Page



Distr.: General 12 November 2007

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations 2008 regular session 21-30 January 2008

Quadrennial reports for the period 2003-2006 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

Contents

		1 480
1.	Disabled Peoples' International	2
2.	Focus on the Family	4
3.	Hariri Foundation	7
4.	International Commission on Distance Education	10
5.	Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation	13

^{*} Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.



1. Disabled Peoples' International

(Special; 1983)

PART I - Introduction

Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) is the cross-disability umbrella organization of persons with disabilities established in 1981 with the mandate to promote the human rights of persons with disabilities worldwide through full participation, equalization of opportunity, and development. DPI has National Assemblies (members) in 130 countries and a World Council (Board of Directors) with representation from 31 of those countries.

PART II (i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies:

1. DPI participated in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Specifically, the Sessions were 2nd (16-27 June 2003); 3rd (24 May-4 June 2004); 4th (23 August–3 September 2004); 5th (24 January-4 February 2005); 6th (1-12 August 2005); 7th (6 January-3 February 2006); 8th (14-25 August 2006); 8th resumed (13 December 2006). DPI was well represented at each session, worked with the International Disability Caucus, co-chaired International Women's Committee to ensure inclusion of women with disabilities in the Convention. DPI made 26 Interventions throughout process, plus a number of interventions on behalf of the International Disability Caucus. DPI was a member of the Working Group to draft the text (5-16 January 2004) used in negotiations. Financial assistance for participation by DPI members from developing countries was generously provided by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

2. DPI and its National Assemblies hosted and facilitated side events during the Ad Hoc Committee process: Inclusion of Disabled People in the Millennium Development Goals, 4 August 2005; Inclusion of Disabled Women in the United Nations Convention, 5 August 2005; Visibility of Women with Disabilities in the United Nations Convention, 18 January 2006; International Cooperation, 25 January 2006; Disabled People in the Arab World: Future Outlook, 26 January 2006; Developing Inclusive Education: Challenging Segregation in Education, 27 January 2006; Disabled Women in the Arab World, 30 January 2006; Disabled Women and the United Nations Convention, 1 February 2006; Situation of People with Disabilities in Lebanon and Palestine, 16 August 2006; Women with Disabilities, 17 August 2006; Education around the World, 25 August 2006. On 4 August 2006 DPI Chairperson gave a media interview on education for children with disabilities on behalf of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

3. DPI's intersessional work on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) included participation in the United Nations five regional meetings in 2003. From 2004-2006, DPI produced regular bulletins for global distribution called "Convention – YES". As well, DPI developed and distributed globally Daily Updates during Ad Hoc Committee sessions and also produced interviews with key players in the negotiations process. DPI, in partnership with the Governments of Canada, Israel and Mexico provided a film screening and reception during the 7th Session.

4. DPI, through the generosity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Finland, 2005, developed online (Convention) Ratification Toolkit to inform persons with disabilities and their allies about the CRPD, the process, its potential impact on the lives of persons with disabilities and how to work with national governments to influence ratification of the CRPD.

5. DPI, again through the generosity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Finland, 2006, developed on-line (Convention) Implementations Toolkit to inform persons with disabilities and their allies about the CRPD, and how to work with national governments to influence implementation of the CRPD.

6. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) 2002. Representatives attended to provide input to draft Biwako Millennium Framework to guide region's work under the extension of the Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

7. The World Summit on the Information Society – First Phase, 10-12 December 2003, Geneva, Switzerland, UNESCO. Representatives attended as participants.

8. International Conference on the Salamanca Statement: 10 Years Later – Evolution or Involution? 10 December 2004, hosted by DPI-Europe and DPI-Portugal. Called on UNESCO to be more active with monitoring the Salamanca Statement.

9. UNESCO international conference of Non-Governmental Organizations, 14-16 December 2004, Paris, France, representatives attended as participants.

10. Beijing +10 Conference: Forty-Ninth Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 28 February – 11 March 2005, United Nations Headquarters, New York. Representatives attended to provide input on disability perspective and ensure issues of women with disabilities are included when addressing broader women's issues.

11. Disability Policy and European Union Accession Process in South East Europe, 15-17 March 2005, Sarajevo. DPI-Europe joined representatives of governments, European Union bodies, World Bank to create platform to give broad guidance to governments and civil society in South East Europe on including disability issues into policies and activities.

12. Validation of National Action Plan on Human Rights, 9 May 2005, Mauritania, United Nations Development Programme, Government of Mauritania. DPI representatives attended to provide input to integration of human rights into Mauritania culture and to guarantee the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities.

13. A Global Perspective on Right to Education and Livelihood, 17-18 October 2005, United Nations Centre, Bangkok, Thailand, ESCAP. Representatives attended as participants.

14. Comprehensive National Plan of Action on Disability – Towards the Mid-point Review of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asian and the Pacific, 19-21 October 2005, Bangkok, Thailand. Representatives attended to provide feedback.

15. The World Summit on the Information Society – Second Phase, 16-18 November 2005, Tunis, Tunisia, UNESCO. Representatives attended as participants.

16. Declaration on the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (2006-2026), 6 June 2006, Dominican Republic, General Assembly of the Organization of American States. Recommendations by DPI- Latin American Region presented to the Fourth Summit of the Americas at Mar del Plata, Argentina, 5 November 2005, influenced Declaration.

17. World Urban Forum (3^{rd} session) – Our Future: Sustainable Cities – Turning Ideas into Action, 19-23 June 2006, Vancouver, Canada. DPI representatives attended and DPI Chairperson spoke on panel to promote inclusion by municipalities of persons with disabilities in decision-making on accessible environments.

18. Biwako Millennium Framework Stakeholders' Co-ordination Meeting – First Session, 17-19 July 2006, Bangkok, Thailand: DPI attended to provide input to draft document for mid-decade evaluation of Asia-Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons.

19. The Right of Persons with Disabilities to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, 29-30 November 2006, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Disabled People's International gave two presentations to staff of UNFPA and others.

20. UNFPA, 2006, and DPI worked together to develop Facts Sheet on sexual and reproductive health of persons with disabilities for use by UNFPA in its work.

21. Thematic Collective Consultation: Education for All, UNESCO, member attended to provide advice and information.

PART II (ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters:

International Day of Disabled People (IDDP), 3 December, is celebrated annually by National Assemblies of DPI who focus on activities to raise awareness of the media, general public and governments on disability and disability issues. United Nations agreed to use DPI's motto, "A Voice of Our Own" as the theme for IDDP in 2003. On 3 December 2005, Islamabad, booklet on Emergency Response, prepared by the Disability Task Force of the United Nations was launched. On 2 December 2005, Bangkok, Thailand, DPI-Asia/Pacific supported organization of UN ESCAP celebrations and panel discussion on Persons with Disabilities in the Media – Towards Dispelling Stereotypes.

DPI has not participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council as much as it would have liked, instead focusing its limited resources on the emerging human rights framework that has been elaborated in the CRPD.

2. Focus on the Family

(Special; 2003)

Focus on the Family (FOTF) was granted special consultative status as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the United Nations in July 2003. Therefore, this is the first Quadrennial Report due; no report is due for the 1999-2002 period prior to receiving consultative status.

<u>Part I.</u>

Dr. James C. Dobson, Ph.D., shifted his duties to Chairman of the Board and Founder. Mr. Jim Daly, formerly Vice President of International, became the President and CEO in 2005.

A restructuring process was completed that included streamlining 90+ departments under eight senior vice presidents to improve communications and functionality, and to facilitate FOTF's movement into a more capable global services organization.

In addition to internal changes, FOTF worked with our Associate Offices to restructure our international partnerships and improve services. This new structure includes regional offices (e.g., FOTF Costa Rica became FOTF Latin America).

Part II. Contributions of the organization to the work of the United Nations

 <u>United Nations Declaration on Human Cloning</u>, approved by the General Assembly on 8 March 2005 [A/59/516/ADD.1]. In 2003, FOTF representatives met with government leaders in San Jose, Costa Rica, and with ambassadors and diplomats from several permanent missions to the United Nations in New York, to explore ways to partner with them to accomplish our mutual goal of building international support for such a measure. After Costa Rica prepared the first draft of an international convention on human cloning, FOTF partnered with Costa Rica, the Philippines and Ethiopia to co-sponsor the *International Briefing on Human Cloning* at the United Nations Headquarters. H.E. Mr. Bruno Stagno Ugarte, Ambassador of Costa Rica, H.E. Mr. Sichan Siv, Ambassador of the United States of America, and Dr. Nigel M. de S. Cameron, Ph.D., an international expert on human cloning, spoke at the lunch briefing held on 9 September 2003. In attendance were 58 ambassadors and diplomats from 49 nations, plus 14 NGO representatives.

During October 2003, Costa Rica and FOTF co-sponsored private lunch briefings for ambassadors with Ambassador Stagno Ugarte of Costa Rica and Dr. David Prentice, Ph.D., an expert on human cloning and stem cell research.

FOTF continued in 2004 and 2005 to work closely with these and other Member Nations to build support for the eventual passage of the Declaration. FOTF provided pertinent briefs to delegations, translated into the six languages of the United Nations, and mailed to all a book entitled, *Stem Cells and Cloning*, written by Dr. Prentice.

- 2) <u>Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities</u>, approved by the General Assembly on 13 December 2006 [A/AC.265/2006]. FOTF partnered with the Joni and Friends International Disabilities Center to prepare a DVD that was distributed to all delegations during the final negotiations in August 2006. Also, FOTF's representative to the United Nations educated delegations to encourage protection of life and family rights as well as life-saving measures to persons with disabilities, including the preborn.
- 3) <u>United Nations commissions and committees</u>: FOTF representatives to the United Nations participated in meetings at the United Nations, including:
 - Child Summit and preparatory meetings (New York; United States, 29 April 3 May, 2002, 6-10 May 2002)

- CEDAW Committee [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women] (New York, United States, 26 January 3 February 2006; 15-19 May 2006; 23 June 2006; 15-18 January 2007; 26 July 2 August 2007)
- Commission on the Status of Women (New York, United States, 10-14 March 2003; 1-5 March 2004; 2-4 March 2005)
- Commission on Population and Development (New York, United States, 1-4 April 2003; 9-13 April 2007)
- General Assembly and Second, Third or Sixth Committees (New York, United States, annually)
- Human Rights Commission (Geneva, 14-23 April 2004; 31 March 8 April 2005)
- Human Rights Committee (New York, United States, 20-24 March 2006; 7 September 2006)
- Human Rights Council (Geneva, Switzerland, 28-30 June 2006)
- NGO Committee (New York, United States, 14-16 January 2003)
- Rio+10 Rio Earth Summit preparatory meetings (New York, United States, 28 January 1 February 2002)
- UNFPA [United Nations Population Fund] Board Meetings (New York, United States, 13 September 2006)
- United Nations Violence Against Children Report and meetings (New York, United States, 11-12 October 2006)
- World Summit (New York, United States, 13-16 September 2005)
- 4) International Year of the Family+10 (IYF+10). FOTF leaders, representatives and affiliates from the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia participated in planning meetings (New York, United States, 14-16 May 2003), and international and regional conferences in commemoration of IYF+10 (*World Congress of Families III*, Mexico City, 29-31 March 2004), and in the General Assembly's launch of IYF+10 (New York, United States, 2-4 December 2003), and commemoration and passage of *Resolution A/C.3/60* (New York, United States, 6 December 2004).
- 5) Defense of human rights affirmed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and guaranteed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. FOTF sponsored four formal briefings at the United Nations in New York, United States (5 March 2004; 4 March 2005) and Geneva, Switzerland (25 March 2004; 7 April 2005) to inform Member Nations to the importance of protecting the inherent freedoms of speech and religious freedom. Speakers at these high-level briefings were: Dr. Jeffrey Satinover, M.D., psychiatrist from the United States; Dr. Chris Kempling, Psy.D., Registered Clinical Counselor from Canada; Dr. Farooq Hassan, D. Phil., attorney from Pakistan; Rev. Åke Green from Sweden; Mr. Per Karlsson, J.D., attorney and government advisor from Sweden; Mr. Gerald Chipeur, J.D., constitutional

attorney from Canada; and United States Ambassador Sichan Siv. FOTF provided briefs summarizing the findings in peer-reviewed scientific and social research, as well as legal and policy analyses.

- 6) Proper functioning of treaty monitoring committees. To encourage treaty bodies to focus monitoring activities upon the clearly understood articles of the covenants, FOTF sponsored a briefing at the United Nations, New York, United States, on 6 September 2006. Among the speakers were Dr. Fernando Carbone Campoverde, former Health Minister of Peru, and Mr. Konrad Szymanski, Member of the European Parliament from Poland.
- 7) Millennium Development Goals:

<u>Reduce Child Mortality and Improve Maternal Health</u>: FOTF is well known for its *constant efforts* to protect preborn children (which was a primary focus of our involvement in many of the meetings listed above in part 3), including the disabled (see part 2 above); and has encouraged Member Nations and the United Nations to reduce maternal mortality.

<u>Combat HIV/AIDS and Other Diseases</u>: FOTF regularly conducts *Love Won Out* conferences in the United States and other nations to educate and encourage individuals and families struggling with homosexuality and other sexual issues, and to assist them in developing healthy lifestyles and relationships.

<u>Develop a Global Partnership for Development</u>: FOTF and its partners in other nations restructured to form a better global partnership to assist in the healthy development of families, communities and nations. FOTF has thousands of resources—programs, publications, curricula, videos, films and radio theatre—in over 30 languages that cover such topics as drug-proofing your kids, character-based sex education, building strong marriages and families, parenting and raising children well, overcoming addictions, women's issues, youth culture, civil society, public policy and government, etc.

3. Hariri Foundation

(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

The goal of the Hariri Foundation (for Sustainable Human Development) is to build up the human resources of Lebanon through emergency relief aid, capacity building, refugee relief, education, health care, cultural enrichment, environmental protection, and economic and social development. The Foundation has established and administers 4 high schools, a primary school, a technical institute, a university, a youth athletic complex, a system of 12 medical clinics, and a computer literacy training center. It is engaged in preserving the cultural heritage of Lebanon through archeology, restoration of historic sites, and the promotion of traditional crafts. Through projects which teach improved agricultural methods to local farmers, it also works to increase their agricultural output.

Part II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

(i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

1. In 2004 the Hariri Foundation submitted written statements on the following agenda items at the 60^{th} Annual Session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva:

Item 7: The Right to Development.

Item 8: The Question of Violations of Human Rights in the Occupied Arab Territories/ Compensation (also delivered orally by an HF Representative).

Item 9: The Question of Violations of the Human Rights and Fundamental Freedom in Any Part of the World/Landmines.

Item 17: (c) Promotion and Protection of Human Rights: Information and Education (also delivered orally by the President of HF-USA).

2. A Foundation Representative attended the 58th Annual Conference for NGOs associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information in New York from 7 to 9 September 2005.

(ii) Co-operation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters:

- "Socio-economic Rehabilitation and Recovery of War-Affected Beirut" Project (with United Nations Development Programme): To empower the communities of Beirut indirectly affected by the war by integrating humanitarian and development assistance and building the capacities of disadvantaged youths and civil society organizations whose mandates are based on the Millennium Development Goals. The project includes: (1) Setting up an Employment Creation Center matching the needs of the private and public sectors with those of the unemployed;
 (2) Promoting peace building and conflict resolution through cultural activities;
 (3) Rehabilitation of the poorest multi-cultural neighborhoods of Beirut.
- Peer Dissemination of Children's Rights Project (with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 2003): To promote an increased knowledge of the Convention on the Rights of the Child among children in Lebanon. During events and meetings the children addressed the problem of child labor as well as their rights to education, freedom of expression, identity, and health care. Through acting, dancing, singing, and drawing the children expressed many creative ways of promoting their rights.
- Care for Children Displaced by the Summer 2006 War (with UNICEF): Included extracurricular and recreational activities, post-traumatic counseling, and the distribution of children kits and food items such as milk.
- Education For All (EFA) National Coordinator (with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2004): As National Coordinator for civil society NGOs involved in the EFA National Plan, the Foundation works with the Ministry of Education of Lebanon and the UNESCO regional team in Lebanon to develop and execute the

EFA National Plan and facilitates dialogue and joint action between the NGOs, the Ministry of Education, and UNESCO.

(iii) Initiatives undertaken in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

The Foundation promotes the MDGs in Lebanon by developing partnerships between civil organizations, governments, the private sector, and international organizations, and by publicizing the work and makeup of the United Nations, especially as related to the MDGs. For example, for its 25th anniversary, the Foundation published and distributed a 2005 Agenda book that describes the components and fields of work of the United Nations along with the MDGs.

Goal 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Emergency relief aid and revitalization:

- Emergency relief aid: a major activity beginning in summer 2006 has been refugee relief and humanitarian assistance to the thousands of Lebanese displaced by the war in July and August 2006. The Foundation provided temporary shelter, food, water, clothing, and healthcare services for 16,548 displaced on a daily basis. Also, it provided assistance to another 13, 500 families (68,000 persons) staying with their relatives in Saida.
- Empowering Tourism and Handicraft Sectors in Old Saida Project (end 2006- present): Part of an effort to revive the area economically, the project aims at creating job opportunities for poor women by training them in modern techniques to enhance their handicraft capabilities, thus nurturing the revival of the sector of handicrafts and enabling these women to provide vital support to their families. The project also targets the owners of small and medium enterprises such as restaurants, cafés, and fast food restaurants by building their technical and managerial capacities.
- "For a better social life" in Taamir-Villat Project (end 2006- present): This project aims at creating job opportunities for the unemployed youth in the Taamir-Villat region and engaging the local community in improving the beauty and environment of the Taamir region through rehabilitating some of its infrastructure.

Goal 3 Promote gender equality and empower women

Gender Project (February 2006- present): Operating in most of the areas of Lebanon, the project seeks to empower women socially and legally through programs to increase awareness of their rights and through legal reform. It also seeks to involve the media in changing the attitudes of society and eliminating negative aspects in the traditional picture of women.

Goal 4 Reduce child mortality. Goal 5 Improve maternal health. Goal 6 Combat disease.

Through its 12 clinics, the Foundation supports MDGs 4, 5, and 6 by offering prenatal, obstetrical/gynaecological, and infant care services and vaccinations at little or no cost to the poor. The goal of the clinics is "To provide continuous and comprehensive curative and preventive medical services to people who cannot afford expensive medical care, regardless of gender, nationality or beliefs." The clinics also provide "direct and intensive services for parents to strengthen their capacity to care for their children."

Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability.

• Rehabilitation of the water sanitation infrastructure in the Taamir Region Project (end 2006present): The goal is to solve the sanitary and environmental problems in the Taamir Region by rehabilitating the infrastructure.

Ensure sustainability of agricultural resources through improved and environmentally sensitive planting methods

- Improvement of Banana Production in the South (funded by the United States Agency for International Development [USAID]): This project benefited 175 banana growers by establishing a co-operative for them and by teaching them improved techniques for planting, packing, storing, ripening, and marketing bananas. Banana production increased from 3.5 to 7.2 tons/dunum. one thousand booklets on the best methods and standards of banana packing were distributed to farmers and banana traders.
- Improvement of Vegetable Crops by using Greenhouses (funded by USAID): This project trained 150 farmers in improved post-harvest handling practices, introduced them to advanced greenhouse systems, new crop varieties, and off-season crops, and helped them form a vegetable growers' co-operative. Under the new multi-span greenhouse system, tomato, cucumber, and eggplant production increased by 50 percent. Over 1000 booklets on the best methods to plant vegetables were distributed to vegetable farmers and traders.
- Improve Flower Production and Marketing (funded by USAID): This project trained 65 flower growers in the planting, harvesting, and post-harvesting stages as well as in accounting and in marketing strategies. In total, 200 farmers and flower traders benefited from the project.
- Olive Sector Production (end 2006- present): This project trains olive farmers in Jizzine and Saida how to improve the production and packaging of olive products and how to introduce their products to international markets.

4. International Commission on Distance Education

(Special; 2003)

PART I. Introduction

(i.) Aims and purposes of the organization and its main course of action.

Research and development of new methodologies for the improvement of distance education at all academic levels and in all international spheres. Participation in educational forums for the betterment of distance learning quality. Research on new on-line and distance learning methods. To support Human Rights courses and United Nations System courses. Promotion of science and education through the application of the new technologies. Literacy for all with full respect for the social and cultural values of each community and the national aspirations of each country. Stimulate interdisciplinary educational programmes through the adoption of appropriate strategies, methods and materials. Identification of indicators for on-going professional development, effective

communication and support for non-formal experimental education programmes. Development of a network of Universities, Colleges, Institutes, Faculties and other associated centres to facilitate and share innovations in education and help develop national systems of education. Promotion of the evaluation, auditing and monitoring of distance-education centres. Stimulation of staff exchange programmes between associated centres. Interchange of information on educational initiatives linked to development. Cooperation with other organisations in projects of mutual interest. Support to "Alliance of Civilizations" campaigns.

PART II. CONTRIBUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION TO THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS

- Durable participation as member of the Adult Learning Documentation and Information Network (ALADIN) – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Lifelong Learning and the efforts of many adult learning documentation and information centres since 2003. Reference library in Spain.
- (2) Panel of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 6 October 2005, Paris (France).
- (3) 2005: Representatives attended the following meetings in Europe and South America, all related to the distance education: I Encuentro Iberoamericano por la Educación a Distancia, 27 May 2005, Buenos Aires (Argentina); Educación por la Paz, 20 November 2005, Madrid (Spain).
- (4) 2006: Representatives attended the following meetings in Europe and South America, all related to the distance education: II Encuentro Iberoamericano por la Educación a Distancia, 28 March 2006, Buenos Aires (Argentina); Derechos Humanos en la Educación, 15 October 2006, Madrid (Spain).

The organization has not participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council, in major conferences or other United Nations meetings in this period because it has focused its activities in the development and implementation of the distance learning education, working with local organizations in Spain as well as in Latin America.

(ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters.

- (1) 15 October 2004 30 June 2005. Organization of the course on United Nations System in collaboration with the Amigos de Naciones Unidas en España organization, Madrid (Spain).
- (2) 10 October 2004. "Project for spreading Human Rights in children schools in Madrid (Spain)". Special booklets about Human Rights adapted to children had been edited and published, and with these material lectures were given in a sample of 10 schools in Madrid.

(iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

(1) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the following geographical regions: Europe, Africa, Asia and South America.

- Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education.
 - Target 1. Education

ACTIONS:

* Facultad de Medicina Barceló, Buenos Aires (Argentina). Support distance learning for students: 1.500

* Guinea Equatorial (Africa). Basic books for children and women about Human Rights.

- Goal 8. Develop a global partnership for development.
 - Target 7. In cooperation with the private sector, made available the benefits of new technologies especially information and communications technologies for the students of health courses.

ACTIONS:

* Facultad de Medicina Barceló, Buenos Aires (Argentina). Partner in distance learning courses = 2,300

* Courses in Human Rights in collaboration with the First Children's Embassy in the world — Megjashi (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). The First Children's Embassy in the World -Megjashi (FCEWM) - the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was founded in 29 April 1992 in Skopje. FCEWM is a World Association for protection of children and does not belong to any government or party. It is a World Association of citizens and represents an International non-partisan, non-governmental and non-profit humanitarian association for the care of children and children's rights, as the first registered international non-governmental organization in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, established in order to protect the rights of the children in the transition period (http://www.medjasi.org.mk/default-en.asp)

(2) Activities in Support of Global Principles:

The organization has continuously supported the campaigns "United Nations Literacy Decade: Education for All (2003-2012)"; "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non Violence for the children of the world (2001-2010)" and "Millennium Campaign: Voices Against Poverty - 2.015", with direct links from our website (http://www.intcode.org).

Our organization also organized an event in Madrid (Spain) on 8 September 2006 to commemorate the International Literacy Day.

The President of International Commission on Distance Education, Dr. Roldan Moré, participated as only guest in a television programme in the International Channel of the Spanish Public Television (TVE), that was broadcast in every country of South America on 24 October 2006, day of the United Nations Organization, with the purpose of spreading the Millennium Development Goals.

5. Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation

(Special; 1995)

PART I. Introduction

Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation - Novib is fighting for a just world without poverty. Together with people, organisations, businesses and governments. Through projects and lobby. Locally and internationally. Because poverty and injustice are global problems. They are about unjust economic and political relationships. On 18 March 2006 Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation - Novib changed its name to Oxfam Novib. Oxfam Novib is and will remain an independent organization, rooted in the Netherlands. Twelve independent Oxfams are collaborating, dedicating their efforts to the five basic rights of people throughout the world: the right to an honest income, to drinking water, to healthcare and education, to safety and to one's own opinion, for women and minorities too. Cooperation takes place in development projects, emergency aid and campaigns that bring a just world without poverty closer. Oxfam Novib reaches around 35 million people annually with projects thanks to its network of 850 local partner organizations and alliances. Together with all Oxfams, some 70 million people are reached through 3,000 large and small partnerships, with campaigns and projects relating to trade, micro financing, education, healthcare, participation and development.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

On 20 March 2003, Novib's director Sylvia Borren spoke at the Economic and Social Council <u>Hearings and Dialogue with Representatives of Civil Society</u> in preparation for the Special High-Level Meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization. On 22-23 September 2003, Novib's director participated in the <u>Meeting of Eminent Persons on Commodity Issues</u> at the fiftieth session of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. At the 60th Session of the Commission on Human Rights, 15 March-23 April 2004, Novib submitted a number of written statements on the human rights situation in Indonesia. The following years, Novib prepared for the 2005 <u>World Summit</u> <u>High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th Session of the General Assembly</u>, 14-16 September 2005, New York. Novib funded and worked with global counterparts such as Civicus, Social Watch, Public Service International and with the Global Campaign for Education and the United Nations Millennium Campaign. This resulted in the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, which developed into one of the largest global alliance. Novib lead the International Facilitation Group and the coordination group of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty. In Somalia Novib worked closely with the Office for the Coordination on Humanitarian Affairs on a cash-relief programme.

On 30 June 2005 Novib organised a preparatory meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations for the <u>Global Conference on the Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict and</u> <u>Peacebuilding</u>, 19-21 July 2005. Novib also participated in this conference. As part of the international Control Arms coaliton, Oxfam Novib participated in the <u>United Nations Conference to</u> <u>Review Progress made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and</u> <u>Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects</u>, New York, 26 June-7 July 2006.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Oxfam Novib provided financial support to counterparts for the realisation the Millennium Development Goals. Oxfam Novib worked also on advocacy for the Millennium Development Goals, indirectly by providing support to our counterparts in their activities in the field of advocacy, directly via its own activities primarily in the Netherlands and - in Oxfam International context - at European and international level. In the Netherlands, Oxfam Novib lobbied the government to ensure, among other things, that the budget for development cooperation is maintained and that important themes are placed on the political agenda. In 2006 Oxfam Novib paid special attention to the quality of education. In Uganda the counterpart Literacy and Adult Basic Education (LABE) ensured that fifty schools signed the pro-girl protocol. The school ensures that more girls are going to school. In 2006 Oxfam Novib led the Dutch organisations taking part in the "Global Campaign for Education". In ten countries in West Africa and Asia it was Oxfam Novib's counterparts that led the campaign. Due, in part, to the pressure from the Global Campaign for Education international donors, like the World Bank, have allowed nine countries to access a special fund for improving education. This augments the chance that the Millennium Goal of 'every child in school by 2015' will be achieved. A total of 29 developing countries can now access this fund. The pressure was increased during the international education action week in April, held in 120 countries. Oxfam Novib funded the actions in 62 countries. In 2006, 11.6 million women, men and children were involved in the work of Oxfam Novib supported counterparts focusing on basic social services. A total of 333 counterparts working on this right were supported. The plan was for 340 counterparts. Oxfam Novib spent 25.6 million euro on basic social services.