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1. Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession

Special, 2000

Introduction

The Arab Centre for the Independence of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession is a non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 1997 and has been in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 2000. The organization is the coordinator of the Arab Coalition for the International Criminal Court and the North African coordinator of the Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. It is a member of the International Criminal Bar in The Hague and a member of the International Commission of Jurists.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aims are:

- (a) To support and strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession in the Arab region;
- (b) To make national legislations consistent with international instruments;
- (c) To reinforce ordinary judiciary in accordance with standards for fair and impartial trials as stipulated in international instruments;
- (d) To disseminate the values and principles of human rights;
- (e) To strengthen the principles of international criminal justice and legitimacy;
- (f) To advance the level of legal education in the Arab region.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated at the tenth session of the Human Rights Council, held in March 2009. It submitted a research paper on extralegal killings, prosecuting activists, extraordinary trials and violating the freedom of expression in many Arab States, including Bahrain, Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Tunisia and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the discussions of the Human Rights Council held in Geneva from 14 to 21 March 2008. During the discussions, it had meetings with a number of special rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on torture, and his assistants, and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, as well as with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The organization sent a report on 22 December 2009 to the Human Rights Council for its universal periodic review for 2010; the report covered the human rights situation in the Arab States. The organization also participated in the second workshop on the theme "Human rights treaties: maximizing the engagement of Iraq civil society", which was held in Erbil, Iraq, from 27 September to 1 October 2010 by the Human Rights Law Centre of the University of Nottingham.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated with United Nations bodies through its participation and input in the meetings held by the Human Rights Council, in addition to contacting the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers with regard to his intervention on violations of the principle of independence of the judiciary and legal profession in some Arab States, as well as the Special Rapporteur on torture, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. During the reporting period, the organization held a number of training courses, workshops and conferences that called for spreading and consolidating the United Nations principles and the activation of charters and declarations issued by the United Nations.

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

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 65/206 on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, the organization launched a campaign entitled “Towards reducing the application of the death penalty in the Arab States”. The campaign started its activities in 2010 and will continue to 2013. It targets the Arab Governments, urging them to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. In this context, the Centre organized a number of regional conferences in the Arab States.

Additional information

The Centre organized a consultative meeting with the President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, meets with many of the human rights leaders, the officials of Egyptian civil society organizations and members of the Egyptian Coalition for the International Criminal Court on 7 May 2012 for consultation, follow-up comments and discussion on the necessary steps taken by Egypt to ratify and accede to the Court, in addition to discussing the obstacles facing the ratification and accession of Egypt.

2. Assemblea delle Donne per lo Sviluppo e la Lotta Contro L'Esclusione Sociale

Special, 2008

Introduction

Assemblea delle Donne per lo Sviluppo e la Lotta Contro L'Esclusione Sociale (“Assembly of women for development and the struggle against social exclusion”) is a non-profit association of women based in Rome. The organization implements its activities in different countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Assemblea delle Donne per lo Sviluppo e la Lotta Contro L'Esclusione Sociale is a research organization specializing in the study of contemporary knowledge-based societies from a gender perspective, trying to bridge the gap in the interpretation of

global transformations and to promote greater awareness of female potential and of the obstacles to its full realization. The organization conducts research, training and experimentation initiatives on themes relevant to development and the struggle against social exclusion in Europe and worldwide and geared to promoting a greater participation of women in economic, political and social life, as well as in leadership positions. It is also involved in national and international networking, with a view to establishing durable links between women operating in different areas, including: research, policymaking and civil society.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributes to the work of the United Nations directly or through consultations with major national and international stakeholders (e.g. NGOs or women's networks and umbrella organizations, such as the Huairou Commission), including the Government of Italy. The activities directly managed by the organization include:

- A one-year project design, lobbying and networking activity in 2010, at the national and international levels, aimed at defining, together with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, a joint action research on the protection of the rights of women migrants belonging to the Islamic communities in Europe, to be funded by the Government of Italy.
- Voluntary participation in a writing workshop for the companion report to the *World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development*, held from 21 to 23 September 2011 in Bellagio, Italy.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following:

- Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (New York, 21-30 January 2008, regular session). Participation of two representatives and side meetings with directors of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other NGOs with a view to future cooperation.
- Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-fourth session (1-12 March 2010). Preparatory activities with Italian NGOs and the Government of Italy and a side event based on a 15-year research programme about women in decision-making.
- Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-fifth session (22 February-4 March 2011). Collaboration leading to the contribution by the Government of Italy, based on a four-year policy-oriented joint research and practice about women in science and technology; suggestions for the agreed conclusions on the theme.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization implemented or collaborated on the following projects:

- Baseline study on poverty and social exclusion in the rural areas in Cameroon, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), 2005-2008
- Governance study in Côte d'Ivoire, World Bank, 2010-2011

- Rapid qualitative assessment in Togo on gender and economic decision-making, World Bank, 2011
- Governance study in Senegal, World Bank, 2011
- Preparation of the organization's contribution to the sixth session of the World Urban Forum, convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, through meetings and preliminary studies

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

Goal 1. The organization's researchers contributed to the set-up and testing of tools for the analysis of poverty in rural environment and women empowerment (see the IFAD project and the World Bank project in Togo above).

Goal 3. As mentioned, this is the main goal of the organization, which promotes worldwide policy-oriented research and informed practice (see in particular four projects on women in science and technology, 2007-2015, and two on women leadership in the labour market and politics, 2005-2008, funded by the European Commission and Italian public authorities), while also participating in consultation panels of the Government of Italy.

Goal 8. Several activities geared at economic and social development are based on partnership among public and private stakeholders, including NGOs (e.g. the World Bank projects in Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal; "Migration and return, a resource for development", an International Organization for Migration/Italian cooperation project from 2005 to 2009, entailing research, training and technical assistance to development projects designed by highly skilled Moroccan migrants; and a training programme in Italy for Lithuanian social entrepreneurs, October 2009). The organization designs projects involving different players, including universities, companies, public authorities and associations, on such issues as majority-minority relationships, technologies and transportation.

3. Catholic Medical Mission Board

Special, 2004

Introduction

Catholic Medical Mission Board provides quality health-care programmes, without discrimination, to people in need globally. Over the past 100 years, it has built sustainable health programmes, placed medical volunteers and delivered essential medicines in more than 110 countries. The organization works with a wide range of secular and faith-based organizations to reach some of the most remote areas of the world. An independent non-profit organization with more than 200 staff globally, it implements this work through country and regional offices in Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Peru, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and Zambia. The organization prioritizes in-country capacity-building through technical assistance, partnerships and mentoring. Its major technical sectors are: HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment, maternal and child health, malaria knowledge, prevention and treatment, tuberculosis, disability management and care, cervical cancer prevention and the strengthening of health systems.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization envisions a world in which every human life is valued and quality health care is available to all.

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

Catholic Medical Mission Board works for the achievement of Goals 4, 5 and 6. In Haiti, Peru and Zambia, programming is directed specifically at reducing child mortality and improving maternal health. This is achieved by working at the community and clinic levels to introduce sound nutritional practices and the integrated management of childhood illnesses and by conducting training and rolling out appropriate technologies to address neonatal asphyxia. In Peru and Zambia, the organization employs the Helping Babies Breathe methodology to train clinic-based staff and rural birth attendants on the importance of addressing asphyxia at birth and methods to do so.

The organization works to combat HIV/AIDS in Haiti, Kenya, the Philippines, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and Zambia. Activities at the clinic level include: prevention of mother-to-child transmission, HIV/AIDS treatment and male circumcision. It engages in comprehensive services that extend into the community to assist with the effective prevention of mother-to-child transmission, treatment adherence and behaviour change. It is also engaged in malaria prevention and treatment in Haiti and Zambia (through support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)). The organization has registered 35,000 people under treatment, brought malaria prevention messaging to 50,000 people, vaccinated 24,000 girls against cervical cancer, provided 11,000 children under 5 years of age with primary health care and brought HIV/AIDS prevention messaging to 101,000 people. Since the organization's most recent quadrennial report, hundreds of thousands of people have benefited from behaviour change messaging in Haiti, Kenya, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and Zambia.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Catholic Medical Mission Board participated in the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals (September 2010) and various related side events.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participates in the Inter-Agency Task Team on Prevention and Treatment of HIV Infection in Pregnant Women, Mothers and Their Children to support the Global Plan Towards the Elimination of New HIV Infections among Children by 2015 and Keeping Their Mothers Alive.

4. Centro de Estudios Europeos

Special, 1996

Introduction

Centro de Estudios Europeos (“Centre for European studies”) is an independent scientific NGO registered in the National Register of Associations of Cuba and is a body composed of multidisciplinary researchers and collaborators who study from different angles of the social sciences.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in the annual forum sponsored by the Cuban Association of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No resources were available to allow the organization to attend events organized by the United Nations.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

2009: the organization contributed to the report prepared for the universal periodic review on Cuba in the Human Rights Council and participated in the Cuban civil society forum on the theme of human rights in Cuba.

2010: the organization participated in the summer school organized by the Cuban Society for International Law of the National Union of Cuban Jurists and the International Committee of the Red Cross, with a paper on the theme of secret prisons in the European Union and international humanitarian law.

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

The organization conducted studies and helped to organize and participated in the following events in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2008, the organization collaborated in the organization of and participated in an international seminar on current issues in Africa and the Middle East, devoted to the international context and possibilities of South-South cooperation in Africa and the Middle East (Trinidad, 24-26 June).

In 2009, the organization:

(a) Participated at an international seminar on the theme “Ten years of strategic Latin America and the Caribbean-European Union partnership: evaluation and prospective analysis” organized by Centro Latinoamericano para las Relaciones con Europa in Santiago (5-6 October); and published a related book (Santiago, Centro Latinoamericano para las Relaciones con Europa, 2010);

(b) Participated in a seminar by a centre for the study of international migration with a paper providing a critical look at the immigration policy of the European Union;

(c) Organized a scientific meeting on the theme “Towards a common immigration policy in the European Union, The Hague to Stockholm” with specialists and guests from other NGOs.

In 2010, it conducted the delivery of a scientific session for specialists and guests from other NGOs on environmental policies of the European Union and the publication of a book on the same subject.

5. Comunicación Cultural

Special, 1996

Introduction

Comunicación Cultural has worked for 39 years in the promotion and dissemination of children’s rights through the media in Mexico. It has participated in programmes to prevent child abuse, the exploitation of street children and child prostitution. The media are the greatest influence on the development and dissemination of culture in almost 90 per cent of the planet. The media industry is just another commercial enterprise that exists for profit.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization’s aims are:

- (a) To promote children’s rights;
- (b) To provide scholarships for college students interested in communication and various disciplines concerning children;
- (c) To promote campaigns and donations to support specific programmes that benefit children;
- (d) To use mass media to benefit children.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization disseminates information on the activities of United Nations programmes in press releases and in its field activities with children, their parents and teachers.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in meetings related to communication by electronic media and the Internet and childhood at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has been active in spreading information on United Nations activities in Spanish-speaking countries. To its volunteers, the United Nations is a lasting example of peace and sustainable development.

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

In health workshops for accident prevention, the organization teaches and disseminates the Millennium Development Goals, especially in regard to children. Children are encouraged to use computers. To this end, it seeks equipment for shared use in marginalized communities and donated 30 computers to community groups with 500 inhabitants each.

6. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

Special, 1996

Significant changes in the organization

A training facilitator was appointed to build the capacity of members and regional designates to the regional commissions to integrate grass-roots human rights perspectives and encourage the use of United Nations structures and agendas.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization, present in 65 countries, delivers a wide range of services to women and girls who are trafficked, forced to migrate and oppressed by abject poverty, using a two-pronged approach of service delivery and advocacy. It has offered shelter, training, education, income-generating opportunities and awareness of human rights to 13,247 women and children in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, El Salvador, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar and Thailand. Three major economic justice projects address poverty, decent work and employment. Services are provided for victims of human trafficking in 20 countries.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives attended the forty-sixth to forty-ninth sessions of the Commission for Social Development; the fifty-second to fifty-fifth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women; the seventh to ninth sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the sixteenth to nineteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development; the 62nd and 63rd annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conferences; the second intersessional meeting of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (15-16 December 2011); and the ninth, twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council.

The organization's main representative in New York assumed leadership at the level of non-governmental organizations committees as Vice-Chair and Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development, the NGO Working Group on Girls and the NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons. During the non-governmental organizations civil society forum preceding the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development, a member presented a best practice on social housing in Cork, Ireland. A written statement was submitted entitled "Achieving social integration — meaningful work, social protection and social housing" (E/CN.5/2010/NGO/12). Members collaborated in producing the document "Social integration in action" for the forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development.

A representative was a panel presenter at a side event entitled “Trafficking and poverty: fishing in the stream of migration”, held on 14 February 2011. Handcrafting Justice, an economic justice project, sponsored a side event entitled “Eradicating poverty through fair trade: promoting an ethical consumerism” on 9 February 2011.

The main representative was a presenter during the side event of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division for Social Policy and Development entitled “The social impact of the economic crisis” on 18 October 2011. Four joint statements were submitted to the Commission on the Status of Women on issues concerning girls.

The Congregation organized and co-sponsored two side events: “Keeping our promises to girls”, on 3 March 2010; and “Girls’ voices — promises made: a review of CSW 51”, on 24 February 2011 (co-sponsored with the Permanent Missions of Ireland and Zambia to the United Nations). The main representative was a panel presenter at the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Briefing on the theme “Girls’ education: an end to poverty?”, on 1 April 2010. The subject of human trafficking was addressed in four joint statements to the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2008/NGO/25; E/CN.6/2009/NGO/44; E/CN.6/2010/NGO/4; E/CN.6/2011/NGO/62).

Two written statements were submitted for the Economic and Social Council high-level segments: “Vision, investment, implementation: gender equality and the empowerment of women”, in 2010, and “Girls’ human right to education”, in 2011. Four joint written statements on the promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, were submitted to the Human Rights Council.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization took part in the following activities:

- United Nations Development Fund for Women: Unite to End Violence against Women campaign, 2008-2011
- UNICEF and the NGO Working Group on Girls, 2008-2011
- International Labour Organization: advocacy on the Social Protection Floor Initiative among Member States and civil society, 2010-2011

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

A total of 1,097,971 women and children benefited from various programmes administered by the Congregation towards the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals.

7. International HIV/AIDS Alliance

Special, 2000

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Alliance advances the achievement of the Economic and Social Council and United Nations development agenda through its engagement at the national, regional and global levels in response to HIV/AIDS and related health issues, such as tuberculosis and sexual and reproductive health and rights. The Alliance partners with United Nations agencies, such as the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and other multilateral agencies, such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in many meetings, including the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra, 2-4 September 2008) and the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly (New York, 23-29 September 2009).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Alliance has broad cooperation with United Nations bodies, including:

- UNAIDS reference/working groups: human rights; prevention; monitoring and Evaluation
- Multiple UNAIDS-commissioned projects related to HIV and human rights; costing on community mobilization; development of prevention indicators
- Technical support commissioned by the UNAIDS technical support hub for improved coordination and strengthened regional capacity in the provision of technical support to civil society organizations for implementing Global Fund grants and developing proposals in multiple regions (2009-2012)
- Work with UNAIDS to roll out the HIV Strategic Investment Framework (2011-present)
- World Bank-commissioned research on value for money; and monitoring and evaluation
- World Health Organization engagement through guidelines development groups, the tuberculosis team, the Stop TB Partnership and commissioned research and monitoring and evaluation
- Inter-agency working groups and task teams: sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS linkages; children and AIDS; social protection and civil society
- Global Fund: development of community systems strengthening framework and indicators (2009); community systems consultation on the Global Fund Partnership Forum (2011)
- UNDP-commissioned technical support for gender, key population, monitoring and evaluation and HIV prevention in Asia and Eastern Europe

- UNICEF-commissioned technical support for at-risk youth, children affected by HIV, voluntary counselling and testing in West Africa and South and South-East Asia (2009-2011)
- UNFPA review of General Assembly special session prevention indicators (2010); review of training curricula and recommendations for military doctors on the prevention of sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS (2008)
- Training seminar commissioned by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on a peer-driven intervention model for Baltic States (2009)

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

During the reporting period, the Alliance delivered many services addressing all of the Millennium Development Goals.

8. International Police Association

Special, 1995

Introduction

The International Police Association is an independent body made up of members of the police service, whether on active duty or retired, and without distinction as to rank, sex, race, colour, language or religion.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's purpose is to create bonds of friendship and to promote international cooperation.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has enlarged by welcoming Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Moldova and Macao, China, and strong interest has been received from Cameroon, Cape Verde, Kazakhstan and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. It now encompasses 63 countries across all continents with a membership exceeding 400,000. In 2010, the organization was accepted as an NGO with both the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Organization of American States and, in 2011, began closer cooperation with the European Police Office.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Annually some 40 seminars are organized on professional and social matters at the organization's education centre in Germany, including corruption, organized crime and human trafficking, inner-city violence, youth crime, demographic change, powerlessness, repression and prevention, and police and human rights.

The organization's Social Commission offered more than €1 million in humanitarian aid directly to areas affected by natural disasters: flooding in Australia, Brazil, Sri Lanka and Central and Western Europe (Croatia, France, Hungary, Poland and

Slovakia); earthquakes in Japan and Italy; loss of life among emergency workers in a disastrous fire in Israel.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The External Relations Commission has continued to spearhead the organization's representation at United Nations meetings, including on street children, under the umbrella of UNESCO in Paris and the All-party Parliamentary Group on Street Children in London (2010); and UNODC regional consultations culminating in a global forum entitled "Beyond 2008", which saw three of the organization's resolutions relayed to the United Nations in New York. The organization presented oral statements to delegates at meetings on the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime on the topics of police strategies to counter trafficking in human beings and the prevention of sexual offences.

In 2009 the organization made a statement on effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses to combat the sexual exploitation of children, attended meetings on the status of women, crime prevention and criminal justice and drugs and contributed to a note on NGO activities in Vienna related to the work of UNODC, which was presented to the President of the General Assembly.

In 2010 and 2011 the organization's representative attended numerous meetings on crime prevention and criminal justice: drugs, prevention of violence against women and girls, prevention of crime against minors, general crime prevention and victims' rights; and took part in a round table on international cooperation with regard to human trafficking.

The organization's representative in Geneva reported monthly on the immense workload between 2008 and 2011. He attended committee sessions concerning human rights, including the rights of children and the elimination of discrimination towards women; annual sessions of the Human Rights Council on human rights; the elimination of racial discrimination; the use of mercenaries and human rights; migrant workers; torture; and the rights of children with regard to prostitution, pornography and armed conflict. Its representative in New York, owing to the rarity of police-related meetings there, was limited mainly to maintaining contacts with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Safety and Security. In 2011, the organization shared experiences working in Kosovo at a major anti-corruption conference.

In 2010 and 2011, the organization's representative at UNESCO attended the following events: collaboration with the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the European Commission on hate crimes in France (October 2010); contact with the French Ambassador to UNESCO and brief presentation of the organization (January 2011); fortieth anniversary of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (March 2011); invitation by the Pontifical Council for Culture, under the presidency of the UNESCO Deputy Director General, in the promotion of a culture of peace in the world (March 2011); UNESCO round table on the theme "Social and human impact of international migrations", followed by an African week with a view to establishing a culture of peace (May 2011).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In addition to maintaining established relations in Geneva, New York and Vienna (UNODC), as seen by the numerous interactions recorded in the preceding paragraphs, the organization now interacts regularly with UNESCO.

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

The organization does not contribute directly towards the Millennium Development Goals but works towards highlighting certain areas of criminality, including human trafficking and child abuse, through global partnership and law enforcement initiatives.

9. Legal Advisory Office for Popular Organizations

Special, 2004

Introduction

The Legal Advisory Office for Popular Organizations (Gabinete de Assessoria Jurídica às Organizações Populares) is an NGO in Brazil that promotes human rights defence. It specializes in justice and security and develops several projects and programmes. Among them are the international human rights programme, the Education to Citizenship programme, the programme of support for and protection of witnesses, victims of violence and their families and the Justice for Citizenship programme. The organization joined activities implemented by the State pursuant to the third human rights national plan, participating in mobilization and formation in order to ensure debate about the plan at the State level and, consequently, the accession by public authorities and the State's other spheres.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization has the following aims:

- (a) Contribute to the effectiveness of citizens' rights to security and social justice, which are imperative to the full exercise of citizenship and democracy;
- (b) Contribute to the building of a human rights culture that allows the incrustation in the society of values of the rule of law;
- (c) Contribute to the preservation of life, physical and psychological integrity, conquest of liberty and equal conditions of life for several population segments whose fundamental rights are systematically violated;
- (d) Act upon the promotion and defence of children's and teenagers' rights.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2009, the organization left the coordination of the protection programme for witnesses, victims of violence and their families.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the period under review, 81 communications were made to OHCHR on human rights violations. Also, it has been monitoring the recommendations that were made to Brazil by the United Nations treaty bodies from 1996 to 2009.

On 11 July 2008, the organization received Rosa Maria Ortiz, member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The organization updated the website for international monitoring with all of the United Nations recommendations in Portuguese and English. It supported seminars and courses on human rights. By 2009, the organization had contacted the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the World Organization against Torture, and Amnesty International, with the Centre for Civil and Political Rights, Human Rights Watch and the International Service for Human Rights.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

On 11 February 2008, the organization participated in a working group of the Human Rights Council that was responsible for reviewing Brazil and, on 7 and 8 November 2008, it attended a strategic meeting on civil society participation in the Human Rights Council.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization developed a methodology in order to systematize the United Nations human rights recommendations. By 2010, the organization had constructed the systematization model and started to develop a follow-up process for those recommendations. The project continued through 2011 and 2012.

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

The organization promoted three rounds of dialogues on gender relations, human rights and access to justice, was involved in an international seminar on policies for violence prevention in Latin America, and offered a course on the theme “Women, health and the international system”, featuring discussions about the gender situation under the international scope.

10. Saratoga Foundation for Women Worldwide

Special, 2004

Introduction

The Saratoga Foundation for Women Worldwide advances research, education and advocacy for women around the globe to empower women to promote human rights, economic justice, education and welfare for women and girls in countries worldwide. It promotes economic independence and education for women and girls.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation’s goal is to empower women and girls worldwide, including by providing microcredit finance loans and education, advocating for human rights, working with local people to provide cost-effective health-care services and

advancing human rights overall. In addition, the organization studies the development of environmental health issues and advocates for the preservation of the ecological system through education programmes in the United States of America.

Significant changes in the organization

The most significant change in the organization is the establishment of its 2010 microcredit finance programme in Kenya, where it has issued loans to poor women to start their own business. The programme is slowly growing, and the repayment rate on the loans has been steady.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization is working to empower poor women in Matanya, Kenya, by providing small loans to enable women to start their own business. Businesses include buying chickens to sell eggs, making soap for sale, making school uniforms for sale, buying goats and selling milk, and selling clothes. In addition, the organization raises funds to provide books for two elementary school libraries. It has spent considerable time getting to know the administrators of the two schools and has learned a great deal about the students who attend them.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization used to attend the annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference in New York City, until it was held in other countries around the world and financial constraints prevented the organization from attending those meetings. It hopes to resume attendance at such meetings in the future.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Owing to financial constraints, the organization has been unable to attend United Nations meetings and has pooled its resources into its Kenya microcredit finance programmes.

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

The organization launched a microcredit finance programme in Matanya, Kenya, in 2010, through which several women have been granted small loans permitting them to start a small business to support their families. It is also raising money to provide books for two elementary school libraries. By those two programmes, the organization is trying to empower women to become economically independent so that they can better provide for their families' nutrition, education and welfare. By supporting the development of elementary school libraries, the organization is advancing the goal of education for all children in Kenya.

Additional information

The organization works on the ground in Kenya with a local director, who coordinates its programme and communicates directly with the women who accept the business loans. It has had the occasion to meet with the administrators of the two

schools to work with them in raising money to grow their library collection. The organization looks forward to working together in the years ahead and watching families grow in prosperity and health.

11. World of Hope International

Special, 2008

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

World of Hope International continues to operate in conjunction with the Economic and Social Council agenda through the development of economic, social and environmental initiatives, with special focus on the well-being of women and children in Ghana. To further promote economic development, the organization continues to contribute to literacy and numeracy skills by providing primary education and has established a local library in order to increase the human capital potential of children, which will result in a positive economic impact both in the short and long term. The success of a long-term economic strategy rests on the health and well-being of children and community members that the organization serves. With this in mind, the organization continues to operate in line with the Economic and Social Council mission to strengthen social initiatives by expanding on the existing educational curriculum to offer a nutrition programme intended to strengthen the minds and bodies of primary school students. For the purpose of extending services to the local community, it also moved forward with its mission to provide potable water to the local and surrounding communities. Recent initiatives encompass contributing to a web of non-governmental activity, and the organization has strengthened its partnership with existing NGOs operating in Ghana, which has allowed it to offer more services with fewer resources. This partnership has strengthened the organization's sustainability initiatives with regard to tree planting and training programmes.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization's representatives attended the following meetings: forty-sixth to forty-eighth sessions of the Commission on Social Development (New York, 2008-2010); twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Accra, 2008); International Day of Persons with Disabilities (New York, 2009); nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (2011).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization organized a child sensitization day, in conjunction with UNICEF, to promote the rights of the child in Ghana. It also sponsored an HIV/AIDS conference to conduct HIV awareness programmes in Ghana.

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

The organization extended microcredit for small business development, specifically for agriculture-based businesses. It entered into a partnership with the Kumasi Institute for Training, helping to launch programmes that assist entrepreneurs in the

fields of apiculture (beekeeping) and heliculture (snail farming). The organization established a nutrition programme for primary school students that offers morning and afternoon meals and snacks fortified with vitamins appropriate for the age group. It assisted in the construction of seven wells, helping to ease access to potable water. In an effort to combat mosquito-borne illnesses, the organization purchased and distributed mosquito nets to community members.
