# BATCH 7

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**Economic and Social Council** 

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Note by the Secretary-General

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#### 1. B.A.B.E. - Be Active, Be Emancipated

(Special; 2005)

#### Introduction

B.a.B.e. is a Croatian NGO founded in 1994 acting at local, national, regional and international level.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is created with the purpose of promoting and improving gender equality. B.a.B.e. has 4 pillar programmes: 1. Gender equality; 2. Prevention and eradication of Gender Based Violence; 3. The provision of existential protection and psychological support to women victims of violence and their children in Vukovar-Srijem County, Croatia; 4. Advocacy and monitoring of legislative procedures, public policies and implementation measures.

## Significant changes in the organization

B.a.B.e. continued contribute to further empowerment of human rights in Croatia, carrying out projects and participating in numerous international events and conferences. In October 2013 we finished with our activities on the project Coming out of the dark - support to women survivors and violence prevention which was founded by UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. As previously reported Human rights organizations in Croatia, including B.a.B.e. have established informal coalition Platform 112 and continued with activities such as monitoring and evaluation of Government and Parliament performance. B.a.B.e. have carried out numerous activities such as organisation of the Conference "Gender ideology" in April 2016. We continued active participation with the WAVE, participated in the work of Conference held in Vienna, Austria, (April 2016) B.a.B.e. and took leading role in the Campaign STEP UP! for advocacy in the shaping of public policies in Croatia. Participation in KARAT Coalition also continued intensively. In April 2014 our representatives took part in the strategic meeting in Warsaw, Poland, organised by the Coalition. B.a.B.e. is also a member of the CROSOL Platform which acts with the aim of development of international cooperation and humanitarian aid, Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation, ASTRA,

AWID, WAVE, BalkanGEN, Human Rights House Network etc. Legal advice Centre received 6000 cases during the three year period concerning different violations of human rights. Our representatives are involved in groups working on adoption of new Family Law, Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, Law on Ratification of Istanbul Convention and the Strategy against Domestic Violence. Our lawyers continued to represent in strategic cases before the European Court and domestic courts. In October 2016 the UNTF organised a knowledge exchange event in Europe and Central Asia region with topic: "Multisectoral approach in delivering services to women survivors of violence" in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where B.a.B.e. was invited due to good experience of cooperation with the UN during implementation of the project Coming out of the dark. Our representative shared our experience and the results of the project. B.a.B.e. participated in: Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, where our representative held a presentation on subject "Women's rights in Croatia: the gap between theory and practice" (October 2013), round table in Jerevan, Armenia, (March 2014.) organised by the Women's Resource Centre, meeting with the activists from Syria (October 2014), organised by European feminist initiative, participation in the CSW 59 etc. B.a.B.e. participated in making of the shadow report for CEDAW, jointly with other NGOs in Croatia (July 2015). In 2015 the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), together with two other Croatian ngos chose B.a.B.e. as a reference point for drafting regular reports on condition of human rights in Croatia.

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

April 2014, Zagreb, Croatia, participation in the roundtable on the Rights of Victims of Sexual Violence in the Homeland War organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense and the UNDP May 2014, Zagreb, Regional conference "Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict: Correction of Injustice, Prevention of Violence in the Future" organized by the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Croatia and the UNDP.

July 2015 61st Session of the CEDAW the Croatian Fourth and Fifth Report was discussed.

NGO contribution to Human Rights Commitee on the implementation of the CCPR in 2015 (4th Periodic Report).

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

March 8 – 14, 2015, participation on the CSW 59.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In October 2013 we finished with our project Coming out of the dark - support to women survivors and violence prevention which was founded by UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women. On 24-25 March 2014 UNTF came to monitoring and evaluation mission to B.a.B.e. and in October 2016 we participated on the UNTF knowledge exchange event in Sarajevo due to good experience of cooperation with the UN during implementation of the project Coming out of the dark.

## **Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals** No activities were specified.

## 2. Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

(Special; 1997)

## Introduction

BMP is a National Voluntary Activist Right Based Women's Organization for Women's Human Rights. BMP have a wide network across the country with 63 districts branches 2325 grass-root branches. More than 5000 trained organizers and 0.150 million general members rendering voluntary services. BMP is working relentlessly to establish and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women since last 4 and half decades through multi-dimensional activity. BMP works in the light of UDHR, ICPD, CRC and all other UN Human Rights stratas.

## Aims and purposes of the organization

- Establish Democratic, Non-Communal, Equity based Human Society and state.
- Achievement of Gender Equality.
- To ensure women's human rights in the light of Constitution of Bangladesh of UDHR,

UNCEDAW, ICPD, Vienna Declaration, BPFA, CRC, SDG and all other UN Human Rights

Conventions and treaties

- To enhance democracy and good governance
- Mainstream of Women in National Development Process and Policies.
- To promote Political participation of Women.
- To resist Violence Against Women.
- To accelerate Women's Rights movement through Intensified Networking Regionally, Nationally and Globally.
- To ensure sustainability of the organization and movement.
- To ensure a peaceful society

## Significant changes in the organization

- Numbers of Central Committee members have been increased from 61-83
- Numbers of National Council members have been increased up to 550.

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

• BMP actively participated in preparing CEDAW alternative report by Citizens Initiatives on CEDAW (a platform of 53 organizations) which has been submitted to UNCEDAW Committee in 2016.

• BMP actively participated in preparing Universal Periodic Report (UPR) by Human Rights Forum Bangladesh on Human Rights (a platform of 19 Civil Society organizations) which has been submitted to UNHRC in 2013. BMP actively involved in preparing Universal Periodic Report (UPR ) 3rd Cycle which will be submitted in 2017.

• A written statement on Towards Women's Human Rights, Dignity and Social Justice for 59th CSW session submitted and approved by UN General Secretary and was published in UN website. BMP organized Parallel Event on Introduction of New Laws: A South Asian Experience (Context of Bangladesh) in 57th CSW session in 2013, Resist and Eliminate Child Marriage 58th CSW session in 2014 and Resist and Eliminate all forms of Violence Against Women and Girl Child 59th CSW session in 2015 Participated Video conference, Question and Answer session in 60 CSW session in 2016.

• A written statement submitted Inclusive social development policy for sustainable development towards equality and justice for 60th CSW session submitted to Division for Social Policy and Development Department of Economic and social Affairs.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

• BMP's representative attended 57th CSW session 2013, 58th CSW session 2014, Six (6) representatives attended CSW 59th session 2015 and Three (3) representatives attended CSW 60th session.

• BMP's representative with others member of Citizens Initiatives on CEDAW a platform of 53 organizations attended UNCEDAW Committee Meeting in Geneva, 2016.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

• BMP works with UN Women Bangladesh Chapter on women rights and gender issues (Resist VAW, 7th 5 year plan, national women development policy. President of BMP is a member of its Civil Society Advisory Group(CSAG). President of BMP contributed in its mid-term evaluation.

• BMP maintaining working relation with UN bodies, UNCEF, UNDP, UNFPA and others. Working Jointly for Women and Children Rights.

• Cooperation with UNDP to establish Human Rights Development and Promote gender equality and empower women. President of BMP is a member of Project Advisory Board (PAB) of Human Rights Project of UNDP.

• BMP is in close contact Cooperation with UNDAF (UN Development Assistance Framework) that describes the collective actions and strategies between a government and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) of the United Nations to the achievement of national development. President of BMP is a member of this team.

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

BMP participated in the national regional and global review process of MDG and Beijing +20 towards developing SDG. BMP under took in-depth internal evaluation and prepared a fiveyear work plan (2016-2020) in a participatory process. The work plan includes the issue towards attaining sustainable development goal 3,4,5.BMP is involved with Govt. initiatives and a member of Citizen's platform for SDGs Bangladesh to implement SDG's Goal.

## 3. Barinu Institute For Economic Development

(Special; 2013)

#### Introduction

Barinu Institute for Economic Development (BIFED) is a part think tank, part do tank nongovernmental organization.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of Barinu Institute for Economic Development (BIFED) is to eliminate extreme poverty in the poorest regions of the world through infrastructure development and educational training.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

The Barinu Institute for Economic Development (BIFED) has made numerous contributions to the United Nations in multiple ways. BIFED organized side events during the commission on social development 2014, 2015 and 2016. Organized parallel and independent events during the commission on the status of women 2014, 2015, 2016. Organized side and independent events during the open working group on Ageing 2015, 2016. Organized side and independent events during the permanent forum on Indigenous people 2014, 2015, 2016. For example on February 19, 2014 BIFED hosted a side event titled 'Integration of the local community into the project cycle as a poverty reduction policy with case studies'' during the commission on social development. On the panel was a board of director of BIFED and a former adviser to former President Nelson Mandela of South Africa and also a policy adviser to the United Nations Secretary General in the office of partnership. On December 15, 2016 BIFED organized a Side Event during the open working group on Ageing Titled '' A Exploring Multivariate Panacea in Addressing Extreme Poverty in the Ageing Community.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Barinu Institute for Economic Development (BIFED) has participated in numerous conferences, side events, meetings and working groups at the United from 2013 to 2016. BIFED Participated in all 13 Sessions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development until the 2030 Global Sustainable Development Agenda was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 25, 2015. BIFED has participated in numerous meetings on human rights, conference on disaster risk, high level political forum, commission on population and development, convention on the rights of people with disability, conference on sustainable transport, hearings of the President of the General Assembly with non governmental organizations, Major working groups and private sector.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Barinu Institute for Economic Development (BIFED) cooperated with UNDP to organize a side event during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous People, May 22, 2014 Titled "Innovative Approaches to Sustainable Design and Development in Indigenous Communities".

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

Barinu Insitute for Economic Development has taken numerous initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals for Example to Achieve Goal 1. BIFED implemented an initiative in September 2014 in Africa called from the "Farm to the Market place" helping farmers improve and scale up their farm produce and helping them find new market for their products. BIFED also encouraged the promotion of wind turbines and solar panel use in poor communities. BIFED also made some contribution to disaster affected areas in Asia.

#### 4. Büro zur Umsetzung von Gleichbehandlung (BUG) e.V.

(Special; 2013)

#### Introduction

The Bureau for the Implementation of Equal Treatment (BUG) pursues the vision of a society free of discrimination, in which all people are treated equally in all areas of life regardless of their ethnic origin, religion, gender, disability, age or sexual orientation and in accordance with the proclaimed principles of equality.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

BUG promotes, implements and reinforces the German General Equal Treatment Act (AGG) and provides legal aid for strategically important cases. BUG is committed to the political, social and legal implementation of precedent-setting decisions to end discriminatory structures, rules and practices. This is achieved by furnishing information, through public relations and lobbying. BUG encourages and supports collaboration via networking and exchange of strategies among relevant stakeholders. International and human rights law, particularly the CERD Disability Convention, the European Convention on Human Rights and the European legal system are recognized and used as a frame of reference. Of particular importance are equal treatment and non-discrimination, which are explicitly enshrined in EU law.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

BUG contributed to the development of concluding observations of CERD on the 19th to 22nd periodic German Government reports concerning racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Expert Meeting on Racial Profiling,

UCLA LAW, Los Angeles, 11th/12th November, 2014. BUG attended Session 4 "Counterterrorism and racial profiling" and "Profiling, poverty and gender" as moderator and as speaker concerning "Profiling and the victim's perspective". UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Open Society Justice Initiative, BUG: Joint meeting "Racial and Ethnic Profiling in Law Enforcement", side event with Mr. Mutuma Ruteere (Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance), Geneva, Switzerland, 30th June, 2015. BUG attended event as speaker.

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

BUG attended the 86th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in Geneva in May, 2015. BUG provided additional background information to CERD members and held a lunch briefing.

For the 86th CERD session BUG contributed to a collective shadow report issued by an alliance of HR organizations in Germany. BUG also submitted a separate shadow report on issues related to discrimination of migrants in Germany with a focus on forms of religious discrimination practiced by church-based employers.

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

BUG promoted gender equality and empowerment of women by supporting legal cases of discrimination. BUG supported legal cases of persons discriminated on grounds of chronical diseases such as HIV.

#### 5. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies

(Special; 1997)

#### Introduction

The Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS) is a regional human rights organization covering the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. It is based and has a legal presence within Cairo, Egypt – Geneva, Switzerland – Paris, France –Brussels, Belgium.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

The primary goal of CIHRS is to promote and protect human rights within the MENA region. CIHRS main concentration of work is in the areas of research, capacity building/training, networking, public advocacy and publications.

## Significant changes in the organization

The CIHRS established a MENA regional human rights CIHRS office and legal presence in Geneva, Switzerland in 2009. This office became the official headquarters of CIHRS in 2016. Moreover, CIHRS has opened a regional office in Tunis, Tunisia in 2015, and a presence in Brussels, Belgium.

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

From 2013-16 CIHRS has facilitated dozens of human rights defenders and organizations from throughout the MENA region to engage with United Nations human rights bodies and institutions, including the United Nations Human Rights Council, Treaty Bodies, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other related mechanisms. CIHRS regularly provides timely information and consultations on MENA rights issues to assist the United Nations and its member states to promote and protect human rights. Moreover, CIHRS regularly cooperates with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other united Nations actors to provide trainings to civil society in the MENA region on how to use and engage with the United Nations human rights system. From 2013 to 2016 CIHRS conducted 6 trainings for more than 100 civil society representatives from throughout the

MENA region on United Nations human rights standards and mechanisms.

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

United Nations Human Rights Council: CIHRS participated in 12 regular sessions (22-33rd Sessions) and 3 Special Sessions of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). During this time, CIHRS delivered a large amount of written and oral interventions and organized or co-sponsored more than 40 side events at the Human Rights Council. Universal Periodic Review sessions: Yemen, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, Egypt, Libya. International Committee on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Review of Israel: From the 20-23 October 2014.

1-3 December 2014 CIHRS engaged with the International Forum on Business and Human Rights at the United Nations. CIHRS also regularly participates in consultations organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

CIHRS cooperated with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to conduct several trainings and meetings; including: Libya Advanced International Human Rights Mechanisms Training (IHRM) (Geneva, February 2015); Training Documentation of Human Rights Violations (June 2015 Tunis): Delivered by OHCHR and UNSMIL trainers and facilitated by CIHRS A second edition of the previous training was organized in Sousse in May 2016 involving trainers from UNSMIL and Access Now and trained 16 Libyan documentation officers. IHRM training (Tunis January 2016): 19 participants from 7 different countries were trained by 2 trainers of the OHCHR Tunis office, in house and external trainers; CIHRS co-organized several consultations between Libyan civil society and the Human Rights Unit of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, including: (UPR pre-session April 2015); (December 2015 Tunis) Meeting between Libyan community representatives and UNSMIL in the framework of the Municipality track project; (March 2016 Tunis) Joint CIHRS-UNSMIL conference: "The Role of Civil Society in Restoring Rule of Law and Human Rights in Libya"; (May 2015 Tunis). CIHRS allocated training resources to a UNSMIL led training on documentation of violations in Libya; (December 2016 Tunis) Consultation meeting with EU heads of delegation in Tunis, State representatives and

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

CIHRS has primarily engaged Millennium Development Goals of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women. Examples include: assisted women's rights organizations from Libya, Tunisia, and Morocco to prepare for and engage on the Universal Periodic Review of their countries. Trained more than 30 women's human rights defenders from the MENA region on how to engage with United Nations human rights mechanisms. From February to May 2014, CIHRS in partnership with Syrian women's rights defenders launched an international campaign to highlight the threats that women face in Syria and the particular challenges of Syrian Women Human Rights Defenders

## 6. Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace

(Special; 2013)

## Introduction

CAMYOSFOP came into existence as a result of the decaying nature of values. Its mission is working towards the restoration of these values. Created in 1999 and structured with General Assembly, Board of Directors, and Executive with current membership of 90. The Executive Director being a former member of the National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms (NCHRF) and currently, Cameroon's representative to the African Union ECOSOCC, and a member of UN Women CSO Advisory Group, CAMYOSFOP entertain good working relations with NCHRF, African Union, UNHRC, UNDP, CSW and UN Women.

## Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of CAMYOSFOP is educating youth and the general public on moral and traditional values. The aims are:

Educate youth on their moral and traditional values and ways of resolving differences.

Foster peace, justice and progress through social interaction and communication among youths and the public in general.

Play a leading role in enhancing youth policies and development.

Work relentlessly in liaising with institutions of the same caliber.

Work in collaboration with all other stakeholders involved with youth development.

## Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

During the last four years, CAMYOSFOP has carried out work related to the UN in the fields of human rights and contributing to SDG 16 through Resolution 1325, UNPoA, ATT and NPT, capitalizing the following UN Days for visibility: International Day for the Rights of the Child on celebrated on 16 June, UN Peace Day, celebrated on 21 September, 16 Days of Activism on EVAWG celebrated from 25 November to 10 December and UN Human Rights Day celebrated on 10 December.

#### Participation in meetings of the United Nations

From March 2014 – March 2017, the organization participated in the following meetings of the United Nations: 1. CSW in New York (58th session in 2014, 59th session in 2015, 60th session in 2016 and 61st session in 2017); 2. HRC in Geneva, Switzerland; (30th session 2015, 31st and 32nd sessions in 2016 and 33rd session in 2017); 3. HLPF on the SDGs in New York, United States, from 11 – 20 July 2016; 4. HLM2 on GPEDC held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 28 November – 1st December 2016. During the 30th session of the HRC, CAMYOSFOP made oral statements on Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9. During the HLM2 CAMYOSFOP was a co-organizer of the Youth Forum under the CPDE.

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

In 2013 CAMYOSFOP was funded by UNDP amongst three other CSOs to conduct consultations on Cameroonian priorities towards the SDGs. In December 2016 she was invited by UNDP to participate in a national consultation on adopting the indicators for contextualizing the SGDs in Cameroon.

From 2014 to 2016 she has received funding from UN Women to strengthen national coping mechanisms on HIV/AIDS and GBV across high prevalence regions in Cameroon. This project provided subventions to Women Living with HIV to run micro projects, legal assistance to GBV victims, train key Ministries and institutions on indicators of HIV/AIDS, create National Network of Boys-to-Boys Strategy on EVAWGs (NAYONEB), facilitated Network of Communicators on GBV (NETCOM), and created One Stop Centre in Yaounde to provide holistic services to victims of GBV.

CAMYOSFOP is a member of the UN Major Group on the SDGs and a member of the HeForShe working group in Cameroon coordinated by UN Women.

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

CAMYOSFOP has been a youth lead CSO on MDGs since the appointment of its Executive Director in 2004 as the UN Youth Spokesperson for the MDGs in Cameroon. Her work has been centered on MDG 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8. In 2013 CAMYOSFOP and three other CSOs spearheaded consultations on Cameroon's priorities for the SDGs. In April 2017 CAMYOSFOP organized a National Youth workshop on Development effectiveness (DE) to strategize on the role of the youth in contextualizing the SDGs. Since 2014 she has been involved in the UN SG HeForShe Campaign by creating NAYONEB to sustain the momentum.

#### 7. Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict (CIVIC)

(Special; 2009)

#### Introduction

The Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC) is based in the United States of America, with staff in Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, and Ukraine.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

CIVIC's mission is to improve protection for civilians caught in conflicts around the world. Through research, in-depth analysis of current conflicts, and direct engagement, the organization calls on and advises international organizations, governments, militaries, and armed non-state actors to adopt and implement policies to prevent civilian harm.

#### Significant changes in the organization

Since 2013, CIVIC has grown significantly through the expansion of in-house programs and advocacy capacity. Of note, the organization has recently created a Peacekeeping Program, hired a United Nations Advocate and Policy Advisor, and opened an office in New York, United States, bolstering its fieldwork-based research and its advocacy and policy engagement with the United Nations.

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

CIVIC conducts extensive field research on the protection of civilians (POC) by the UN and has produced several reports on the protection of civilians in UN peacekeeping missions, including in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Mali, and South Sudan. CIVIC regularly collaborates with United Nations agencies on POC concerns, collaborates with United Nations missions on policies and practices to protect civilians in conflict, and provides recommendations and inputs on United Nations reports, mandates, and resolutions.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

CIVIC regularly conducts meetings at the United Nations Secretariat, briefs permanent

missions in New York, and participates in the standing United Nations Protection working group, including all major offices, departments, and agencies focusing on protection. In the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016, CIVIC participated in high-level ministerial side events on South Sudan and the Lake Chad Basin, as well as the "Beyond the World Humanitarian Summit," hosted by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. In September 2015, CIVIC presented research findings and recommendations from an assessment in Nigeria at a high-level event of the United Nations General Assembly on Security in the Lake Chad Basin Region.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

•CIVIC collaborated with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO) to better understand civilian harm in the mission's operations in 2016.

•Led a training on civilian harm mitigation and proactive protection at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Center in Accra, Ghana, in 2015.

•Conducted briefings at the United Nations Secretariat on enhanced POC in the peacekeeping mission in the CAR and advised in the drafting of the peacekeeping mandate for the mission in 2014.

•Successfully advocated for language on mitigating risk to civilians in the 2013 MONUSCO mandate, constituting the first time a peacekeeping mandate recognized the risk to civilians from its own actions (S/RES/2211).

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

While CIVIC's activities did not focus on initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals, the organization contributed to Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) through its advocacy for improved protection of civilians in conflict.

## 8. Canadian Council of Churches

(Special; 1997)

#### Introduction

The Canadian Council of Churches is submitting this quadrennial report of the UN related activities of the Canadian Council of Churches to fulfill the reporting requirements of its Special Consultative Status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council. This report covers the period from 2013 to 2016.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

The Canadian Council of Churches provides a forum to share information and concerns among those involved in ecumenical work on peace and social justice in Canada and the world; reflect biblically and theologically on peace and social justice, and facilitate the cooperation of the churches in peace and justice concerns.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

Traditionally, our greatest area of involvement in United Nations agencies has been in the area of human rights along with peace and disarmament. The Canadian Council of Churches has a long history of advocacy for civil, political, economic, social, cultural, women, indigenous, refugee and children's rights as well as the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and has enjoyed the privileges of advocating on behalf of Canadian churches and their partners at a variety of UN events. From the Human Rights Commission to World Conferences such as the World Conference Against Racism and the Commission on Sustainable Development, accredited delegates of the Canadian Council of Churches have been present. More recently, The Canadian Council of Churches has been engaged in issues related to nuclear disarmament and the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During each of the years during this time period, The Canadian Council of Churches has requested accreditation and sent representatives to the First Assembly in the Fall of each year.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In addition to participation in the above events, we continue to send delegates each year to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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

In Canada, The Canadian Council of Churches has worked closely with organisations working to advance the progressive realisation of the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals, including the Canadian Interfaith Conversation. In particular, we have been mindful of communities in Canada, especially Indigenous communities, meeting the Development Goals.

## 9. Canadian Voice of Women for Peace

(Special; 1997)

#### Introduction

Established in 1960, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (VOW) is a non-partisan Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) comprised of a network of diverse women with consultative status at the United Nations ECOSOC.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission is to provide a means for women to exercise responsibility for the promotion of world peace and justice, through education of themselves and others to take an equal part in the democratic process of decision making; and to cooperate with women throughout the world to create the mutual respect and understanding necessary for the peaceful resolution of international conflict.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

May 2015- in support of Security Council Resolution 1325 we collaborated with 29 other international feminist peace women to visit and dialogue with women in The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea to promote a peace treaty and reunification.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2013-2016 – Participation in the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW); 2013 - March 4-15; 2014- March 10-21; 2015 - March 14-21; 2016 - March 13-24. Each year at the CSW we have mounted a relevant workshop;

2014-2015 - Participation in the General Assembly's three meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

A member continues to be an "in demand" UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador. A member is a liaison with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. We continue (since 1978) to affiliate with the Department of Public Information.

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

Annually we provide a peace education summer camp experience for young women. This supports MDG #3 and SDG #16.

#### 10. Catolicas Por El Derecho A Decidir

(Special; 2009)

#### Introduction

Catolicas Por El Derecho A Decidir is a non-profit organization created by women and men who defend from an ethical, catholic, feminist and secular perspective, the human rights of women and young people, especially sexual and reproductive rights, including access to safe and legal abortion.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

We seek to strengthen sexual and reproductive rights in the human rights agenda and link them to social justice, democracy and the laity of the State.

#### Significant changes in the organization

In September 2013, the Board of Directors approved amendments to the organization's bylaws to update them under Mexican Law. These included adding an income generating objective under Mexican tax law, procedures for incorporation and resignation of Board members, and the creation of an executive committee.

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

2013: During the 57th session of the CSW, representative participated in the parallel NGO panel "Feminicide: a question of impunity and discrimination in Mesoamerica" organized by the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.

2014: During the 65th session of the Committee of the Rights of the Child, representative presented the report "Clerical Pedophilia of Mexicans in Mexico and other countries: 1994-2013". Organization sent information about sexual violence and access to legal abortion for the Mechanism of the revision of the San Salvador Protocol in the area of right to health.

2015: Organization involved in the development and piloting of a civil society social monitoring tool with IPPF/WHR to ensure the Mexican state's implementation of the operational guide for the Montevideo Consensus. Organization participated in the follow-up for the implementation of the Cairo Platform for Action with the Mexican government and

other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

2016: Organization was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Women's Institute to provide comments on the 9th Periodic Report on the Mexican State for the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2013:

•Representatives attended the 57th Session of the CSW in New York, United States, 4-15 March 2013.

•Representatives attended the 46th Session of the CPD in New York, 22-26 April 2013.

•Representative attended the Human Rights Committee for the Periodic Universal Exam Mechanism for Mexico in New York, July 2013

•Representatives attended the 12th Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean is convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in the Dominican Republic, 15-18 October, 2013.

## 2014:

•Representative attended the 65th session of the Committee of the Rights of the Child in Geneva Switzerland, 5 February.

•Representatives attended the 58th Session of the CSW in New York, 10-21 March 2014.

•Representatives attended the 47th Session of the CPD in New York, 7-11 April 2014.

## 2015:

•Representatives attended the 59th Session of the CSW/Beijing+20 in New York, 9-20 March 2015.

•Representatives attended the 48th Session of the CPD in New York, 13-17 April 2015.

## 2016:

•Representative attended the 60th Session of the CSW, as part of the Mexican Official Delegation, in New York, 14-24 March 2016.

•Representatives attended the 49th Session of the CPD in New York, 11-15 April 2016.

Representatives attended the 13th Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Uruguay, 25-28 October, 2016

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

•Organization received funding from United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women from 2011 to 2015 for the Effective implementation of the General Law for Women's Access to a Life Free from Violence.

•In 2014, organization met with CSOs feminists, human rights defenders and survivors of violence with Professor Rashida Manjoo, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences in Mexico City, Mexico.

•Organization met with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Dubravka Šimonović during her visit to Mexico in 2016.

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

Organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals Three and Six in Mexico by advocating for comprehensive sexuality education in formal education and improved access to health services for adolescents and youth. Additionally: -International Women's Day observed each year on March 8. -International Day of Action for Women's Health observed each year on May 28. -International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women observed each year on November 25, in addition to the 16 Days of Activism. -World AIDS Day observed each year on December 1.

## 11. Caucasian Feminist Initiative

(Special; 2005)

## Introduction

The report is submitted by non-governmental organization the Caucasian Feminist Initiative in the Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council since 2005.

## Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization provides technical assistance to women politicians and develops strategies to foster women's empowerment and gender equality in democratic governance.

## Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

In 2013- 2016, the Caucasian Feminist Initiative had contributed to the work of United Nations through providing expertise to UN agencies on Women's Human rights and Gender Equality; as well as through organising Side Events during CSW 58th session and CSW 59th session. The organisation contributed to CEDAW reporting process in Georgia and in the South Caucasus.

In reporting period 2013 - 2016, the Caucasian Feminist Initiative advocated women's human rights and developed a cooperation with networks in Eurasian region – Georgian Civil Society National Platform for the Eastern Partnership, Women's Political Forum, Georgia and South Caucasus Women's Congress. The organisation carried out the informational and educational programs for civil society and politicians.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The representatives of the Caucasian Feminist Initiative attended abroad range of meetings organised by the United Nations; participated in the following United Nations sessions: 57th session, 58th session 59th and 60th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women; 2015 High Political forum on Sustainable development, convened under auspices of the Economic

Social Council; 51st Session of the Commission for Social Development.

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

From 2013 to 2016, the Caucasian Feminist Initiative conducted successful partnership with UN Women, by participating in the work of UN Women Advisory Council in Georgia; also In 2013 – 2016, the organisation in partnership with UNDP conducted the project: Facilitation and Coordination Between Civil Society organisations working on Women's Issues and Gender Equality. In 2015, the president of the Caucasian Feminist Initiative became the member of the CEDAW committee.

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

The Caucasian Feminist Initiative contributed to the Millennium Development Goal 3 "Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women" and the Millennium Development Goal 5 in Georgia and worldwide; after 2015 to SDG 5, to achieve Gender equality and empower all women and girls; conducted media campaigns, provided capacity building trainings and developed policies papers; cooperated with civil society and government.

#### 12. Center for Inquiry

(Special; 2005)

#### Introduction

The Center for Inquiry (CFI), founded in 1991, is a nonprofit educational and advocacy organization that advances reason, science, and humanist values. It is not affiliated with, nor does it promote, any political party or ideology. CFI maintains offices across the United States and in various countries; publishes magazines (Free Inquiry and Skeptical Inquirer) and a podcast (Point of Inquiry); and keeps an executive office in Washington, D.C., Unites States which lobbies the U.S. government and maintains CFI's presence at the United Nations.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

CFI's mission is to foster a secular society based on science, reason, freedom of inquiry, and humanist values. Three goals in particular represent the focus of our activities: end the influence religion and pseudoscience have on public policy; end the privileged position religion and pseudoscience enjoy in many societies; and end the stigma attached to being nonreligious.

#### Significant changes in the organization

In 2016 the Richard Dawkins Foundation for Reason & Science merged with and became a division of CFI. In addition, Ronald Lindsay retired as President and CEO, and Robyn Blumner joined CFI as its new President and CEO.

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

CFI has primarily worked to defend and advance the rights to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion, and expression, which are protected by various UN agreements and treaties. This includes organizing events, issuing statements, and publishing articles to educate and mobilize the public.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

January 2013: CFI attends UN Human Rights Council's (HRC) 23rd regular session, delivers

statements condemning honor killings and urging greater access to contraception and abortion. September 2013: CFI attends UN HRC's 24th regular session, delivers statements critical of servile marriages and inaction in the Syrian Arab republic. April 2014: CFI attends UN HRC's 25th regular session, delivers statements condemning persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan, crackdown on free expression in Bangladesh, harmful religious practices against girls, human rights in Saudi Arabia, and violence and discrimination against LGBT persons based on "traditional values." July 2014: CFI attends UN HRC's 26th regular session, delivers statements condemning discrimination and violence against women and girls, impunity in Pakistan and India, blasphemy and apostasy laws, and female genital mutilation. CFI also condemns Saudi Arabia's imprisonment of Raif Badawi and Waleed Abu al-Khair. October 2014: CFI attends UN HRC's 27th regular session, delivers statements decrying religious and cultural restrictions on rights of women, condemning discrimination against religious and non-religious minorities, stressing necessity of freedom of expression on Internet, and demanding release of Saudi dissidents. March 2015: CFI attends UN HRC's 28th regular session, delivers statements criticizing states censoring social media activities, and Saudi Arabia for human rights abuses. June 2015: CFI attends UN HRC's 29th regular session, delivers statement on persecution of nonreligious individuals. CFI also urges states to support resolution on freedom of expression in art, and oppose amendments to weaken resolution. September 2015: CFI attends UN HRC's 30th regular session, delivers statements on judicial discrimination against women, and rise of religious extremism in Bangladesh. March 2016: CFI attends UN HRC's 31st regular session, delivers statements on relationship between freedom of religion, belief, and expression, free expression on social media, free expression and equal justice, and protecting human rights in combating racism, xenophobia, and related intolerance. CFI co-organizes side event on secularism; co-sponsors side events on implementation of 16/18 resolution and preventing violent extremism; and urges states to reject hostile amendments to resolution on human rights defenders. June 2016: CFI attends UN HRC's 32nd session, delivers statements on relationship between freedoms of opinion, expression, association, and assembly; and human rights crisis in Bangladesh. CFI also cosponsors statement urging HRC to address deteriorating climate for free expression in Bangladesh, and urges states to approve resolutions on civil society space, Internet freedom, and sexual orientation and gender identity, and reject hostile amendments. Prior to HRC, CFI

attends private conference on freedom of religion or belief and sexuality held at the United Nations in Geneva.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

CFI is a member of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief; its main representative Michael De Dora is currently serving his second term as president. In addition, CFI belongs to NGO Committees on Human Rights and the Status of Women. CFI also works closely with various UN special rapporteurs.

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

No activities were specified.

#### 13. Center for Migration Studies of New York, The

(Special; 2001)

#### Introduction

The Center for Migration Studies (CMS) is a New York-based think tank/educational institute. CMS was established in 1964 by the Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles, Scalabrinians, a Catholic community dedicated to serving migrants and refugees. CMS is a member of the Scalabrini International Migration Network (SIMN), a global network of migrant shelters, service centers and other institutions located along migrant corridors and in border and destination communities. CMS operates as a legally distinct, tax-exempt agency, with an independent board of trustees.

## Aims and purposes of the organization

CMS is devoted to the study of migration, to the promotion of understanding between immigrants and receiving communities, and to public policies that safeguard the dignity and rights of migrants and newcomers.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

CMS supports the UN's work primarily through: (1) Academic, research and policy publications including the International Migration Review (IMR), the leading interdisciplinary, social science journal in the field of international migration, and the Journal on Migration and Human Security (JMHS), a public policy journal featuring issues, perspectives, and policy ideas that receive insufficient attention in the national and global immigration debate; (2) Events on migration-related issues and policies; and (3) An extensive archive on US immigration history.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2013: 21-22 February: 11th Coordination Meeting on International Migration and

Development; 15 July: CMS co-hosted "Human Security, Civil Society and Migration," a side event to the Informal Interactive Hearings on the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD); 4 October: CMS co-sponsored "The Humanitarian Response to the Middle East Refugee Crisis," an official side event to the HLD.

2014: 20-21 February: 12th Coordination Meeting on International Migration and Development.

2015: 12-13 February: 13th Coordination Meeting on International Migration and Development.

2016: 25-26 February: 14th Coordination Meeting on International Migration and Development; 5 February: CMS spoke at "Social Integration of Vulnerable Populations"; 17 July: "Preparatory meeting for and by civil society in the lead up to the 19 September Summit on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants"; 19 September: CMS sponsored an unaccompanied minor to participate in the "High-level Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Migrants and Refugees."

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

2013: 8 March: CMS spoke at the UNHCR hill briefing, "Refugee Protection in the US: Gaps and Opportunities for Legislative Solutions"; 12 June: CMS co-hosted "The Evidence Base for October's High-Level Dialogue: What We Know about Migration and Development" 2016: 23 March: CMS hosted a meeting between resettled refugees and UN Special Adviser Karen AbuZayd to inform the Secretary-General's report on large movements of refugees and migrants.

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

CMS organized additional events with local and international partners, including:

2013: June: "Human Security, Human Development and International Governance on Migration"

2014: 30 September: "2015 Academic and Policy Symposium: International Migration Scholarship in the 21st Century"

2015: 28 October: "2015 Academic and Policy Symposium" which featured Mark Miller on his seminal treatise, The Age of Migration, and Hein de Haas on a theoretical approach to

migration and development

2016: 18 May: "Refugee Crises in the Middle East: A Shared Responsibility"; 5-7 July: "Rethinking the Global Refugee Protection System"; 20 September: "Shadow Summit: The US Response to Central American Refugees"

CMS also produced/published additional research/analysis, including:

Levitt, Peggy and N. Rajaram. 2013. "The Migration–Development Nexus and Organizational Time." Donald Kerwin. 2013. "Does Respect for Migrant Rights Contribute to Economic Development?" Washington, DC, Migration Policy Institute.

Donald Kerwin. 2013."Migration, Development and the Right Not to Have to Migrate in the New Era of Globalization. In "Strangers No Longer" eds. Todd Scribner and J. Kevin Appleby. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press.

Center for Migration Studies. 2014. "Civil Society "Stockholm Agenda" calls for Inclusion of Migrants and Migration in the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals." Kerwin, Donald. 2014. "What the US Can Learn from the UN on Migration and Development," New York: Huffington Post.

Harbeson, John W. 2016. "Mainstreaming Involuntary Migration in Development Policies"Czaika, Mathias and Hein de Haas. 2016. "The Effect of Visas on Migration Processes."

JMHS, launched in 2013 to address migration-

related human security issues including economic and human development, has steadily grown in influence. And CMS' archive continues to inform scholarly projects aimed at achieving the MDGs.

## 14. Center for Practice-Oriented Feminist Science (PROFS)

(Special; 2001)

#### Introduction

The Center for Practice-Oriented Feminist Science (PROFS)/Fulda/Germany is committed to speeding the achievement of the development-agenda of the United Nations at large, especially of gender-equality as a gateway to other Millennium-and-Sustainable-Development-Goals(MDG/SDG), international-national-local.

#### Aims and purposes of the organization

PROFS develops strategies and concepts, offers counseling, education, mentoring, monitoring, evaluation, networking, presentations of scientific relevance, works at beneficiaries'-request on solving their problems, e.g. overcoming-gender-based-violence and Female-Genital-Mutilation (FGM), trains Value-Centered gender-experts, who go to Africa on invitation, offering 'real-teaching-programmes'. Women/girls and men/boys learn equal-behavior-structures in family-life/school/working-places/community-development.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

Publication on MDG-3, "Successful prevention towards FGM in Africa. Best-practice implemented in the FULDA-MOSOCHO-PROJECT", Konsens1/2013, German Association of University Women.

Publication honoring "the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2012 'Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of FGM/C'",Konsens1+2/2014. Publication "Sustainable Development Summit and Solutions Summit, 'Our Solution – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls'", Konsens 2015.

## Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives attended the Commission-on-the-Status-of-Women(CSW), United Nations

Headquarters, New York:

-the 57th, 04-15 March 2013, 'Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence-against-women-and-girls'. Statement-submission "The Value-Centered-Approach (VCA)".
-the 59th, 09-20 March 2015, 'Implementing the Beijing Platform-for-Action'. Statement Submission E/CN.6/2015/NGO/82 to the special session of the Assembly 'Women2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'. Workshop organization "Speeding-up the process by best-practice with the FULDA-MOSOCHO-PROJECT".
-the 60th, 14-24 March 2016, 'Women's-Empowerment/Sustainable-Development'.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Submission "Health-and-Wealth-for-our-Families, Robert's-Change", printed/video, on the call for stories on 'People's Empowerment', launched by the United Nations Social-Development-Network (UNSDN), 14 May 2013.

Submission on SDG-5 and 1-3-4-16-17 "Our Solution, the Value-Centered-Approach (VCA)" '(3,513 words) to the Solutions-Summit on occasion of the Sustainable-Development-

Summit", United Nations Headquarters, New York, 25-27 September 2015.

Cooperation with UN-Women-National-Committee Germany and German-Federal-Government, preparing for CSWs and follow-ups:

-Campaign 'Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity: Picture it!' – Beijing-Platformfor-Action 20 years on', Berlin, Germany, 03 July 2014.

-International Symposium: 'Sustainable, equal, fair - act now! Gender-equality in the post-

2015-agenda for sustainable development', Berlin, Germany, 24 September 2014,

-With UN-Women-Executive-Director and United Nations Under-Secretary-General,Berlin,Germany:

\*'Ceremony of the Beijing+20-campaign', 09 June 2015,

\*'Briefing within the Beijing+20 campaign for 10 Non-Governmental-Organizations(NGO)', 10 June 2015.

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

Exhibition, "Wonder-of-the-Female-Body/Female-Genital-Mutilation in Africa – HOW to achieve a cultural transformation", developed with Mosocho-Division/Kenya, touring-in-

Germany- since 2014.

Income-generating-project "As-Friends-to-Kenya". Rural-African-families invite Germans to their traditional-homes. International understanding and cooperation based on equality.

FULDA-MOSOCHO-PROJECT 'OvercomingFGM', implementing gender-equality in the rural-area, Kenya/Mosocho-Division, 2013-2016: applying the VCA developed by PROFS. -14 value-centered-parents'-schools/9,028 participants, -5,661 family-visits in back counties, organized by clan-elders,

-85 workshops for clanelders/teachers/chiefs/former-circumcisors,

-54 parents-seminars, 112 girls-seminars, 56 community-events in 14 locations celebrating rescued girls/families.

Activities/investigations/interventions on demand of Mosocho's neighbouring regions (230,000 inhabitants) for transformation from "culture-without to culture-with-clitoris": 45 village-meetings/1,735 participants, VCA-volunteer-training-seminars/592 participants.

Expertise of scientific relevance on 'Consultation on Female-Genital-Mutilation in the EU' by the European Commission, 30 May 2013, \*EndFGM-European-Campaign, EndFGM-European-Network since 2014.

Further-training-seminar for professional-fields, "Sustainable-development: gender-and-the-VCA", Hofbieber, Germany, 08-09 November 2013.

Ongoing-cooperation with German-network-INTEGRA to overcome FGM.

Development-Policy-Network-Hessen invited to 'Global Sustainable-Development-Goals and the Great-Transformation: from noble objectives to concrete steps', Frankfurt,Germany,02 July 2016. Workshop-Submission "SDG and Gender-Equality: the experiences of the FULDA-MOSOCHO-PROJECT/Kenya".

## 15. COBASE - Cooperativa Tecnico Scientifica di Base

(Special; 2005)

## Introduction

COBASE is an independent scientific organization that is fully accredited to participate in the work of various international conventions and is the promoter of the international project "Diversity as a Resource" with the document entitled the "Resolution of Rome: Guidelines for the Protection of Cultural Diversity against racism and in favour of the appreciation of the importance of cultural diversity.

## Aims and purposes of the organization

COBASE deals with ecological design and planning. According to its goals the organization is involved in the issues of environment, renewable energy and sustainability and designed and realized air, water, electric, solar installations.

#### Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

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

COBASE Cooperativa Tecnico Scientifica di Base, expanding research, analysis and projects carried out in previous years, has focused the activity on issues related to the Sustainable Development Goals (mainly goals n.1,2,7,11,12,13,15,16):

- Environmental and urban sustainability;
- Bio-economy, responsible consumption and production;
- The fight against poverty and hunger;
- The rights of indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge, agro-ecology and life on land;

- Climate change and its impacts on desertification and cities; - Clean energy in the urban areas;

- Peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and conflicts resolution.

#### Participation in meetings of the United Nations

COBASE Representatives attended the following meetings:

7-18 November 2016, UNFCCC-COP22, Marrakech Climate Change Conference, Morocco:
- 11 November, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Future Cities for Climate Change Targets (CCTs), Agroecology and Local Biocultural Assessments", (Co-Applicants: ANDES; Gherush92).

- Lead Applicant of the exhibit "Creating Carbon Negative and Climate Resilient Ecovillages & Communities in Africa and around the World. Creating Electrical Cities and Agroecological Parks. Defining Principles, Guidelines and Indicators for future Relationship between Cities, Urban Agroecology, Bioeconomy and Climate Change" (Co-Applicants: GEN; Gherush92).

- Co-applicant of the side Event "Urban Agroecology and Traditional Knowledge", Indigenous Pavillon (Lead applicant: Gherush92).

30 September 2016, Cities Of The Future-H2020, Istanbul, Turkey:

- Participation to the Event and presentation of the Project "Electrical Cities and Agroecological Parks".

16-26 May 2016, UNFCCC Bonn Climate Change Conference Sb44, Germany:

- 17 May 2016, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Discussion on Electrical Urban Areas. Principles, Guidelines, Indicators to combat CC. Project Elements", (Co-Applicant: Gherush92).

30 November -11 December 2015, UNFCCC-COP21, Paris Climate Change Conference, France:

- 02 December, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Electrical Cities, Common Goods (energy, water, sanitation), Agroecological Parks against CC", (Co-Applicants: Gherush92; SAFE).

1-11 June 2015, UNFCCC, Bonn Climate Change Conference SB42, Germany - UNFCC,Climate Action Fair Virtual Expo 2015:

- 03 June, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Electrical Cities and Eco-productive and Agro-ecological Parks against CC with Bio-circular Economy", (Co-Applicant: Gherush92).
1-14 December 2014, UNFCCC-COP20, Lima Climate Change Conference, Peru:

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- 01 December, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Electrical Cities, Agroecological and Ecoproductive Parks to combat CC. A Bioeconomical Approach", (Co-Applicant: Gherush92).

- 10 December 2014, Interview to Climate Change Studio.

4-15 June 2014, Bonn Climate Change Conference SB40, Germany:

- 08 June, Lead Applicant of the side Event "Bioeconomy, Electrical Cities and Agroecological Parks to combat Climate Change", (Co-Applicant: Gherush92).
05 May 2014, Chamber of Deputies of Italy, Rome, Italy:

- Participation to the presentation of the peer review OCSE-DAC about the Italian International Cooperation.

21 March 2014, Chamber of Deputies of Italy, Rome:

- Hearing at the Parliamentary Commissions Environment and Industry in the framework of the survey of green economy state of art. Presentation of the Project "Bioeconomy and Development".

12 March 2014, Senate of Italy, Rome:

- Hearing at the Commission of Foreign Affairs about the law process of the General Discipline of International Cooperation and Development.

November 2013, UNFCCC-COP19, Warsaw Climate Change Conference, Poland.

- Full participation at the COP19.

- 22 November, interview to Climate Change Studio

2 July 2013, Italian Ministry Of Foreign Affairs And International Cooperation

- Participation to the conference "From Rio+20 Conference to post 2015 process".

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

COBASE has contributed to the work of the UN participating in the meetings of the Human Rights Council, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio +20, the UN Climate Change Conference, the World Food Day, FAO. In this context the Committee carried out meetings with personalities from the cultural, diplomatic and institutional framework of other NGOs, UN agencies and countries.

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

The above-mentioned activities are in support to the MDGs (mainly goals n.1,4,7,8). In addition, the following initiatives by COBASE are mentioned:

- 2016 Pilot Project Proposal "The Factory of Baobab. Taking care of one's Health with Food in Africa";

- 2015 Pilot Project Proposal "Renewable Cities";

- 2014-2015 Pilot project Proposal "Agro-ecological Parks and Electrical Cities" (partner: Gherush92);

- 2013-2015 Pilot project Proposal "Agro-ecological Parks to feed Cities" (partner: Gherush92).