



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
17 November 2014

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2015 regular session

26 January-3 February and 13 February 2015

Quadrennial reports for the period 2009-2012 and 2008-2011 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. Asociación de Antiguas Alumnas del Colegio Madres Irlandesas	2
2. Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgeneros	3
3. International Press Institute	4
4. Relief International	6



1. Asociación de Antiguas Alumnas del Colegio Madres Irlandesas

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Asociación de Antiguas Alumnas del Colegio Madres Irlandesas was established in 1979, with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as its cornerstone, and with the aim of continuing the cultural, social and environmental education received by the students during their time at the schools of the Colegio Madres Irlandesas. The organization was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in July 2001.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The activities of the organization are mainly aimed at the promotion and practical application of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on 25 June 1993 at the World Conference on Human Rights, and the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on 8 September 2001 at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. The organization focuses its attention on the Millennium Development Goals as well as on gender equity; human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; human trafficking; innovative financing for development (microloans); and the environment.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The organization supports the Millennium Development Goals through its activities in Asilah, Morocco; Jicamarca and Lampa de Oro, Peru; and Nairobi; as well as in India and Nepal. The activities include advocacy and training on migrant issues; assisting slum dwellers; helping students to reconnect with educational opportunities; building tanks for potable water; improving maternal health through education campaigns against female genital mutilation; and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women by fighting human trafficking.

2. Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgeneros

Special, 2009

Introduction

The Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgeneros (Brazilian Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Association), is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 1995 by 31 member groups. Today, with 286 member groups, the organization is the largest network of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations in Latin America.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the organization is to defend the rights of gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender people in order to promote democratic societies free from any form of discrimination and affirm the freedom of sexual orientation and gender identities.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization worked with a coalition of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations to support all the statements on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, made to the Human Rights Council (by New Zealand, in 2005; by Norway, in 2006; by Argentina, in 2008; and by Colombia, in 2011). In June 2011, the organization took part in advocacy activities when the Human Rights Council adopted its first resolution on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, submitted by South Africa.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings:

- In April 2009, in the Durban Review Conference on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
- In June 2011, in the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council, in Geneva, during which the resolution on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, was adopted
- In March 2012, in the nineteenth session of the Council; on that occasion, the organization spoke on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender non-governmental organizations during a panel discussion that considered the results of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participated in the following events:

- A workshop on human rights and a subregional consultation on strategies for men who have sex with men and trans populations in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized by the Regional Programme on HIV/AIDS for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in August 2009
- A technical consultation on HIV-related stigma reduction interventions, in London in September 2010
- A consultation on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of HIV and AIDS, organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in March 2011
- A meeting on the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and on human rights, jointly held by the Open Society Foundations, UNDP, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Ford Foundation, in Geneva on 25 October 2010
- An international consultation on homophobic bullying in educational institutions, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in December 2011
- A side event, sponsored by the United States of America, at the sixty-fifth session of the World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization (WHO), entitled “Breaking down barriers: addressing stigma and discrimination in health care for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons”, in Geneva in May 2012

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

The organization worked in partnership with the Department of Sexually Transmitted Diseases, AIDS and Viral Hepatitis of the Ministry of Health of Brazil, and also with UNAIDS, in support of Goal 6, on combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Many of the organization’s member organizations work in partnership with governmental programmes targeting sexually transmitted infections and AIDS in their municipalities and states, through activities involving HIV prevention and incentives for testing. Brazil offers free universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment through its public health service, and the strong partnership with civil society has been fundamental for the country’s response to the epidemic.

3. International Press Institute

Special, 1993

Introduction

International Press Institute is a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists from over 115 countries focusing on the protection of freedom of expression and opinion as a fundamental human right, as stated in article

19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Institute promoted freedom of expression through advocacy, the organization of press freedom missions and events and the publication of reports on media developments and violations of freedom of the press around the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In too many countries, journalists continue to be persecuted for their reporting. Each year, dozens are killed; still more are beaten, imprisoned, kidnapped, tortured or intimidated. The Institute is dedicated to the furtherance and safeguarding of press freedom, the protection of freedom of opinion and expression, the promotion of the free flow of news and information and the improvement of the practice of journalism.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute contributed to the work of the United Nations through the following activities:

- Protecting the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In particular, the Institute worked closely with UNESCO, actively celebrating World Press Freedom Day every year by organizing events that celebrate the day around the world.
- Playing a very active role in the process that led to the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. It spoke at two preparatory meetings in Paris in 2012, as well as at numerous side events related to the Plan of Action.
- Developing a manual for journalists entitled *Reporter's Guide to the Millennium Development Goals*, published in 2013.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Institute:

- Organized events to commemorate World Press Freedom Day
- Participated in meetings organized by United Nations agencies as part of the process to draft the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity. During the Institute's missions, it often met with representatives of United Nations agencies; for example, it held such meetings in the Philippines in 2011 and Nepal in 2012

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute cooperated closely with UNESCO. It frequently invited representatives of United Nations offices to speak at its annual world congress and other events, for example its conference on terrorism, law and the media held in Vienna on 5 and 6 October 2009. In addition, the Institute spoke at the International Media Seminar on Peace in the Middle East, held in Budapest in July 2011.

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

In 2011 and 2012, Institute staff developed the *Reporter's Guide to the Millennium Development Goals*, which includes examples of how journalists have covered development and promoted the Millennium Development Goals. The book also includes contributions by all five United Nations regional commissions on their assessment of such media coverage.

4. Relief International**Special, 2004****Introduction**

Relief International is a non-profit humanitarian agency that provides emergency relief, rehabilitation, development assistance and programme services to vulnerable communities worldwide. The organization is dedicated solely to reducing human suffering and is non-political and non-sectarian. Its mission is to serve the needs of the most vulnerable, particularly women and children, as well as victims of natural disasters and civil conflicts, and the poor, with a specific focus on neglected groups and cases. The organization is dedicated to addressing the long-term developmental needs of its beneficiaries, even during the emergency phase of its work. It currently works in West and East Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to meet the immediate needs of victims of natural disasters and civil conflict worldwide, through the provision of food, water, non-food items, transitional shelter, emergency medical services and sanitation and hygiene. Additionally, the organization's food and agricultural programmes embraces environmental aspects by incorporating climate change awareness, natural resource management and conservation principles into projects that improve global food security. The organization considers education to be a vital part of the social and economic development of future generations, which is why it places significant focus on this sector, for example, by ensuring that children affected by conflict can continue to pursue their education. The organization provides vocational training and microfinance opportunities, and develops value chains aimed at long-term growth. It also provides temporary and permanent shelters and contributes to local infrastructure by building schools, irrigation canals and community centres. It also implements programmes to protect and support individuals who face discrimination, persecution and violence, providing legal assistance, promoting media and journalism and encouraging democratic governance.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization is undergoing a strategic planning process, and has restructured its global management into regional operations.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization's contribution during the reporting period included the following:

- With funding from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), it provided water, sanitation and hygiene assistance to primary schools in Al Qadisiyah, Anbar and Najaf, in Iraq, between September 2011 and February 2012, improving sanitation and health facilities and increasing enrolment in 62 schools. It also provided training to teachers, as well as to school administrators, among others.
- With funding from UNICEF, it implemented emergency education assistance for Syrian refugees in the Zaatari, King Abdullah Park and Cyber City refugee camps in Jordan from February 2013 to February 2014. The project ensured that vulnerable Syrian refugee children aged between 6 and 16 years, in those camps, were provided with access to high-quality educational opportunities. The organization helped to increase the enrolment in formal education of Syrian refugee children by 15 per cent.
- With funding from UNICEF, the organization implemented accelerated learning programmes in Lebanon for Syrian refugees and Lebanese host community schoolchildren in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and North Lebanon from December 2013 to June 2014. The objective of the project was to ensure that the right to education for school-aged boys and girls affected by the Syrian crisis was respected.
- With assistance from UNICEF, the organization provided access to safe and sufficient water, sanitary latrines and hygiene kits, as well as to hand-washing, bathing, laundry and drainage facilities, and helped to improve hygiene knowledge and practices in two camps for internally displaced persons in Myebon township, in Rakhine State in Myanmar, between May 2013 and February 2014. The programme benefited 4,169 individuals, including 1,865 women and 1,043 children.
- With funding from UNICEF, the organization provided clean water, sanitation infrastructure and hygiene assistance to families affected by a typhoon on the island of Leyte, the Philippines, from December 2013 to August 2014, reaching more than 25,000 individuals. It also trained 7,580 individuals, including children and women, on better hygiene practices. The objective of the project was to ensure a healthful, safe and dignified environment for the vulnerable communities.
- With funding from UNDP, the organization extended integrated nutrition services to conflict-affected populations in North Darfur, the Sudan, between March 2013 and March 2014. The organization's programme also addressed the emergency needs of the population through the provision of basic primary health care and reproductive health services, and helped to enhance the local capacity of ministry staff, community leaders and other individuals to ensure sustainable and good-quality service delivery.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization actively participated in United Nations cluster planning and strategy meetings in the countries in which it works.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The organization participated in the following:

- In support of Goal 2 (achieving universal primary education), the organization implemented the “Educate girls, end poverty” project in Somalia. The aim was to increase the enrolment and graduation rates of 27,750 marginalized girls between the ages of 6 and 19 years from poor, urban, rural and internally displaced populations to break the cycle of poverty.
- In support of Goal 3 (promoting gender equality and empowering women), the organization has been implementing a programme entitled “Advancing widows’ assistance via enterprise” in Iraq, whose goal is to establish social enterprises for war widows to enable them to access income-generating activities and social assistance programmes to further their economic, social, and political advancement.
- In support of Goal 5 (improving maternal health), the organization implemented a rapid results health project, in collaboration with Interchurch Medical Assistance World Health in South Sudan. The project aims to address poor health conditions in Maban County by raising the quality of health-care services, which have been affected by limited access, low capacity and weak health sector systems.
- With funding assistance from UNDP, the organization is also implementing an emergency nutrition response in Maban County, with the purpose of reducing global acute malnutrition and severe acute malnutrition rates in children aged 6 to 59 months, as well as in pregnant and lactating women.