



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
4 April 2014  
English  
Original: English/French

## Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2014 resumed session

19-28 May and 6 June 2014

### **Quadrennial reports for the period 2009-2012 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

**Addendum**

## Contents

|  | <i>Page</i> |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS . . . . . | 2           |
| 2. New Zealand Family Planning Association . . . . .       | 4           |
| 3. Peace Child International . . . . .                     | 5           |
| 4. Servitas Cameroon . . . . .                             | 8           |
| 5. Unión de Asociaciones Familiares . . . . .              | 11          |
| 6. WebForce International . . . . .                        | 13          |
| 7. Women's International Democratic Federation . . . . .   | 14          |



## **1. Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS**

**Special, 2005**

### **Introduction**

The Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (the Global Network) is the only global network working with all people living with HIV through independent and autonomous regional and national networks of such people on all continents, as well as other networks that include these people, such as key populations and treatment access networks.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The purpose of the organization is to increase the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV to achieve three strategic objectives: global advocacy, global knowledge management and global community development. The aim is to engage in evidence-based advocacy to improve the quality of life of people living with HIV.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

The strategic plan for 2011-2015 adopted by the Global Network resulted in the reorganization of its Board to include representatives from key populations and from partner organizations, in addition to its traditional regionally based representation. This will result in greater participation of a more diverse group of people living with HIV in the organization's governance and programming.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Global Network has recognized the importance of working with United Nations agencies at the global level to ensure that the experiences of people living with HIV are incorporated into programmes and policies. It has provided in-kind technical support to United Nations bodies through its support of people living with HIV who participate in technical consultations. It has also collaborated with agencies to develop guidance for HIV treatment, prevention, care and support.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The Global Network attended the General Assembly high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS (New York, 8-10 June 2011), where it sent a delegation that interacted with Member States and the non-governmental organization (NGO) sector in unofficial side meetings. Additionally, it provided a panellist for the panel on human rights and key populations. It also participated in the four years covered by the present report as an observer in the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- UNAIDS: "Positive health dignity and prevention": (a) technical consultation: 27-28 April 2009, Hammamet, Tunisia; (b) technical consultation report: September 2009; policy framework: published in November 2011; operational guidelines: developed in 2012, published in 2013; "People living with HIV stigma index": the Global Network and UNAIDS form part of the international

partnership that coordinates this index. In 2012, they jointly recruited an international coordinator.

- The World Health Organization (WHO): the Global Network has been in “official relations” with WHO since 2010, a status that was confirmed through a standard evaluation in 2012. The Global Network participated in an advisory committee of the WHO HIV Department as an observer. It was contracted to consult with populations of people living with HIV in 2010 and 2012 in the preparation of guidelines for antiretroviral treatment. It provided in-kind technical support throughout the quadrennium in meetings regarding various aspects of HIV prevention, diagnosis and treatment.
- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): the Global Network was a member of the inter-agency task team on linking HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health and rights. It was contracted by UNFPA to support people living with HIV and by the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS to participate in international forums.
- International Labour Organization: the Global Network participated in the inter-agency task team on HIV workplace policies and programmes and private sector engagement, as well as in the “Getting to zero at work” campaign.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): the Global Network co-hosted a consultation on the educational needs of young people living with HIV in Paris, in December 2010. It also produced a joint publication entitled “Positive learning: meeting the needs of young people living with HIV (YPLHIV) in the education sector” in 2012.
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF): the Global Network co-organized the second global consultation on service provision for adolescents living with HIV (24-28 May 2010). It is a member of the inter-agency task team on HIV and young people and chaired its steering committee in 2010 and 2011. It was involved in the UNICEF global prevention strategic planning in 2011.
- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): the Global Network served as a member of the technical advisory group of the Global commission on HIV and the law (2010-2012).

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

The activities of the Global Network are exclusively centred on HIV and related issues. The organization approaches its work on HIV in a multisectoral manner, addressing many of the Millennium Development Goals. It facilitates the participation of people living with HIV in the HIV/AIDS response by addressing Goal 6 of the Millennium Development Goals (Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases). Through positive health, dignity and prevention, the Global Network advocates for a holistic approach that includes reduction of poverty (Goal 1), equality for women living with HIV (Goal 3) and safe pregnancies with no new infected babies (Goals 4 and 5). The response to HIV/AIDS will be incomplete if it does not address most if not all of the Millennium Development Goals.

## **2. New Zealand Family Planning Association**

**Special, 2005**

### **Introduction**

New Zealand Family Planning Association is an NGO providing clinical, educational and policy services to achieve sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. It was founded in 1936.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Association is the only organization with a specific focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights in New Zealand. It promotes sexual and reproductive health and rights and enables people to enjoy respectful sexual relationships and create healthy families. Drawing upon its long history and strong reputation of technical expertise in clinical services and health promotion, the organization strives to advance the programme of action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the Pacific Islands.

The Association's programme supports partner organizations in the Pacific to provide quality information and services to their communities. Through advocacy, it aims to create supportive environments, build effective policy and ensure adequate funding for sexual and reproductive health priorities. It undertakes quantitative and qualitative research in the region to build a strong evidence base for advocacy and programmes.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

Family Planning International Programmes formerly operated as Family Planning International, with a separate brand, but this was discontinued to better reflect the unit's status as an integrated part of the Association.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Family Planning International Programmes was founded to advance internationally agreed development goals, particularly the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Millennium Development Goals. The Association has made contributions to the universal periodic review of New Zealand for the Human Rights Council and to reports submitted under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Population and Development.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Commission on Population and Development, forty-third session, 12-16 April 2010, New York. Submission to the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, 2010, Wellington, highlighting the relevance of sexual and reproductive health and rights to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Commission on Population and Development, forty-fourth session, 11-15 April 2011, New York. Commission on Population and Development, forty-fifth session, 23-27 April 2012, New York. Attended as a member of the delegation of New Zealand.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Association works with UNFPA in a variety of ways. Every year, it receives a small grant to work on raising awareness in New Zealand about population and development issues and to provide Secretariat support for the New Zealand Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development. It regularly participates in regional meetings sponsored by UNFPA and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development.

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

Family Planning International Programmes exists to advance internationally agreed development goals, particularly the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Development Goals and other relevant agreements. The Association carries out advocacy and projects in support of partner organizations, primarily in the Pacific, to provide quality information and services to their communities. Advocacy creates supportive environments, builds effective public policy and ensures adequate funding for population and development issues, in particular sexual and reproductive health, in international development activities. It also conducts research to inform policymaking, most recently carrying out cost-benefit analyses of investing in family-planning services.

In practice, the Association has implemented programmes in Kiribati, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. It informs and motivates New Zealand parliamentarians to take action to improve the prioritization of population and development in New Zealand's official development assistance. It works with policymakers and programmers to ensure attention in their work to population and development. It produces resources and information to inform the general public of New Zealand, media, parliamentarians, policymakers and programmers about how sexual and reproductive health, and population and development are vital in achieving internationally agreed development goals.

**3. Peace Child International****Special, 1997****Introduction**

Peace Child International is one of the largest networks of youth-led organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. It has operated in over 180 countries around the world since 1980. In each, it aims to get Governments to recognize the immense contribution that young people can make to assist them in achieving their wider goals of sustainable development, education for all, human rights, health, development of the entrepreneurial spirit and self-employment.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The mission of Peace Child International is to empower young people by encouraging them and their elders to operate “co-managed” institutions and projects as “equal partners”, taking shared responsibility for the results. The organization’s main activities focus on the issues that young people are most concerned about. During the 2009-2012 period, this was youth unemployment.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- 2009: Advocacy training to prepare young people to take part in the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen and produce the organization’s first youth advocacy handbook. Youth advocates from across Europe met to share their experiences and frustrations with youth advocacy, visiting various climate lobbying groups, such as Stop Climate Chaos. The high and low points of the training was the fifteenth session in Copenhagen when the advocates of Peace Child International sought serious commitments on climate change from the Member States only to see it all end in catastrophe. The organization also set up and managed the Department for International Development of the Youth Working Group, a civil society organization of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to expand the department’s interventions with regard to the Millennium Development Goals that relate to the concerns of young people.
- 2010: Fifth World Youth Congress, Istanbul, Turkey: 1,200 youths from 154 countries met to assess progress on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and develop youth-led monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, a process guided by the World Bank. Peace Child International also produced “Peace Child Alpha Omega”, a cultural peacebuilding musical that tells a story of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and atheist youths who explore the common ground in their views on life, death and the pursuit of happiness. Three versions of the story were performed, in Ely Cathedral in the United Kingdom; in the Russian Theatre in Tallinn; and at the World Youth Congress in Istanbul.
- 2011: Preparation for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development: Peace Child International created and contributed to 40 youth preparatory committees in 38 countries, which contributed in turn to over 120 pages of suggestions to the outcome document “The future we want”. It brought together representatives of all preparatory committees to the United Nations to present their shared wishes for the Conference outcomes to the then Deputy Secretary-General, Asha-Rose Migiro, and to the Executive Coordinator of the Conference, Elizabeth Thompson. The organization also created a second edition of the its advocacy handbook, drawing on the results of the Internet advocacy in relation to the Conference.
- 2012: United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development: Delegates from 120 countries agreed on 20 solutions to the challenge of sustainability

and, echoing Martin Luther's action of 1517, nailed them to the gates of Rio Centro, hoping to start a twenty-first century reformation of sustainability policies.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- Meetings of preparatory committees and of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.
- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development: Peace Child International accredited over 350 youths to the Conference only to see 320 of them walk out in disgust at the Member States' failure to make any advances on the 1992 commitments.
- The organization assisted in the London Youth's input session to the Secretary-General's high-level panel on the post-2015 development agenda, where it impressed the panel members with its strategy for the creation of a green economy.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Peace Child International cooperated with:

- The United Nations Industrial Development Organization on a youth employment creation programme in West Africa
- UNESCO on an interactive edition of the Peace Child Musical at their World Youth Forum — 2011, and a youth edition of the 2012 Education for All Monitoring Report
- The United Nations Environment Programme, UNDP and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to help launch the United Nations Habitat youth programme
- The United Nations to create a launch event in Istanbul for the International Year of Youth. Peace Child International also attended the related meeting of the General Assembly in July 2011

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

The work of Peace Child International contributes to the Millennium Development Goals, but its mission to empower young people was compromised by the Millennium Development Goals campaign manager telling young members of the organization that their only role should be to lobby their Governments to do things, not do things themselves. This deeply disempowering message effectively ended the organization's direct participation in the campaign on the Millennium Development Goals.

## **4. Servitas Cameroon**

**Special, 2009**

### **Introduction**

Servitas Cameroon, also known as Servitas, is represented in eight African countries through intermediary organizations.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aims of Servitas are to encourage the participation of women in governance at all levels; to ensure that women have the same opportunities as men to participate in all areas of activity; to facilitate the integration of underprivileged groups in the restructuring of society; to promote respect for human rights and the defence of victims and the oppressed; and to encourage women to advocate the protection of the environment.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

Servitas has been the focal point of the Gender Equality Architecture Reform (GEAR) campaign for francophone African countries since April 2009. This has allowed involvement has allowed Servitas to expand this important campaign through its network to eight African countries in addition to Cameroon: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Niger and Senegal. This expansion allowed the Servitas general assembly to make Servitas a subregional organization at its last session in December 2012, a decision which officially took effect during the preparatory meeting for the presentation of the work of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In 2009:

- Servitas conducted a mapping exercise to gauge the knowledge of Cameroonian national women's organizations of the work of the United Nations on women's issues and the ongoing GEAR campaign, through four information and exchange workshops (two in urban areas and two in rural areas);
- With the support of African women's associations, Servitas conducted an awareness-raising and advocacy campaign targeting the Governments of 10 francophone African countries regarding the need for reform which resulted in the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). To commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the ratification by Cameroon of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Servitas organized a seminar/workshop in Douala in conjunction with two women's associations and with the support of the Douala 1er delegation of the Ministry for the Advancement of Women and the Family.



In 2010:

- Servitas organized information sessions on the Commission on the Status of Women in preparation for the Commission's fifty-fourth session through two meetings, one in an urban area (Yaoundé) and one in a rural area (Edéa). It continued to advocate the establishment of a new United Nations entity for women through various national, subregional and international meetings. To mark the African Women's Decade, it organized a national meeting on gender-based violence and observed African Women's Day in Douala on 31 July. It conducted an activity in a rural area (Bangoulap) on capacity-building for to become involved in their village community so that their concerns could be better addressed.

In 2011:

- Servitas organized two meetings, one in Loum and one in Limbe, to raise the awareness of grassroots women's associations of the objectives and importance of the consultations conducted by UN-Women for the production of its strategic plan. Those meetings allowed Servitas to gather information which it reported to UN-Women in 2011 and 2012 through various meetings of the GEAR campaign in New York and one meeting with the Executive Director of UN-Women, Michelle Bachelet. To mark the African Women's Decade, Servitas organized two educational talks in rural areas (Foutouni and Kribi) and a round table in an urban area (Douala) regarding the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol).

In 2012:

- In preparation for the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, Servitas organized three meetings in rural areas (Penja, Foumbot and Kékem). It actively contributed to the national training seminar on gender and democratic governance organized in Yaoundé by the Association of African Women for Research and Development. It co-organized an international conference on parity in Douala through the umbrella group Ensemble pour la Parité (Together for Parity), which advocates the institutionalization of parity in Cameroon.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Our delegates participate regularly and actively in the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, including the following: the fifty-third session, held in New York from 2 to 13 March 2009; the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, held from 1 to 12 March 2010; the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, held from 22 February to 4 March and 11 March 2011; and the fifty-sixth session of the Commission, held from 27 February to 15 March 2012. Servitas representatives have also served as panel members at several GEAR side events (in March 2010 and March 2011, on 28 June 2011 and in March 2012) and participated in meetings of the Socialist International Women, the African Women's Development and Communication Network and the Association of African Women for Research and Development in New York on 22, 24 and 28 February and 2 March 2011. Servitas participated as an observer in the UN-

Women Executive Board meeting, held in New York, on 24 January 2011 (see UN-Women: Vision and 100-day Action Plan: A Summary Briefing). It participated in the meetings organized by the Cameroon country office of UN-Women in collaboration with other United Nations agencies and the Cameroonian authorities and civil society, including the following:

- (a) 7 June 2012, Yaoundé: workshop for the validation of the Strategic Plan for Gender and Elections in Cameroon (produced by Elections Cameroon, UNDP and UN-Women);
- (b) 13 September 2012, Yaoundé: consultation meeting on the establishment by UN-Women of the Civil Society Advisory Group in Cameroon;
- (c) 31 October 2012, Yaoundé: meeting of the Global Civil Society Advisory Group to address inequalities in the context of the post-2015 development agenda; and
- (d) 5 and 6 November 2012, Nairobi: regional meeting of the ad hoc African civil society committee in preparation for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Servitas was selected by UN-Women to be a member of the civil society advisory group for Cameroon. It is also a member of the ad hoc planning committee of African organizations constituted to facilitate the process of establishing a non-governmental organizations commission on the status of women for Africa.

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

- On 15 October 2010, Servitas organized a seminar/workshop in a rural area in the western part of Cameroon on the usefulness of networking for women farmers. On that day, which was the International Day of Rural Women, 52 leaders of rural women's associations received training to strengthen their capacity to produce and sell food (Millennium Development Goal 1). On 15 October 2009, 15 October 2011 and 15 October 2012, Servitas members participated in the various official events organized by the authorities throughout the country (parades, exhibitions, round tables and cookery and food festivals). On 25 November 2010, 25 November 2011 and 25 November 2012, in conjunction with other local organizations, Servitas Cameroon observed the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women through various awareness-raising initiatives: a public demonstration and power walk involving more than 350 women, and an initiative involving the presence at 10 large churches in the 10 regions of Cameroon of 20 women wearing orange clothes (Goal 1). On World Water Day on 22 March 2012, Servitas organized an educational talk on the ways in which people, in particular housewives in four disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the city of Douala, the great majority of whom use rainwater and well water on a daily basis, could access safe drinking water (Goals 6 and 7). On 8 March, Servitas contributed to the activities organized by the Government of Cameroon to celebrate International Women's Day, its members being invited to contribute to conferences and round tables. It also participated in the side events and

activities organized in New York during the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women on 4 March 2009, 3 March 2010, 25 February 2011 and 1 March 2012. In addition to those events, Servitas is constantly working to help achieve Millennium Development Goal 3, the promotion of gender equality, by raising the awareness of women, the authorities and political parties of the need for more women to stand as candidates and be elected in the municipal, legislative and senatorial elections planned for 2013 in Cameroon.

## **5. Unión de Asociaciones Familiares**

### **Special, 2005**

#### **Introduction**

Unión de Asociaciones Familiares is a non-profit organization that has been working for the promotion of the rights and welfare of families in Spain since 1988.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The association defends the interests and rights of families, expressing their concerns to institutions and stimulating positive changes in family policies. As pioneer in family mediation, the organization offers services and training, and organizes a large variety of events to promote a better understanding of family diversity.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

A new board was elected by the organization's general assembly on 18 June 2011. It has added some significant organizations to its network, such as the National Confederation of Deaf People and the Institute of Social Work and Social Services, and expects to add more members in future years.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization's main contribution has been on female genital mutilation, in relation to which it organized the first conference on prevention and intervention, in 2012. This represented a milestone in Spain and included a presentation by the director of the UNDP team on gender equality. Unión de Asociaciones Familiares also organized a meeting with its members on exchange and collaboration with the United Nations. The organization is an active member of the World Family Organization, which acts as a link between the aspirations and achievements of families and the work done for them at the level of the United Nations.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization attended the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, organized by UN-Women in 2010, which was dedicated to the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and contributed to discussions and exchange of ideas with other NGOs.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- Unión de Asociaciones Familiares has actively collaborated with UNDP, organizing a conference on female genital mutilation.
- It attended meetings of UN-Women in 2011 to contribute to the evaluation of actions.
- It also attended the presentation of the “2012 World Development Report on Gender Equality and Development” produced by the World Bank, in order to disseminate global information to its members.

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

- Goal 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): In the framework of the European Year of Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion, Unión de Asociaciones Familiares organized a conference on “Above all, they are girls and boys” in 2010, which addressed child poverty in Europe and strategies to fight it.
- Goal 2 (Achieve universal primary education): The organization actively participated in an expert group on early school leavers and early childhood education of the Confederation of Family Organizations in the European Union.
- Goal 3 (Promote gender equality and empower women): The organization was engaged in activities aimed at promoting gender equality and empowering women as an essential requirement to improve the quality of life of all members of the family. It organized conferences on gender violence and on female genital mutilation and actively collaborated and participated in conferences on reconciliation, salary gap, sexual health, etc.
- Goal 5 (Improve maternal health): The organization developed a programme on sexual health for the immigrant population, funded by the Ministry of Employment and Social Security of Spain. This programme included training workshops for women on sexual health, reproduction, family planning, maternity, contraceptive methods, etc.
- Goal 6 (Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases): Through the programme mentioned above, the Unión de Asociaciones Familiares raised awareness on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases and prevention in the immigrant population.
- Goal 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability): The organization played an active role in promoting this goal, presenting the “Verde te camino verde” programme as a best practice in the World Family Summit +8. This programme has raised awareness among a large number of citizens, especially the main social and political agents that may work as promoters of sustainable mobility in Spain.

## **6. WebForce International**

### **Special, 2001**

#### **Introduction**

WebForce International is a non-governmental organization founded in 1993 and governed by Swiss law, which was granted consultative status with the United Nations in 2001. It is a member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and is specialized in information and communications technologies.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Since 2003, WebForce International has been actively participating in both phases of the World Summit on the Information Society. Its ongoing mission is modelled on the work of ITU.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- World Consortium for the Equitable Development of Information and Communication Technologies (CODETIC) public points: provision of public access to information and communications technologies.
- WebForce local micro-operator points: development of economic micro-activities based on these technologies.
- WebForce emergency communication points: provision of access to communication networks in the event of emergencies or natural or humanitarian disasters, to supplement our engagement with ITU.
- Establishment of a virtual research centre.
- Establishment of a worldwide outsourced translation and interpretation centre.
- Provision of communication and telecommunication services to non-governmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises and industries, microenterprises, etc.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

WebForce International participates in most meetings related to the information society, including those organized by ITU, UNESCO and UNDP.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

WebForce International has presented 14 projects, several of which are detailed on its Internet sites.

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

WebForce International supports the Global Compact.

## **7. Women's International Democratic Federation**

### **General, 1969**

#### **Introduction**

Women's International Democratic Federation is an international organization of women founded in 1945 in France, after the Second World War, with the goals of fighting against all kinds of discrimination, for equality of rights and cooperation among peoples and nations for world peace.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Federation aggregates 209 national women's organizations from 103 countries in five continents to defend the rights of women as mothers, workers and citizens, the rights of children to life, welfare, education and health, as well as the equality of rights and women's access to work in all sectors with fair salaries, and to support the elimination of racial discrimination and all kinds of violence.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Between 2009 and 2012, the organization published three books. The first book, on seafaring women (January 2009), resulted in an international study on the situation of women working at sea and issues linked to motherhood.

The Federation published three more books in partnership with governmental authorities, Petrobras and a trade workers' union. These books focused on: a world panorama of women's insertion in the world of work; the perspective of the Federation's leaders, in 2010; female participation in the world of work, trends and prospects, in 2011; and women and the world of work, in 2011.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Representatives attended the following sessions and conferences in the United States and Brazil:

2009:

- Fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters (New York, 2 and 3 March 2009). The Federation organized a parallel event on international cooperation among gender-related NGOs on 9 March 2009, co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations.

2010:

- Fifty-fourth session of the Commission (New York, 1-12 March 2010). The Federation organized a parallel event on the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the economic crisis and women's access to work" on 10 March.

- Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, eleventh session of the Regional conference on women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Brasilia, 13-16 July 2010).

2011:

- Fifty-fifth session of the Commission (New York, 22 February-4 March 2011). The Federation organized a parallel event on women and work: international cooperation as a factor of integration and peace, on 4 March.

2012:

- Fifty-sixth session of the Commission (New York, 27 February-9 March 2012).

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Representatives of Angola, Mozambique, Cabo Verde, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Zimbabwe participated in the event entitled “SOS Africa” (São Paulo, Brazil, 30 November 2009) to encourage the participation of young women in society and help overcome social and economic inequalities.

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

The Federation contributed to Goals 1, 3 and 6 in Campinas, Brazil, by organizing an international seminar on the Women’s International Democratic Federation and the United Nations conferences of 2010 on 1 December 2009. On 16 December 2010, the Federation organized an international seminar in Maputo on women, health and AIDS: challenges and achievements. Finally, it organized an international conference on trafficking in women on 3 February 2012 in Lisbon.

---