



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
9 March 2009

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2009 resumed session

18-27 May 2009

Quadrennial reports for the period 2004-2007 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

	<i>Page</i>
1. Aging Research Center	2
2. Amnesty International.	5
3. Asociación Internacional de Presupuesto Publico	8
4. Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches	10
5. Foundation for the Support of the United Nations	12
6. Fraternité Notre Dame	14

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



1. Aging Research Center (Special; 2004)

Part I. - Introduction

The mission of the Aging Research Center (Ce.S.I) is to promote multidisciplinary research on the human ageing process. To this end Ce.S.I. links with research groups operating within the University of Chieti and collaborates with other national (Italian) and international research networks and industrial partners. Research projects conducted addressed the three major areas of age-related human disease: cardiovascular diseases, cancer and neurodegenerative disorders. The purpose is to contribute to the generation of new knowledge that can be translated into a healthier aging process. In fact the aging process is still hampered by a major disease load due to the vascular complications of atherosclerosis; by a considerably high incidence of cancer; and by the prevalence of idiopathic Parkinsonism, Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. A major focus of the research conducted is now being placed on the long-term effects exerted by the working and living environment, and particularly by environmental pollution, on the ageing process. Ce.S.I. aims at training a new generation of scientists devoted to research on the biology and pathology of the ageing process. In this regard we intend to put at disposal of the Economic and Social Council the results of research conducted by Ce.S.I.'s scientists. Moreover, we offer to the Economic and Social Council partners the possibility to use its research facilities, according to the aims and modalities determined by Ce.S.I.'s statute. It also intends to promote the involvement of scientists from developing countries in its researches, helping them in building their own research centers where possible.

Activities of the organization:

The Ce.S.I., when granted consultative status with Economic and Social Council in June 2004, established in co-operation with the Gezira University and the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Oncology (INMO) of the Sudan, the "Center for Research and Training on Cancer in Sub-Sahara Africa" (CRTCA) in Wad Medani, Gezira State, the Sudan. In 2006 it established a scientific relationship with the University of Teheran and has from 2000 scientific relationship with The Shanxy Medical University, Shanxy, China. Ce.S.I. made a great financial and scientific effort in the partnership with scientific African and Asian centers. The total amount of funds allocated was €500,000 plus funds from Pharmaceutical Companies of about €100,000. Funds were allocated both, to allow the mobility of Ce.S.I. scientists and young African and Asian Scientists to arrive and work in the research center in Italy. PhD positions in Oncology have been made available specifically for African and Asian researchers (the priority given to Oncology follows specific requests arriving from African Colleagues). The main objective of the PhD courses is to achieve abilities in establishing and managing cancer registries and pathology laboratories (all African countries suffer from insufficient epidemiological and pathological information, required to guide resource planning) and in training in new methodologies, in particular molecular diagnostic and genomics. The partnership was total, so also African researchers represented all partners (Ce.S.I. included) at international congresses. In this period a PhD was granted to Dr. Khalid Dafaallah Awadelkarim, from the University of Gezira, central Sudan, who participated or contributed, as representative of Ce.S.I. and full paid, with oral presentations to the following scientific conferences: (1) European Association for Cancer Research, Innsbruck, Austria, 3-6 July 2004; (2) Italian Cancer Society, Pisa, Italy, 24-27 October 2004;

(3) Italian Society of Pathology. Modena, Italy, 20-23 February 2005; (4) International Association of Cancer Registries “Cancer in low-resource populations”, Entebbe, Uganda, 13-15 September 2005; (5) National Congress SIAPEC-IAP, Chieti, Italy, 22-24 September 2005; (6) European Association for Cancer Research, Budapest, Hungary, 1-4 July 2006; (7) Italian Cancer Society, Bari, Italy, 1-4 October 2006; (8) Workshop on tissue micro arrays in translational research, Milan, Italy, 18 October 2006; (9) Annual Meeting & Exhibits “International Biobanking Standards”, Singapore, 30 May - 2 June 2007; (10) Italian society of Pathology, Milano, Italy, 5-09 October 2007; (11) African Society of Human Genetics in conjunction with First Annual Meeting, Division of Human Genetics and Genome Research, NRC and The National Society of Human Genetics Cairo, Egypt, 3-5 November 2007.

Research activities were performed both in Italy and in Africa, mostly in central Sudan, because of the presence of locally-established research centers as CRTC and INMO. A similar project started in 2006 between Ce.S.I. and Digestive Disease Research Center, Shariati Hospital, Medical Sciences/University of Teheran, Islamic Republic of Iran. Doctors Mahboobeh Mahdavinia and Faraz Bishehsari worked in a scientific project in Italy and were enrolled in the PhD program in Oncology. The project, still ongoing, focuses on colorectal cancer in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In China the main research activities were focused on the environmental impact on health. The following scientific works concerning the above reported initiatives were published in international peer-reviewed journals: (1) Awadelkarim et al. *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* status in a central Sudanese series of breast cancer patients: interactions with genetic, ethnic and reproductive factors. *Breast Cancer Research Treatment*. 2007 April 102:189; (2) Awadelkarim et al, Pathological, clinical and prognostic characteristics of breast cancer in central Sudan versus northern Italy: implications for breast cancer in Africa. Submitted to *Histopathology* on 2007, published in 2008 March 52:445; (3) Bishehsari F, et al, Patterns of K-ras mutation in colorectal carcinomas from the Islamic Republic of Iran and Italy: influence of microsatellite instability status and country of origin. *Ann Oncol*. 2006; 17(Suppl7):91-6; (4) Mahdavinia M, et al. P53 mutations in colorectal cancer from northern Islamic Republic of Iran: Relationships with site of tumor origin, microsatellite instability and K-ras mutations. Submitted to *J Cell Physiol* on 2007 published in 2008; 216:543-50; (5) Niu Q, et al. The relationship between Bcl-gene expression and learning and memory impairment in chronic aluminum-exposed rats. *Neurotox Res*. 2007 October;12:163; 7) Niu PY, et al, Aluminum impairs rat neural cell mitochondria in vitro. *Int J Immunopathol Pharmacol*. 2005 October;18:683; (7) Carmignani M, et al, Clastogenic but not apoptotic effects on human artery endothelial cells by concentrations of inorganic lead inhibiting their nitric oxide production. *Int J Immunopathol Pharmacol*. 2004 May; 17(Suppl2):37. (8) Niu Q, et al, Neurobehavioral functions, serum prolactin and plasma renin activity of manganese-exposed workers. *Int J Immunopathol Pharmacol*. 2004 May; 17(2 Suppl):17.

In 2007 Ce.S.I. collected about €27,000, from manufacturing companies (in particular “Miss Sixty” a firm that produces trendy girl’s clothing), to allow another young African Scientist, Dr. Samia Othman Massad Taib Ala-sma from the University of Gadarif, the Sudan, to spend a research period at Ce.SI. to conduct research on the genetics of cancer in central Sudan.

The following congresses were organized together with African partners during the 2004-2007 period, in the fields of cancer, ageing and environmental health impact: (1) Wad Medani, the Sudan, and 12-3 June 2004; (2) Civitella del Tronto, Italy, October 2005 and 2006. The preparatory meetings for an international congress (*Environment, immune-mediated disease and cancer: lessons from developing and developed countries*) planned for 2008 in Khartoum and a workshop (*Reference cancer centers in the Sudan: Challenges of upgrading INMO to international standards*) planned for 2008 in Wad Medani, was held in Khartoum in November 2007.

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

The organization has not participated in the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies in major conferences or other United Nations Meetings in this period because it focused its effort and funds to activities undertaken in Africa and in Asia, in support of the partnership established with Universities and Research Centers in Sub-Saharan African including Countries like the Sudan, Ethiopia, Gambia and Nigeria and in Asia with Teheran University. Funds were allocated both to allow the mobility of Ce.S.I. scientists and young African and Asian Scientists to spend research stages at Ce.S.I.

Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals:

Goal 7 – Ensure environmental sustainability: Target - water and sanitation. In collaboration with Italian Alpine Club (CAI), we worked from 2006 in the United Republic of Tanzania to provide drinkable water to two hospitals, one school and two orphanages at Usokamy and Tosamaganga in the region of Iringa. Funds came from Ce.S.I., CAI and the administrations of the Abruzzo Region and of the Chieti Province (Italy). A well was dug near Usokami hospital and a pipeline constructed near Tosamaganga. In 2007, Ce.S.I. obtained from “Miss Sixty” (an Italian manufacturing company) an amount of €80.000 to buy and place an apparatus to purify water for these structures. The completion of this work is foreseen for the end of 2008. CE.S.I. and “Miss Sixty” assumed responsibility towards the administrators of the hospitals, schools and orphanages to take care in the future of this apparatus.

Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development: Made primary effort in transferring knowledge and technology to partners in Africa and in Asia, particularly in the field of health research related to cancer, taking into account the fact that within a decade, with current population and disease trends, the vast majority of all world deaths for cancer will occur in developing countries, particularly in Africa, where there is a dramatic shortage of trained manpower and infrastructures. However, the applied technologies (in particular molecular biology and genomics) and management capacities will be useful to do research in other field of health including infectious diseases. This means that our partners will be able to develop our own capacity for building research on several field of health. On the other hand, science and technology underpin every one of the Millennium Development Goals, because it is inconceivable that gains can be made in health and environmental concerns without a focused science and technology.

2. Amnesty International (Special; 1964)

PART 1 - Introduction

Amnesty International (AI) is a global movement of 2.2 million people who campaign in more than 150 countries and territories for internationally recognized human rights to be respected and protected for everyone. AI's members and supporters, with widely different political and religious beliefs, exert influence on governments, political bodies, companies and intergovernmental organizations. AI is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion. It does not support or oppose any government or political system, nor does it necessarily support the views of the victims whose rights it seeks to protect. AI's vision is for every person to enjoy all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other international human rights standards. AI's mission is to conduct research and take action to prevent and end grave abuses of all human rights – civil, political, social, cultural and economic. At its International Council Meeting in 2007, AI amended article 1 of its statute to allow it to address grave abuses of all human rights enshrined in the UDHR and other international human rights standards as set out in the vision and mission described above.

AI activists mobilize public pressure through well-researched objective information and analysis, mass action and direct lobbying. AI is financed by subscriptions from its membership structures. No funds are sought or accepted from governments for AI's work investigating and campaigning against human rights violations. The international budget for the financial year April 2007 – March 2008 was £ 34,000,000.

PART II – Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations:

AI maintained representational offices in Geneva and New York. Each year it participated actively in meetings of United Nations bodies including of the Security Council, the General Assembly (GA) and its Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the former Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Human Rights Council (HRC), and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). AI also contributed regularly to the work of the special procedures of the CHR and the HRC and the United Nations human rights treaty monitoring bodies. It worked with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). AI campaigned for the ratification of the Rome Statute and implementing legislation, the adoption and ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, for the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and worked for the creation of an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and of an Arms Trade Treaty. AI interacted regularly with the United Nations Secretariat in both Geneva and New York. Highlights of AI's work are:

Security Council: Through AI research and coordinated advocacy work between its representational office at the United Nations in New York and its presence in capitals, AI continued to advocate for strong human rights provisions to be incorporated in SC decisions,

including when United Nations peace missions are established or reviewed. During the reporting period, AI focused its advocacy efforts on situations such as Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Lebanon, Liberia, Iraq, Israel and the Palestinian Occupied Territory, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Timor-Leste, and Zimbabwe. AI's work on the crisis in Darfur, the Sudan, for example, contributed to the Security Council's decision on 31 March 2005 to refer the situation to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

AI contributed to Open Debates, participated in other discussions at United Nations Headquarters, New York and also actively participated in a range of Arria-formula meetings with NGOs organized by the SC. As regards thematic issues on the SC's agenda, AI focused its advocacy work on issues relating to accountability for international crimes; the rule of law; the protection of civilians in armed conflict; and the SC's approach to counter-terrorism, including the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. AI also urged Member States to oppose any effort to renew Security Council Resolution 1487 (2003), which would have exempted peacekeepers from the jurisdiction of the ICC and contributed to the resolution being withdrawn the following year. AI advocated that the SC ensure that exit strategies for both the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda provide for the mandate of both tribunals to be effectively fulfilled.

As a founding member of the NGO Working Group on Women Peace and Security, AI has continuously advocated for full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, since its adoption in 2000, working closely with members of the SC, the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security, and the Group of Friends of resolution 1325. There is now some improved reporting to the SC, and United Nations peacekeeping operations are increasingly responsive to the differing protection concerns of women and men in conflict-affected situations.

General Assembly: AI campaigns actively towards the worldwide elimination of the death penalty. It made a significant contribution to the debate on the death penalty in the Third Committee of the GA at its 62nd session that led to the adoption of GA resolution 62/149 calling for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty in December 2007. AI's work in New York for the resolution was supported by AI members campaigning in capitals all over the world. AI also staged an event at the United Nations where death penalty survivors could present testimony and produced detailed commentaries on legal and other issues raised during the Third Committee debate.

In 2005, AI participated in the United Nations Secretary-General's study on violence against women, submitted recommendations for the report on the study to the GA in 2006, and lobbied member states to actively support the findings and recommendations of the study. The GA strongly endorsed the study, adopting resolution 61/143, which called on relevant United Nations bodies to discuss the question by 2008 and set priorities for addressing this issue. AI since continued to urge the United Nations system to take further measures to eliminate violence against women including by creating a stronger, consolidated United Nations women-specific entity.

In December 2006, AI and its Control Arms campaign partners Oxfam and IANSA successfully lobbied an overwhelming majority of member states (153) to vote in favour of a landmark GA resolution 61/89, which called for work to begin towards a global arms trade treaty covering international transfers of conventional arms. AI's analysis of the views submitted was published in the report: *A Global Arms Trade Treaty: What States Want* (POL34/004/2007).

Since the adoption of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances by the GA consensus in Resolution 61/177, AI campaigned for its signature and ratification.

Human Rights Council: In 2005, AI actively supported the United Nations Secretary-General's proposal to replace the CHR with a more authoritative, standing HRC. AI monitored and contributed to intense negotiations led by the President of the General Assembly, and it contributed a substantial external report, *Meeting the Challenge: Transforming the Commission on Human Rights into a Human Rights Council*. AI argued for attention to all human rights in all countries, more frequent sessions to better enable it to address human rights crises and preventive measures, and a membership more committed to human rights membership. During negotiations from early 2005 until the adoption of GA resolution 60/251 on 15 March 2006, AI issued regular press releases and membership actions and addressed around 100 governments directly.

In resolution 60/251 the GA replaced the CHR with the HRC, deciding that the participation of and consultation with NGOs shall be based on Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and practices of the CHR. After the HRC's creation, AI contributed actively to the institutional-building negotiations aimed at completing the transition from the former CHR to a fully functional HRC. AI worked actively on the elections for membership of the HRC, the review, improvement and rationalization of the system of Special Procedures and the establishment of the system of Universal Periodic Review of the human rights situation in all United Nations member states.

AI played a leading role among Geneva-based NGOs in the review of the Special Procedures, developing a joint NGO position paper entitled *Criteria for a successful outcome of the review of the Special Procedures*. AI made numerous oral interventions during consultations of the Working Group carrying out the review of the Special Procedures and was active in the review, rationalization and improvement of many Special Procedures' mandates by the HRC. AI participated actively in the deliberations of the HRC from its first meeting in June 2006 onwards participating in all its regular and special sessions.

World Health Organization: AI participated in the UNAIDS human rights group during the period under review. AI regularly sent its fortnightly newsletters to WHO staff.

UNHCHR AI participated in various meetings of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) including the High Commissioner's Dialogue, the Annual Tripartite Consultations on the issue of resettlement, the joint Executive Committee (EXCOM) and NGO consultations and EXCOM itself and has been active in relation to EXCOM conclusions. AI worked closely with UNHCR on the efforts made in relation to refugees from Iraq including Palestinians currently residing

in camps in the region. AI is committed to working for the United Nations Charter's purpose to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction.

3. Asociación Internacional de Presupuesto Publico (Special; 1984)

PART I. Introduction

i. Aims, purposes and main course of action of the organization:

The **Public Budget International Association -ASIP** is a non-profit multinational organization founded in 1972 in Caracas, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), aimed at assisting the member countries to streamline the techniques used for the budgetary development and design of the public policies and the financial administration at the municipal, provincial and national level.

ii. Changes that have had a significant impact on the organization vision and functions.

ASIP has increased its members during this four-year period with the incorporation of France, the Dominican Republic and Peru through *Partnership Agreements*, which has permitted to extend its financing sources. The signature of these legal instruments gives more stability and continuity along time to the actions performed by ASIP, because the frequent changes of political authorities occurred in the Public Finance areas of the countries. After France's incorporation, all ASIP activities and publications that until then were made in Spanish and English are also made in French. This not only extends the organization horizons but also widens its vision of the difficulties and enriches one of its functions, which is that of contributing with the United Nations to promote the international cooperation in the solution of international problems of an economic character. Currently, ASIP's activities comprise several countries of the American and European continents, while its publications are distributed in the budget areas of almost all countries of America, Africa and Europe and in certain areas belonging to Asia and Oceania. Today ASIP, in addition to counting among its members almost all countries from Latin America, Spain and France, also maintains institutional connections with different governments, which include those of Germany, Australia, Canada, the United States of America, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, India, Israel, New Zealand, Portugal, the Czech Republic, South Africa and Sweden.

PART II. Contribution of the Organization to the work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council:

ASIP developed joint programs throughout this four-year period with the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning, the central training agency of the Economic Commission for Latin America that was created by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations in February 1948. ASIP, has for many years participated in all the Regional Seminars on Fiscal Policy annually organized by ILPES. Such activities were carried out with the promotion of the World Bank (WB), International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Inter American Bank of Development. On the other hand, ASIP organized, with ILPES, the following courses: *III Course on International Tax Estimates* from 26 to 30 September 2005, Buenos Aires; *IV Course on International Tax*

Estimates from 25 to 29 September 2006, Buenos Aires; *V Course on International Tax Estimates* from 24 to 28 September 2007, Buenos Aires.

The CEPAL was invited to participate in the International Seminars organized by ASIP, which gather more than one thousand local and foreign technicians and specialists and is attended by representatives from all the Latin American Countries and representatives of other countries in the world:

XXXI International Seminar on Public Budget, 14-18 June 2004, Costa Rica and *XXXIV International Seminar on Public Budget*, 22-27 April 2007, Panama. They were organized by ASIP and the Area Head of Public Management and Regulation of CEPAL participated in two opportunities, representing the latter.

ii. Initiatives undertaken by ASIP in line with the Millennium Development Goals:

Seminar on *Modernization of the State: The Social Expenditure*, Manaus, Brazil, 26-30 June 2006. This activity, in which representatives of different countries from Latin America participated, was organized by ASIP and the International Agency of Training and Development (InWent) of the Federal Republic of Germany and was aimed at the arrangement and optimization of the social expenditure to mitigate the extreme poverty and starvation.

ASIP signed a Cooperation Agreement with *Eurosocial*. The latter is a Consortium made up by state agencies from England, France, Spain and Germany and its purpose is to work on the subject of the *Social Cohesion in Latin America* from the field of health and other Millennium Development Goals, such as poverty and education. ASIP has participated and made presentations in all the meetings carried out up to this time in its condition as organization specialized in the budgetary subject.

III. Other conferences, meetings and events: In order to train and specialize officers and technicians from the member countries according to the purpose of the United Nations of promoting the international cooperation in the solution of international problems of an economic character, the following activities have been carried out:

Agreements: The agreement to continue the joint activities with the *Studies and Training Center* from the Secretariat of Finance of Argentina to train technicians from different countries was renewed. A Technical Cooperation Master Agreement with the *National Engineering University* of Peru and a new four-year agreement with the *Economy and Economic Policy Department* of the *Training and Development International Agency (InWent)* of Germany were signed with identical purposes.

Web Page: In 2006, ASIP developed a new Web page format that contains valuable information on budgetary and public finance subjects in three of the United Nations Organization official languages and is monthly visited by more than five thousand technicians and specialists from different specialists around the world.

4. Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches (General; 2000)

Part I. Introduction:

The Commission of the Churches on International Affairs serves the World Council of Churches, with its 349 member churches in more than 110 countries with a total membership of over 560 million. Its aim is to inform churches on world issues and to assist them in promoting peace with justice and freedom: the development of international law and effective international institutions; respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including religious liberty; efforts for disarmament; the furthering of economic and social justice, the right of self-determination, and social, cultural, educational and humanitarian enterprises.

Part II. Contribution of the organization 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.

For the past four years, CCIA contributed to the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, major conferences and other United Nations meetings, through monitoring events, proposing agenda items, providing both oral and written statements and organizing parallel NGO meetings and side events. Given the limitation of space, the following points highlight only a few examples of CCIA's contribution to the United Nations:

At the United Nations Headquarters, New York: (i) 2006 United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV and AIDS, sponsored the side event, Stigma, Choice, Change (2 June 2006); (ii) 2004 United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, sponsored the hearing on the International Non-Violent Presence in Palestine and Israel: Churches and Civil Society Promoting a Just Peace (21 September 2004); (iii) 2006 Review Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, co-sponsored the side event The Lethal Trade: A Spiritual Perspective (27 June 2006); (iv) 45th Session of the Commission for Social Development, co-sponsored the Civil Society Forum (6 February 2007); (v) 51st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, co-sponsored the following events that occurred: Religious Texts and Empowerment of Women and Girls (27 February 2007) and Transitional Justice and the Girl Child: The Role of the ICC, the United Nations and Civil Society (2 March 2007); (vi) 13th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, co-sponsored the side event Water for All: Ethical Principles and Practice, (19 April 2005); (vii) 3rd Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, co-sponsored the pre-event Civil Society Forum and Orientation (8-9 May 2004);

In Geneva, Switzerland: (i) Before the 2nd Session of the Human Rights Council, co-sponsored the pre-event, NGO Preparatory Meeting for the Human Rights Council (17 September 2006); (ii) 2nd Session of the Conference on Disarmament sponsored the seminar Disarmament for Development (16 June 2006); (iii) 55th Session of the Executive Committee (Pre-Excom), UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs, co-sponsored the following side events: HIV/AIDS: Conflict and displaced persons, Detention: Unpacking the Issue – Looking at Coalition Building; Gender and Age

Mainstreaming: The Experience in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic; and Protracted Refugee Situations: Solutions in Light of Refugee and Human Rights (29 September 2004 for all events, Geneva, Switzerland); (iv) 61st Session on the Commission on Human Rights sponsored the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the Papuan People, (1 April 2005); (v) 60th World Health Assembly, sponsored the side event From Policy to Action, Civil Society Revisiting Primary Health Care – a Gender and Multicultural Approach (17 May 2007) and co-sponsored the side event Social Health and Spirituality: Implications for General Medical Care (16 May 2007); (vi) 12th Session of the Conference of the Parties on the Framework convention on climate Change CCIA co-sponsored the following side event Climate Justice (Nairobi, Kenya: 7 November 2006).

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

At United Nations Headquarters, New York: (i) CCIA General Secretary met with the United Nations Secretary-General to encourage transparency and accountability, offer essential expertise and reaffirm their mutual commitment to uplift the ongoing participation of civil society organisations and faith communities in the work of the United Nations (29 October 2007); (ii) CCIA with its partner the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance worked with the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to provide faith based representatives for the Civil Society Task Force during the General Assembly 2006 Special Session on HIV and AIDS (31 May – 2 June 2006); CCIA cosponsored an interfaith service at St. Bartholomew’s Church (30 May 2006), which included participation from the President of the General Assembly and a message from the Secretary-General; (iii) CCIA contributed to nuclear non-proliferation efforts through the Conferences on Disarmament at the First Committee (31 October 2006), and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference (11 April 2005); (iv) Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (New York, United States: 11- 15 July 2005); and CCIA contributed to dialogues of the 3rd – 8th Ad-Hoc Committees on the Promotion and Protection of the Dignity and Rights of Persons with Disabilities (24 May - 4 June 2004, 23 August - 3 September 2004, 24 January - 4 February 2005, 1-12 August 2005, 14 -25 August 2006) as well as the 10th - 12th sessions of the Conference of the Parties on the Framework Convention on Climate Change (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 6-17 December 2004; Montreal, Canada, 28 November - 9 December 2005; Nairobi, Kenya, 6-17 November 2006; Bali, Indonesia, 3-14 December 2007); (v) CCIA was invited by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to speak on the 2007 Solemn Commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (29 November 2007).

In Geneva, Switzerland: (i) CCIA Representatives closely monitored and made recommendations for strengthening human rights during the negotiations over the formation of the Human Rights Council (19-30 June 2006); (ii) CCIA contributed to nuclear non-proliferation efforts through the Conferences on Disarmament (26 July–10 September 2004); (iii) CCIA contributed to ongoing discussions with United Nations Programmes and Funds, including the Conference on Trade and Development (23 February 2004), UNHCR (26-27 September 2007), United Nations Environment Programme (29 November-1 December 2004); (iv) In 2006-2007, CCIA participated in the International Conference of Civil Society in Support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace (7-8 September 2006; Brussels: 30-31 August 2007).

As an active participant in United Nations/NGO activities, between 2004 and 2007, CCIA representatives have served as chairs, members and executive officers on the following working groups and committees: the Ecumenical Working Group (one of the largest faith-based NGO Working Groups), the Working Group on Asia, the Tripartite Forum, the NGO Committee on Financing for Development, the Committee of Religious NGOs, the Faith and Ethics Network for the International Criminal Court, the NGO Committee for Social Development, and the NGO Working Group on the Security Council.

iii. Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of the internationally agreed development goals:

Activities in Support of Global Priorities:

1. Founded in 2001, the World Council of Churches Decade to Overcome Violence: Churches Seeking Reconciliation and Peace (2001–2010) is a global movement led by churches striving to strengthen existing, and create new, efforts and networks for overcoming violence. The Decade seeks to establish points of contact with the relevant aims, programs, and initiatives within the United Nations Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010).
2. In commemoration of the International Day of Peace, on 21 September in 2004-2007, CCIA and its member churches worldwide organized prayer vigils and peace events globally, and at the United Nations (New York, United States and Geneva, Switzerland).
3. CCIA and its constituencies commemorate World AIDS Day annually. For example, CCIA collaborated with the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to host an international commemoration (Geneva, Switzerland: 1 December 2006).

5. Foundation for the Support of the United Nations (General;1996)

i) Introduction

The Foundation for the Support of the United Nations (FSUN) was founded in November 1988. Following in the Spirit of the United Nations Charter, FSUN is an international organization which advocates to promote worldwide interchanges for the peace and prosperity of humankind.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council

5-7 September 2007: FSUN Representatives to the United Nations attended the 60th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGO Conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on “Climate Change: How It Impacts Us All”. The representatives met and formed collaboration with other non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with the common goal of strengthening awareness campaigns that focus on climate change and global warming. During the conference, FSUN representatives participated in the different discussions. As a result of this conference, FSUN started a project called “Kid Seeds”, a

“green planet” project geared towards sustainable environment in relation to climate change. This project aimed to develop a model system in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, United States, and eventually launched simultaneous pilot projects throughout the United States, Philippines and Japan. This project aimed to encourage participation from children aged 7-12.

6-8 September 2006: FSUN attended the 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on “Unfinished Business: Effective Partnership for Human Security and Sustainable Development”.

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

2004 to present – FSUN, in support of the UNESCO-TIVET project, actively implements and monitors its foremost project, the Distance Education on Computer Courses (DECC). The project was started in 2003 at the FSUN Headquarters in the Philippines with the goal of helping out-of-school youth gain access to free computer courses by granting them scholarships. The project is considered unique because the selected scholars come from rural areas where computer is almost unheard of. They are then introduced to the technology by going to a “computer center” put up by volunteers and sponsors working with FSUN. At the end of their computer courses, they are given the final challenge of creating their original website of the different United Nations-related programs of their choice, at the same time educating them on the different significant roles that the United Nations plays worldwide.

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

17 October 2007: FSUN representatives led the “Stand up Western New Jersey and Lehigh Valley” awareness campaign in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The event was held in Phillipsburg, New Jersey. FSUN collaborated with the United Nations Foundation in Washington, DC for the campaign materials and give-away. More than 700 people participated and stood up for the campaign while FSUN representatives led the reading of the pledge.

3. December 2004 - 2007: FSUN officers and members held the “Christmas in Ermita Feed-A-Child” program in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This yearly event was held in Manila, Philippines, where more than 500 street kids yearly are served food and given food packs by FSUN.

Other awareness campaign projects undertaken in support of the MDGs are the information drive events - leafleting activities done at the Phillipsburg Library in New Jersey, where MDG brochures, posters, bookmarks and white MDG bracelets were given away to students and educators. This campaign is being consistently held from 2006 to present.

6. Fraternité Notre Dame (Special; 1996)

Part I - Introduction

i. Fraternité Notre Dame' aims and purposes, main course of action:

Fraternité Notre Dame is a Traditional Catholic religious and charitable organization, which helps anybody in need, with no distinction of race, class, gender or belief, working in the United States (Chicago, New York, San Francisco) and in other countries such as Niger, Mongolia, Martinique, France, (operating schools, orphanages, health clinics, soup kitchens, assistance to AIDS patients, elderly, visit to prisoners, etc.) It has been a Non-Governmental Organization associated with the Department of Public Information since 1994 and was granted Consultative Status with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 2002. It has been a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) since 1997 and is a member of the NGO Committee of Freedom of Religion or Belief. The religious Members of Fraternité Notre Dame received the mission from their Founder and Superior General to be Instruments of Peace and Unity. Fraternité Notre Dame operates Disaster Relief Interventions in distressed countries and intervened in Romania (1992), Rwanda (1994), Kosovo (1998), El Salvador (2001), Haiti (1993-2006). It's Founder and Superior General, Most Reverend Bishop Jean Marie, founded the Organization in 1971. [His endeavor is most appreciated in the diplomatic spheres and humanitarian fields. His work to assist people in disaster situation was many times recognized by the United Nations. By two times, he was given an award by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Mayor of New York City, for his outstanding efforts in this city. Mayor Richard Daley, Mayor of Chicago, also recognized his tireless work, by dedicating an honorary Chicago street sign to his name. His interventions at the United Nations, UNICEF's meetings and High Commission for Refugees added values to the on-going discussions. He is a Member of the Rotary Club and received the Rotary Paul Harris Award in 1998. In May 2007, he received the Martin Luther King Jr.'s Harmony Award from the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)].

ii. Significant change: There has been no change in the organization' vision since the last report. However, its activities have greatly expanded; valuable programs were added (see further). Moreover, Fraternité Notre Dame was able to open a charitable mission in San Francisco in 2005, specially dedicated to the homeless people.

Part II - Contribution of Fraternité Notre Dame to the work of the United Nations:

Fraternité Notre Dame is proud to be an NGO associated with the United Nations and takes its role seriously. In its various missions, Fraternité Notre Dame acts as an NGO representing the United Nations and its good work, accomplished throughout the world.

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and major conferences and meetings:

Conferences attended at United Nations headquarters in New York: Fraternité Notre Dame's Religious members attended most of the meetings at the United Nations Headquarters, New York. To name just a few: 21 September 2006 "International Day of Peace"; 19 October 2006 "President's

Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief”; 15 February 2007 “Preparation for the 521st session of the Commission on the Status of Women”; 2 April 2007 Economic and Social Council “Eradicating poverty and hunger”. Annual DPI Conferences: 59th Annual DPI/NGO Conference 6-8 September 2006 “Unfinished business, effective partnership for human security”. Attended the NGO Committee on UNICEF and CONGO’s meetings and other NGO’s such as NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief. We have seen the valuable fruits of these meetings.

Conferences attended at the United Nations office, in Geneva, Switzerland, and in other countries: (i) 15 March–23 April 2004: 60th Session of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Oral and written statement on “Civil and political rights”; (ii) 26 July–13 August 2004: 56th Session of the Sub-Commission and protection of Human Rights in Geneva. Oral and written statement on Point 6: “Human Rights”; (iii) 19–21 September 2005: Regional Expert Seminar for South and Southeast Asia in Bangkok, Thailand. Oral and written statement on “Combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, role of education”; (iv) 9–12 May 2005: 23rd Ministerial Session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) at Elba Chain Palace Hotel in Damas, Syrian Arab Republic; (v) 11–15 June 2007: Geneva, 5th Session on Council on Human Rights. Oral and written statement on “Discrimination”; (vi) 11–18 June 2007: 5th Session on Council of Human Rights in Geneva. Oral and written statement on “Extreme Poverty”; (vii) 10–28 September 2007: 6th Session on Council of Human Rights in Geneva. Oral and written statement on Point 9 “Discrimination”; (viii) 3–28 March 2008: 7th Session on Council of Human Rights in Geneva.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field:

The following were: (i) Niamey, Niger: 2004: provided input to the annual newsletter Health Nutrition, organized by UNICEF. 2006: participated in UNICEF ceremony for the “excluded and invisible children”; (ii) Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: Attendance to the 18th Children’s Rights Anniversary Forum in October 2007, organized by UNICEF. It especially responded to the needs of Fraternite Notre Dame’ Orphanage in Ulaanbaatar; (iii) Haiti: Collaboration with World Food Program (WFP) on a Nutrition Program for pregnant women and malnourished children. Several hundreds of persons received food from this program. UNICEF provided material and medicines for Fraternité Notre Dame’s Health Clinic.

iii) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: (i) United States of America: Chicago: In 2007, Fraternite Notre Dame provided food to about 132,900 persons through its Soup Kitchen and other feeding programs. Approximately 120,200 meals were served. Similar numbers were performed the previous years; (ii) New York: In 2007, about 153,200 people were served in the organization’s various feeding programs. Similar numbers were performed the previous years (iii) San Francisco: since 2005, about 6,000 homeless people were served yearly; (iv) Niamey Niger/Africa: During the reported period, feeding distributions to 110 families every month, in the Leper Village of Koara Tangui. Feeding distributions in other Bush villages to starving populations. In Niamey, at Fraternite Notre Dame’s Mission, feeding distributions to orphans and destitute families; (v) Ulaanbaatar Mongolia: Soup Kitchen/Meals on Wheels in Ulaanbaatar: Between 2004 and 2007, over 89,500 hot meals were served to homeless adults and youth, living in the sewers. Cooked meals distribution, with supplies and clothing once a week. Renutrition program with baby-milk for malnourished children

and for mothers. Baby-milk given through Americares to 500 families once a month. Excellent relationship and collaboration were built with the World Health Organizations (WHO). *Housing Program* in Nazareth Village opened in October 2003. This village is a pilot project, welcoming poor families with children, disabled people, who had no home to live. Helping them to recover dignity, finding jobs and educate their children is the goal of this successful program; (vi) France: During the reported period, a soup Kitchen opened in Paris every week-days, feeding thousands and thousands of homeless and needy families.

Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education: (i) United States of America: Fraternite Notre Dame operated After School Programs for destitute children on the West side of Chicago and in Harlem, New York; (ii) Niger: The Orphanage started in 1997 and is identified by the local authorities as the most clean and friendly environment for children. 30 orphans living at the orphanage; 120 destitute orphans, still living in their families, but mostly assisted by Fraternite Notre Dame. The Primary School was open in 2002. It is a high performance academic establishment. 100% of the pupils succeeded their entrance in 6th Grade. The school hosts 250 destitute students yearly; (iii) Mongolia: between 2004 and 2007, a primary school for street children was operated; (iv) Haiti: Primary School for over 200 poor children in Port-au-Prince.

Goal 5 - Improve maternal health and general health for impoverished populations: (i) Africa: 9,800 out-patients medical appointments were provided in 2007, at the Clinic in Niamey, which is reputable. Three medical Doctors currently serve it. The Center is a Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) site, providing Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) detection and antiretroviral to HIV positive mothers. Staff was trained to assist pregnant women in detecting HIV/AIDS. The Center is a Center for Outpatient Nutritional Rehabilitation for Malnutrition (CRENA) as well. (Nutritious Center for malnourished infants, in the process to be approved by UNICEF). Around 1900 people received IV treatment in 2007 to cure from malaria; (ii) Mongolia: During 8 years, from 1998 to 2006, Fraternite Notre Dame operated a hospital in partnership with the City. This 65 beds hospital in Ulaanbaatar was completely free of charge; 14,700 consultations per year, with donations of free medicine. Excellent relationships and collaboration were built with the administration of WHO on site.

iii) Activities in Support of global Principles:

Fraternite Notre Dame offers television programs, which are aired in the United States of America and in Europe and are seen by millions of television viewers. In these programs, the charitable activities of Fraternite Notre Dame are shown to the public. They are fully in line with the Millennium Development Goals (especially Eradication of Poverty). Between 2004 and 2007, several broadcasts were about the United Nations. Fraternite Notre Dame Newsletter is read by several thousands of readers around the world, along with the Web Site. Many statements are focused on United Nations concerns.