lifting; the organization also commemorates Child's Day, the International Day against Cluster Munitions/Landmines, International Women's Day and International Day of Persons with Disabilities, with special events.

8. Lutheran World Federation

Special, 1952

Introduction

The Lutheran World Federation is a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the organization now has 145 member churches in 79 countries all over the world, representing 70.5 million Christians.

Significant changes in the organization

The basic purpose and function of the Lutheran World Federation have not undergone any significant changes during the period under review. In 2010, the organization held its eleventh Assembly, uniting its 145 member churches from 79 countries, representing over 70 million Christians. A new General Secretary and President have been elected and there are also members newly elected to the organization's Council. In 2011, the organization's strategy 2012-2017 was adopted.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The United Nations has been a primary partner of the Lutheran World Federation since its foundation in 1947. From 2008 to 2011, close cooperation with the Economic and Social Council and the wider United Nations system was reflected, inter alia, in the following ways:

June 2008: the Lutheran World Federation Council reaffirmed support for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the seminal articulation of modern international human rights law for promoting and protecting human dignity; that year, three youth members attended the international anniversary conference in Paris. The Federation held a symposium on illegitimate debt in Oslo, and participated in a major United Nations review of travel restrictions that discriminate against people living with HIV and AIDS. In 2009, the Federation organized a climate change encounter in India and Kenya, as a demonstration of global solidarity with vulnerable communities that are acting to address the impact of climate change. The Federation Council adopted a resolution that called upon

member churches and the Federation to act on climate change. In addition, it completed the peer review group with Oxfam and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for accountability to disaster-affected populations within the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response.

After the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, the Lutheran World Federation provided humanitarian assistance and reconstruction assistance through its World Service Office in Haiti in cooperation with other humanitarian agencies. In October 2010, the Federation provided a report reviewing the rights of women in Uganda for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In June 2011, Mr. Volker Türk, Director of the Division of International Protection at UNHCR, was invited to offer a keynote speech at a meeting of the Federation Council to discuss the challenge faced by refugees and internally displaced persons. Additionally, the Federation facilitates the participation of local non-governmental organizations in universal periodic review sessions.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the period under review, 2008-2011, the Lutheran World Federation participated in a large range of United Nations meetings, including of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the World Conference Against Racism, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Universal Periodic Review sessions and meetings organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Lutheran World Federation is one of the largest implementing partners of UNHCR and manages the world's largest refugee camp, in Kenya. As listed earlier, the Federation collaborates with both United Nations Charter-based bodies and treaty-based bodies. In 2008, the Federation chaired the NGO Committee on Human Rights in Geneva.

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

The Department for World Service is the internationally recognized humanitarian and development arm of the Lutheran World Federation. Most of its country programmes have been actively involved in working towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The participation in the United Nations clusters at the country level is a requirement for all Federation country programmes; this includes the World Food Programme, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. Highlights of Federation country programmes during the period under review were climate change, food security, gender empowerment, improving

community life and HIV and AIDS. Similarly, the Federation values global partnerships and fosters international collaboration at local and global levels.

9. Minority Rights Group

Special, 2004

Introduction

Minority Rights Group International campaigns worldwide, with around 130 partners in over 60 countries, to ensure that disadvantaged minorities and indigenous peoples, often the poorest of the poor, can make their voices heard.

Significant changes in the organization

An amendment was made to the Articles of Association of Minority Rights Group International in October 2011. Accordingly, the purposes of the Group are to educate the public, prevent and relieve poverty, and promote human rights, conflict resolution and reconciliation.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Activities of the Minority Rights Group focused on advocacy, training, publication and media to protect and promote the rights of ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples worldwide. The Group undertook interventions to address discrimination and social exclusion faced by minority and indigenous communities, to promote their participation in decision-making processes including consultation on poverty reduction strategies and development plans. The Group also worked to prevent conflict and mass atrocities through implementing peacebuilding and reconciliation programmes and promoted gender equality through challenging discrimination against minority and indigenous women.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2008: (i) inaugural session of the Forum on Minority Issues, 15 to 16 December, Geneva: the Executive Director of the Minority Rights Group was invited to speak under item 3, on essential requirements for an effective education strategy. The Group organized a side event on the theme “Challenging the denial of education rights”; (ii) Human Rights Council, seventh session, 3 to 28 March, Geneva: the Group representative attended the session in order to support the renewal of the mandate on the Independent Expert on minority issues and coordinated two statements.

2009: (i) second session of the Forum, 12 and 13 November, Geneva: the Executive Director of the Group delivered a statement under item 3, on obstacles to effective political participation faced by minorities; (ii) eleventh session of the Council, 2 to 18 June, Geneva: Group representatives attended the session and the panel discussion on human rights and climate change.

2010: (i) third session of the Forum, 14 and 15 December, Geneva: the Group’s Head of Policy delivered a statement under items 7 and 8, on meaningful and effective participation in economic and development policymaking. The Group co-organized a side event with the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization

on minorities and natural resources and with UNICEF on the rights of minority children; (ii) twelfth session of the Human Rights Council, 1 to 26 March, Geneva: the Group representative delivered a statement on the report of the Independent Expert on minority issues; and (iii) fifteenth session of the Council, 13 September to 1 October, Geneva: the Group representatives attended the session.

2011: (i) fourth session of the Forum, 29 and 30 November, Geneva: the Group representative delivered a statement under item 7, on concrete steps aimed at guaranteeing the rights of minority women. The Group co-organized a side event with the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization on violence against minority women and their access to justice; (ii) sixteenth session of the Human Rights Council, 28 February to 25 March, Geneva: the Group representative delivered a statement on the report of the Independent Expert on minority issues; (iii) seventeenth session and eighteenth session of the Council, 30 May to 17 June and 12 to 30 September, Geneva: Group representatives attended the sessions; (iv) universal periodic review, eleventh session, 2 to 13 May, Geneva: the Group submitted shadow reports for the Universal Periodic Review of the Sudan, Hungary and Somalia, and a representative attended the session to lobby for the inclusion of minorities.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Publication, in collaboration with UNICEF, of the *State of the World's Minorities and Indigenous Peoples 2009*, with a focus on education
- Technical support for UNDP in the production of "Marginalised Minorities in Development Programming: A UNDP Resource Guide and Toolkit" (2010)
- Commissioned by UNHCR to draft *Need to Know Guidance Series, Working with Minorities and Indigenous Peoples*, volume 4
- The Group with OHCHR and the office of the Independent Expert on minority issues, co-hosted the preparatory day of the Forum in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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

The Minority Rights Group worked to build the capacity of civil society organizations in several new European Union (EU) member States to raise public awareness of development issues and encourage the implementation of appropriate and effective strategies to address them. The Group also worked to increase the awareness of key development actors and decision makers about the importance of the rights-based approaches to development in designing and implementing development policies. In addition, it ran a global media programme to raise public awareness about the necessity of achieving the Millennium Development Goals for minorities and indigenous peoples and strengthen the visibility of minorities and indigenous peoples in the EU media.

10. Mother Child Education Foundation

Special, 2008

Introduction

Founded in 1993, the Mother Child Education Foundation (known by its Turkish abbreviation ACEV) is an organization working in early childhood and adult education. Its programmes have been implemented in 65 provinces of Turkey and in 12 countries in the Middle East, Europe and Latin America.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation believes that all children, regardless of the circumstances into which they are born, deserve a fair start in life and the opportunity to thrive. The Foundation is dedicated to developing and providing scientifically developed adult and early childhood education programmes for socioeconomically disadvantaged groups, conducting research and running awareness-raising campaigns.

Significant changes in the organization

In February 2012, the Operational Relations Status of the Foundation at UNESCO was updated to consultative status, in accordance with the UNESCO reclassification of its NGO partnerships. The Foundation has forged new collaborations with the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey for its parenting programme implementations in both urban and rural areas.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

From 2005 to 2009, The Foundation carried out the “7 Is Too Late” campaign, which has been instrumental in building public awareness of early childhood education in Turkey and in influencing public policies. From the start of the campaign in 2005 to 2011, the school enrolment rate of children between four and six years of age increased from 16 per cent to 43 per cent, and achieving 100 per cent enrolment by 2013 has been targeted by the Government. The Foundation was further recognized as an authority in the area of early childhood and parent education in 2008, when the Ministry of National Education launched the national family education programme, which is based on the Foundation’s award-winning flagship programme Mother Child Education Program.

In 2009, in response to feedback from the field, the Foundation developed a new programme for women and children living in rural regions in need of educational support. The programme targets the empowerment of rural women and supporting the development of their children. It includes the use of audiovisual training materials to enable more effective learning. In 2010, with financial assistance from the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Foundation initiated the “Father Training for Violence-Free Families” project in Turkey. In 2011, the UNICEF Turkey Office and the Foundation signed a Programme Cooperation Agreement to support the Turkish Ministry of National Education’s development of quality standards in the preschool education system in Turkey. In late 2011, the Foundation launched a new distant education programme with the aim of delivering literacy training through a web-based portal.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2010: Foundation representatives attended the Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop for the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women grantees, held 8 to 12 November in Bratislava.

2011: A Foundation representative attended the 36th General Conference of UNESCO, held 25 October to 10 November in Paris.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Project in collaboration with UNICEF to establish quality standards and an accompanying monitoring system for the preschool education system in Turkey, 2011-2013.
- Financial assistance received from UNIFEM for the “Father Training for Violence-Free Families” project, designed to eliminate domestic violence against women and girls by engaging men in a comprehensive and community-based prevention programme, 2010-2013.

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

By the end of 2014, the Foundation commits to impact approximately 1 million families in Turkey through increased awareness of early childhood development and education; to raise \$20 million for these activities; to provide preschool, parenting and literacy education to 400,000 young children, parents and illiterate women; and to train 2,500 trainers, thereby contributing to Millennium Development Goal 2, on primary education, Millennium Development Goal 3, on gender equality, Millennium Development Goal 4, on child health, and Millennium Development Goal 8, on building a global partnership for development. From January 2010 to December 2011, the Foundation raised \$12 million (61 per cent of target), provided preschool, parenting and literacy education to 141,500 individuals (35 per cent of target) and trained 1,876 new trainers (75 per cent of target).

11. Mother’s Union

Special, 2000

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim and purpose of Mother’s Union is to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by the transformation of communities worldwide through the nurturing of the family in its many forms. Through its grass-roots membership, Mother’s Union supports family life and marriage through practical programmes, campaigning and Christian fellowship. Mother’s Union has a presence in 83 countries. Its headquarters is in London.

Significant changes in the organization

Mother’s Union membership has increased since 2007 to 4 million members, who are now present in 83 countries. Geographical distribution has extended since 2007 to include Denmark, Portugal, Finland, Congo and South Sudan.

The global recession had an impact on the organization's ability to carry out activities across the world, for example, providing small grants and replacing paid staff.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Mother's Union's main development programmes include the Family Life Programme, the Literacy and Financial Education Programme, the Parenting Programme, campaigning and advocacy (for more details see below).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2008: United Nations Headquarters, 25 February to 7 March, fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Mother's Union submitted a written statement on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women; representatives attended the session and ran the side event "Grass-roots to equality: How Mother's Union mobilizes community education".

2008: UNESCO headquarters, Paris, 3 to 5 September, sixty-first Annual Conference of the Department of Public Information for Non-governmental Organizations, held on the theme "Reaffirming human rights for all: the Universal Declaration at 60": the representative presented a talk at a workshop on protecting the human rights of migrants and their families to promote development: challenges and strategies.

2009: United Nations Headquarters, 2 to 13 March, fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Mother's Union submitted a written statement entitled "Equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS"; representatives attended the session and ran the side event "Sharing the Caring: How Mother's Union promotes gender equality within families".

2010: United Nations Headquarters, 2 to 13 March, fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Mother's Union submitted a written statement on the theme "15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000)"; and representatives attended the session.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2010, the organization was commissioned by the National Health Service to knit model breasts for pregnant and new mothers to practice breastfeeding, in support of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative.

In 2011, the organization collaborated with UN Women UK on a steering group advising the United Kingdom Government Equalities Office on NGO participation in the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

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

Mother's Union has promoted awareness within its membership of all eight Millennium Development Goals; and the goals are mainstreamed into several of its programmes.

The Literacy and Financial Education Programme in Burundi, Malawi, the Sudan and South Sudan, in order to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, provides literacy, numeracy, income-generating and advocacy skills to over 80,000 women and their communities. It has led not only to improved relationships between women and men and greater income generation, but also to learners and their communities sending more of their children to primary and secondary school, children being vaccinated and community birth attendants being trained.

The Family Life Programme in Uganda mobilizes communities to identify and address issues they face together. Participants improve nutrition and food security through growing kitchen gardens and running seed banks; improve child and adult health through building pit latrines and handwashing facilities; promote awareness of HIV/AIDS and provide a network of home-based carers for those with HIV/AIDS; and improve environmental sustainability through energy efficient stoves and tree planting.

The Child Survival Programme in Angola trains trainers to raise awareness of child health in the community; and in Cameroon members run a child sexual health education project.

12. Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation

Special, 2000

Introduction

Founded in 1992, Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation is an organization based in Uganda, dedicated to various issues aimed at promoting the rights and well-being of the youth, especially in the rural areas. It has been registered with the Uganda National NGO Board since 1994.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the organization is to enhance the quality of life and expand the opportunities of young men and women to achieve lifelong success through formal and informal education, health care and sustainable economic development.

The organization depends on the valuable contributions of its members, volunteers and other development partners, local and international, including the Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations, the Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network and others.

Overall objectives

The organization's overall objectives are:

- (a) To develop and strengthen youth programmes, through training, microenterprise schemes and exchange visits for self-reliance;
- (b) To advocate for increased access to quality education, both formal and non-formal, including child education and career guidance;
- (c) To promote adult functional literacy and vocational and apprenticeship schemes for youth and out-of-school street children and youth with disabilities;

(d) To build the abilities of young people to participate effectively in development and decision-making processes through youth camps, workshops and conferences;

(e) To initiate and implement projects geared towards hunger and poverty alleviation, improved health care and environmental protection for sustainable development.

Significant changes in the organization

There has been no substantive change in the sources of income of the organization in the past four years, although funding has increased since the organization was granted consultative status.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the period under review, Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation was engaged in a number of activities in support of the work of the United Nations and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including advocacy for and support of orphans and vulnerable children, advocating for increased accessibility to education, both formal and informal; skills training and apprenticeship to enable youth to acquire a range of skills, and mobilizing youth and adults towards HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention and counselling services.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the period 2008-2011, the organization participated in two United Nations meetings, namely: the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 25 February to 7 March 2008; and the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society organizations and the private sector, held on 14 and 15 June 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization had no serious cooperation with any United Nations body.

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

Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation contributed to the fight against extreme poverty by distributing goats for reproduction, supporting women's groups and through market research for increased household income so that they can support their families. Over 38 families with orphans and vulnerable children, in Nabbale, Kasawo and Kimenyedde subcounties in Mukono District, have benefited from the goat project. The organization also supported some youth with sewing machines and others were referred for vocational training at the organization's skills training centre; 26 youth, mainly girls, benefited and some are now self-employed.

Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation started a nursery school, which later became a primary school and helped 23 children with primary education; two are completely blind, five are HIV-positive and three are deaf.

Mukono Multi-Purpose Youth Organisation provides counselling services at Naggalama Hospital; over 8,000 people who are affected and have HIV/AIDS have

benefited. Also, in collaboration with its partners, the organization gave out over 3,000 mosquito nets to people living with HIV/AIDS and trained communities on how to prevent HIV and malaria; it also provided community sensitization and conducted HIV virus testing, with 12,300 people tested, and trained more than 50 community counsellors and peer educators. It attended World AIDS Days in Uganda, held annually on 1 December in Buvuma in 2011, in Kasawo in 2009, and in Naggojje in 2008. The organization has trained over 50 community counsellors and peer educators.

13. Myochikai (Arigatou Foundation)

Special, 2004

Introduction

The activities of Myochikai (Arigatou Foundation) are all rooted in the organization's recognition that children are the treasure of humanity, the inheritors of the Earth, and the bearers of future peace. Since 1990, many of the efforts of the organization to build world peace have focused on children. All of Arigatou's activities are supported by the contributions of Myochikai members, who donate to the work of Arigatou as part of their Buddhist spiritual practice.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2008, the organization introduced the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children and opened its secretariat in New York.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributes to work of the United Nations and the Millennium Development Goals primarily in the following fields: (1) implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; (2) quality education (Millennium Development Goals 2 and 3); (3) peacebuilding; and (4) assistance for child survival (Millennium Development Goal 4). It works directly with United Nations agencies and sustains three worldwide initiatives: the Global Network of Religions for Children, an interfaith cooperation platform for child rights; "Learning to Live Together: An Intercultural and Interfaith Programme for Ethics Education", developed jointly with UNESCO and UNICEF; and the World Day of Prayer and Action for Children, drawing on its formal consultative status with UNICEF.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

September 2008, Geneva: attended, submitted a written contribution, "The Right of the Child to Education in Emergency Situations", and made interventions at the Human Rights Council Day of General Discussion on the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2009-2011, Geneva: attended the following sessions of the Human Rights Council: tenth session, 2 to 27 March 2009; twelfth session, 14 September to 2 October 2009; sixteenth session, 28 February to 25 March 2011; written contributions included: tenth session: co-signed documents A/HRC/10/NGO/112 and A/HRC/10/NGO/113; co-organized the panel, "Intercultural/Interfaith Education and Freedom of Belief"; thirteenth session: co-signed documents A/HRC/13/NGO/94 and A/HRC/13/NGO/93;

sixteenth session: co-signed document A/HRC/16/NGO/116; delivered the statement, “Human Rights Education and Training”; seventeenth session: co-signed document A/HRC/17/NGO/57.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated extensively with United Nations bodies; for example:

2008: contributed \$10,000 to Myanmar cyclone relief efforts of UNHCR; requested to serve on the Panel on Human Rights Education at the 180th session of the UNESCO Executive Board meeting in Paris; facilitated a workshop on religion and cultural diversity at the UNESCO Copenhagen Conference on Education for Intercultural Understanding and Dialogue; introduced World Day of Prayer and Action for Children at the Global Network of Religions for Children forum, which was attended by the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UNICEF.

2009-2011: partnered with UNICEF and others and held 190 World Day events in 70 countries with the participation of 1,400 organizations and 274,300 attendees.

2009: contributed \$11,143 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; and was mandated by UNESCO Intercultural Dialogue Section to conduct a global study on ongoing practices in interreligious dialogue undertaken by and for youth.

2010: signed a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations on education about religions and beliefs; and contributed \$119,840 to develop the UNICEF guidebook *Partnering with Religious Communities for Children*.

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

From 2008 to 2011, the organization contributed \$832,343 in emergency assistance for child survival (Goal 4) in natural disaster and conflict areas, often supporting UNICEF and UNHCR efforts. In 2008, it also contributed \$99,162 to the UNICEF project on education for the female child in Tajikistan (Goal 3a). In 2010, it helped fund a Japan-wide Millennium Development Goals awareness campaign.

Supporting Goals 2, 3 and 4, the organization held 193 Global Network of Religions for Children events and programmes in 28 countries, with 46,200 participants, including youth peace clubs in African conflict areas, interfaith reconciliation workshops, and national and community advocacy for quality girls’ education and child rights.

The World Day of Prayer and Action for Children explicitly supports the Millennium Development Goals. In 2009, advocacy, education and community mobilization events took place in 22 countries, with 8,800 participants, focusing on poverty (Goal 1), HIV/AIDS and the needs of AIDS orphans (Goal 6), girls’ education (Goal 3), among other issues. In 2010, activities took place in 48 countries, with 36,500 participants; 19 focused on exclusive breastfeeding (Goal 4); and 46 focused on child rights that are essential to several Millennium Development Goals. In 2011, drawing on the United Nations Study on Violence against Children, there were activities in 72 countries, involving 1,400 organizations and 229,000

attendees. The organization's Learning to Live Together intercultural ethics education programme (in six languages) supported Goals 2, 3 and 4. Workshops in 16 countries addressed global principles, including: quality education, human rights, conflict transformation and peacebuilding. Since 2008, the programme, offered free of charge, has been adopted by 200 programmes worldwide.

14. National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs

Special, 2000

Introduction

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, founded in 1935, emerged as a national non-profit organization in the light of the need to promote and protect the interests of women business owners and professionals.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs sponsored a number of side events at United Nations Headquarters in the period under review.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- 2008: Paris, Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat: conference on reaffirming human rights for all; New York: special session of the Commission on the Status of Women on financing for gender equality and empowerment of women
- 2009: New York, briefings: 19 and 20 March; annual orientation, 4 March; "Rights of Women Living with HIV/AIDS", 23 April; "Towards the end of the decade to roll back malaria in developing countries", 2 February; "Volunteerism at the crossroads in a changing world", 26 March; "The legacy of the slave trade on modern society", Ghana, West Africa on the Voices of African Mother Conference; Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-third session, 2 to 13 March 2009; co-sponsored a parallel event, 7 March; "HIV/AIDS and the care of the vulnerable", with the National Council of Women of the United States: parallel events, 10 March; "HIV/AIDS and Care-giving: African Diaspora Perspective, 5 March; Celebration of International Women's Day, 21 May; International Year of Biodiversity
- 2010: Co-sponsored two parallel events: "To Make Life Worth Living — Empowering Women After Fistula" and "Women as Economic Change Agents of our Time", with the National Council of Women of the United States, fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women; submitted a statement in March to the Economic and Social Council, which was accepted and circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

- 2011: New York, NGO briefings: “Women in Science: The Equality Myth”, 10 March; “International Year of Volunteers +10”, “Violence against Children”, 3 March; “Cyber violence against Children”, 10 February; “MicroFinance: Ending Poverty One Loan at a Time”, Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-fifth session, 22 February to 4 March, in New York, sponsored one parallel event: 25 February, “Bridging the Gap: Girls’ Access to Education: Math, Science and Technology — One Step at a Time” and co-sponsored two parallel events with the National Council of Women for the United States; 28 February, “Women in Science: The Equality Myth: Four Team Debate”; 3 March, “Combat Domestic Violence Locally and Globally”.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Makes a financial contribution to UNICEF on an annual basis.

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

Millennium Development Goals: Eradicate poverty and hunger: provided microloans for business; vegetable farms in Ghana, and provided oxen to farmers in Ethiopia; achieve primary through secondary education: funded education in Ghana, West Africa, South Africa, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho, and Malawi; promote gender equality and empower women: enabling women to earn a living by teaching them marketable skills in Ghana; reduce child mortality: provided clothing for infants and children in Senegal, Lesotho, Morocco, South Africa, Ghana, Brazil and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); improve maternal health: blood pressure screening, prenatal talks, self-breast examinations, HIV/AIDS, baby weighting clinic, nutrition in Ghana and South Africa; floating medical boat: Benin; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: South Africa, food baskets, Ghana and Zambia, mosquito nets; ensure environmental sustainability: Ghana — toilets, environment club and water wells for safe drinking water.

15. National Centre for Sustainable Development

Special, 2004

Introduction

The National Centre for Sustainable Development was established in 1997 under the aegis of the Romanian Academy, as an agency of UNDP Romania. In 2001, the Centre became an independent non-governmental organization and broadened the scope of its activities.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Centre’s goal is to identify the priorities for sustainable development in Romania and to address them through specific projects at national and local levels.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Starting with 2006, until 2008, the Centre implemented, together with UNDP, the fifth phase of the Local Agenda 21 project in Romania, expanding it to four cities (Alba Iulia, Tulcea, Ovidiu and Babadag), three counties (Alba, Neamt and Tulcea)

and the second district of Bucharest. During the period 2009-2010, the Centre offered consultancy to local administrations that were engaged in the implementation of Local Agenda 21, with the aim to actually start the realization of the priority projects that had been identified as eligible for public-private partnerships. In 2008, the revised document of the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013-2020-2030 was the result of a joint project of the Romanian Government, through the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and UNDP Romania, through the Centre. The Strategy was approved by the Government of Romania (Decision No. 1460 of 12 November 2008) and submitted to the European Commission at the end of 2008.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2008: A representative of the National Centre for Sustainable Development attended the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) regional consultation meeting, on 17 and 18 November, in Geneva.

2010: Centre representatives attended the following meetings in Europe: UNEP — regional consultation meeting in preparation for the next Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum and eleventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and the annual meeting of UNEP national committees and partner NGOs, on 12 and 13 January, in Geneva; and Major Groups and Stakeholders consultations, from 25 to 27 October, in Geneva. The Centre Executive Director, who was also appointed Special Rapporteur by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, attended the following meetings: fifteenth session of the Human Rights Council (14-17 September, Geneva); information session for the 11 new mandate holders appointed in March and June (22-24 September, Geneva).

2011: The Executive Director of the National Centre for Sustainable Development, in his capacity as Special Rapporteur, attended the following meetings: 18th annual meeting of special rapporteurs, representatives, independent experts and Chairs of working groups of the Human Rights Council (27 June-1 July, Geneva); eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council (14-17 September, Geneva).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The National Centre for Sustainable Development is the UNEP National Committee for Romania, and its Executive Director is the UNEP National Committee Representative for Romania. Also, in August 2010, the Director was appointed Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights by OHCHR. In 2011, the Special Rapporteur undertook a mission to Poland (25-31 May) and, in 2012, a mission to the Marshall Islands (26-30 March), with a follow-up mission to Washington, D.C. (24-27 April). At the eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council (July 2011), the Special Rapporteur presented a report on the adverse effects that the unsound management and disposal of medical waste may have on the enjoyment of human rights.

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

The contribution of the National Centre for Sustainable Development to major projects of United Nations bodies has decreased in the past few years, as it focused its activities on the development and implementation of projects financed by the European Union through the Sectoral Operational Programme — Environment (Priority axis 4: Implementation of adequate management systems for nature protection; main intervention area: development of infrastructure and management plans for the protection of biodiversity and Natura 2000 network), having as main goals the conservation of biodiversity in the Natura 2000 sites in Romania, by enhancing the awareness of the central and local authorities and of the general public and by strengthening the required institutional capacity for the implementation of the *acquis communautaire* with regard to nature protection. Also, having no access to additional funding makes attendance at international meetings organized by the United Nations very difficult.
