



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
16 October 2009

Original: English

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2010 regular session

25 January-3 February 2010

Quadrennial reports for the period 2005-2008 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

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



1. National Abortion Federation (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

As the professional association of abortion providers in the United States and Canada, the mission of the National Abortion Federation (NAF) is to ensure safe, legal and accessible abortion care to promote health and justice for women. NAF members include non-profit and private clinics, women's health centres, teaching and public hospitals, physicians' offices, and Planned Parenthood affiliates. Since 1977, NAF has ensured the safety and high quality of abortion practice with standards of care, protocols and medical education. Today, NAF is the primary source for evidence-based, accredited continuing medical education, educational materials, and clinical guidelines pertaining to abortion care. NAF has also developed expertise in security education and support to help members ensure safety and provide optimum protection for patients, clinic staff, medical facilities, and providers' families and homes. The NAF toll-free, multilingual abortion hotline gives women the opportunity to talk with knowledgeable and supportive operators. NAF also provides case management support for women with special needs and financial assistance for low-income women. When abortion policies affecting abortion access are debated, NAF brings forward accurate, scientific information about abortion and the perspectives of providers and patients.

Expanded area of activity: In April 2009, NAF's Board voted to allow abortion care providers in Mexico City to apply to become NAF members. For the first time, full NAF membership for abortion care providers will be extended beyond the United States and Canada.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: Goal 5: Improve maternal health. Target 1: Reduce the maternal mortality ratio and target 2: Achieve universal access to reproductive health. **Activities:** based on the Federation's expertise in providing quality abortion care and over 30 years of delivering accredited continuing medical education, NAF was invited to present at the following international conferences and trainings. NAF presenters educated new abortion providers and/or health-care professionals with the potential to add abortion care to the services they provide to their patients. NAF presenters advocated for increased access to reproductive health care, including abortion care, for women: (a) Twelfth Priorities in Reproductive Health and HIV Conference, October 2005, Stellenbosch, Johannesburg, South Africa: the NAF Associate Director for Clinical Services presented on "Training, access and advocacy, and opportunities for the implementation of medical abortion."; (b) South African National Health Service Training of Trainers, October 2006, Johannesburg, South Africa: the NAF Associate Director for Clinical Services presented a two-day medical abortion workshop as a part of this intensive two-week abortion training course; (c) Seventh Congress of the International Federation of Professional Abortion and Contraception Associates October 2006, Rome: in a session on religion and abortion, the NAF President and CEO presented on "Countering the religious right in the United States: the role of NAF and abortion providers"; (d) International Conference on Second Trimester Abortion March 2007, London: presented "Advocacy for second trimester abortion care"; (e) Marie Stopes International Global Safe Abortion Conference, October 2007, London: presented "Certified nurse-midwives, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants in abortion

care: overcoming barriers to abortion access through collaboration, advocacy, and training”. At the same conference, the NAF President and CEO presented on “Violence and disruption against abortion providers in the United States and Canada: addressing and reducing the threats to protect providers and ensure access for women”. Additionally, the NAF Canadian Director presented on “Not a myth: barriers to abortion access in Canada”; (f) Third Symposium on Misoprostol and Mifepristone in Obstetrics and Gynecology, October 2007, Valencia, Spain: the NAF President and CEO co-chaired a panel on “Abortion rights in the American continent” and presented on “Misoprostol, methotrexate, mifepristone, and abortion rights in North America”; (g) Eighth Congress of the International Federation of Professional Abortion and Contraception Associates, October 2008, Berlin: presented “What happens if society opts out?” during the opening plenary entitled “Society’s responsibilities for reproductive health”; (h) educational resources: NAF members are internationally recognized experts in abortion care, research and education. They contribute to the development of unique educational resources in the field of abortion care. Few abortion-related educational resources are available internationally. Thus, the Federation’s resources are essential to the international reproductive health-care community.

Publications: the NAF textbook, (a) *Management of Unintended and Abnormal Pregnancy: Comprehensive Abortion Care*, is the leading source for a comprehensive understanding of issues related to unintended and abnormal pregnancy. It was released in April 2009, and contains material that applies to international settings. It addresses the global health challenge of unsafe abortion and providing abortion care in low-resource settings. The textbook is being marketed internationally to both reproductive health specialists and primary care clinicians, (b) the NAF *Clinical Policy Guidelines* are evidence-based guidelines that set the standard for quality abortion care. Updated and reissued annually, they have been translated into Spanish for health-care professionals in Spanish-speaking countries. NAF makes the Guidelines available to health-care providers and educators at no charge through our website, (c) *Institutionalizing Manual Vacuum Aspiration Abortion in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union*. In January 2006, NAF released a report on a series of training courses conducted by NAF to improve the quality of abortion care that women receive in developing countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The training introduced manual vacuum aspiration and presented a model of evidence-based care with a woman-centred approach. The report described the results of the project in building support to improve the quality of abortion care within the medical, governmental and non-governmental sectors; in strengthening the institutional capacity of service and training programmes; and in identifying strategies for future work in abortion quality in these regions. The report included careful documentation of the training experiences at each site as well as NAF follow-up visits. It described a number of practical issues and lessons that could inform and benefit other clinical training efforts. NAF distributed copies of the report to United States, Canadian and international abortion training colleagues and made it available on our website.

Expanding NAF membership to abortion care providers in Mexico City: Amid concern over the number of Mexican women who die every year from illegal abortions, in 2007 legislators in Mexico City passed a bill legalizing abortion during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. When the legislation was challenged in the Supreme Court of Mexico, NAF submitted an amicus brief in support of the Mexico

City law. The Supreme Court upheld the law allowing abortion care in Mexico City. Mexican providers in both the public and private sectors attended NAF meetings, visited NAF member clinics, and welcomed NAF providers as mentor-trainers to their own facilities in order to pursue excellence in care. Health-care officials and professionals in Mexico City were eager to apply for NAF membership in order to benefit from the Federation's professional and supportive community and the resources needed for expanded, high-quality abortion care. Specifically, abortion providers in Mexico City identified an ongoing need for training of professional staff (including nursing and social services as well as physicians), improving data systems and monitoring, and staying abreast of important clinical advances in both medical regimens and surgical abortion techniques.

2. National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is the United States of America's leading housing and community development advocate for the provision of affordable housing and strong, viable communities for all, particularly those with low and moderate incomes. It aims to influence federal budgets and policies; to provide education, information and leadership development tools to its more than 23,000 associates; and to foster international exchanges regarding best practices. NAHRO fosters the highest standards of ethical behaviour, service and accountability.

Organizational changes: Since receiving NGO designation, NAHRO by-laws were amended to establish a standing International Committee of the Board of Governors. The Association's expertise, and that of its members, is particularly relevant to the UN-Habitat Agenda, in support of the Millennium Development Goals. There were no other significant changes in vision or functions.

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

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: A NAHRO member was nominated and recently confirmed to serve on the Housing and Urban Management Advisory Network of the Committee on Housing and Land Management of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. An internal system has been created for sharing information with the NAHRO membership about relevant upcoming United Nations-sponsored meetings or conferences. Costs to attend these meetings are borne by the attendees, limiting consistent NAHRO participation.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: NAHRO members, in concert with other NGOs, undertook the following activities: (a) **Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.** Target 2: In October and November 2008, participated with University of the Pacific team travelling to three African countries, focusing on Rwanda, to seek areas for cooperation in economic development activities with particular emphasis on microfinance programmes; (b) **Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education.** In January 2009, participated with Rotary International in constructing new toilet facilities for a school in San Ignacio, Belize; (c) **Goal 4: Reduce child mortality.** In July 2005, volunteered with Faces of Hope

to correct cleft palates and lips and other infant deformities for children in Antigua, Guatemala; (d) **Goal 7: Ensure environmental stability.** Target 1: In August 2008, participated in an Earthwatch Institute research team that travelled to the island of Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia, where it surveyed coral reefs, assessed potential environmental damage and assisted in formulating policies to encourage sustainable fishing and tourism. Advocated for international support to remove oil from sunken tankers in the lagoon; Target 3: In January 2006, participated with Rotary International team to San Miguel and surrounding area, El Salvador, to identify sites and local capacity for construction of project to deliver potable water to rural towns. Facility was built in Ataco; Target 4: In July 2006, participated with team consulting in Katolumba, Zambia, regarding housing issues and solutions to shelter inhabitants of the country's largest slum; Target 4: In May 2005, participated in four-person team sponsored by the Episcopal Archdiocese of Jerusalem to the West Bank to identify potential housing sites to accommodate Palestinian refugees; (e) **Goal 8: Develop a global partnership development.** Target 2: On 9 April 2009, met with Dutch International Guarantees for Housing Foundation in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, to learn more about financing of affordable housing for low-income people in developing countries through financial intermediaries and loan guarantees.

Activities in support of UN-Habitat Agenda: (a) In March 2008, a NAHRO member volunteered as a visiting international professional through CHF International, spending three weeks in Bosnia and Herzegovina and assessed local capacity regarding affordable housing, especially management and maintenance issues after privatization of multifamily residential buildings; (b) In May 2008, a NAHRO member visited housing professionals in Johannesburg, South Africa. Highlights included consultation regarding administrative best practices for a fast-growing NGO and presentation of a seminar for provincial and municipal programme managers regarding use of Government regulatory powers to produce affordable housing plus creation and administration of locally governed housing development funds.

NAHRO alliances and activities for exchange of information regarding social housing: (a) China: NAHRO sent a delegation of professionals from the United States to China in September 2005 to exchange information and observations about housing and sustainable economic development strategies as well as approaches to regenerating neighbourhoods (relocation, demolition and rebuilding). NAHRO has hosted reciprocating Chinese delegations to the United States; (b) Israel: NAHRO recently renewed its 2004 memorandum of understanding with Israel's Ministry of Construction and Housing to foster exchanges of professionals and information. Two NAHRO delegations visited Israel under the auspices of the Ministry to tour their developments, explore settlement issues and exchange observations and ideas. The exchange focused on housing immigrants, development of new towns and issues of regenerating older housing. NAHRO members shared information regarding use of zoning powers to produce affordable housing and development of special assessment districts to support needed civic improvements. Ministers of Construction and Housing, along with high-ranking Israeli professionals, have twice visited locations in the United States through study tours organized by NAHRO; (c) International Urban Development Association: NAHRO has been allied with this Association and co-sponsored conferences, including one in Paris in November 2007 entitled "Housing the public sector". A NAHRO representative made a presentation on the topic of workforce housing programmes including information

on programmes for employer-assisted housing in the United States. In addition, the representative was invited to make a presentation at an Association conference in Gdansk, Poland, in May 2008, on high-rise development in historic cities; (d) Chartered Institute of Housing, United Kingdom: NAHRO has a relationship with the Institute for exchange of information, best practices and formal professional fellowships. NAHRO members attended the Institute's annual conferences in Harrogate, England, in May 2006, 2007 and 2008; and in December 2008 a NAHRO member spoke on effective strategies to combat antisocial behaviour in social housing at a regional meeting held at Harrogate; (e) Canadian Housing and Renewal Association: NAHRO has a relationship with the Association for exchange of information and best practices. NAHRO representatives attended annual conferences sponsored by the Association during the reporting period; (f) Tri-Country Meetings: Since 1989, NAHRO, the Chartered Institute of Housing and the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association have jointly sponsored a biennial meeting for exchange of housing and community development best practices. NAHRO invited 15-20 professionals to join a number of colleagues from the United Kingdom and Canada, with occasional representation from South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. In September 2006, the four-day session was hosted in Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland; in September 2008, it was held in Toronto, Canada. Both sessions focused on regeneration, integrating services with housing, evolving systems of housing finance, involvement of residents and attraction of younger professionals to the field; (g) NAHRO/University of Delaware partnership: NAHRO and the University of Delaware co-sponsored a one-week study visit in April 2006 of housing professionals and graduate students to the Netherlands. They explored sustainable urban development patterns, social housing in the context of historic preservation, development and management of numerous social housing programmes, and regeneration of failing tower social housing projects.

3. Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association (Special; 1953)

I. Introduction

The aims and purposes of the Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) are to: (a) strengthen the bonds of peace by fostering better understanding and friendship among women of all Pacific and South-East Asian areas; and (b) develop cooperation among women of these regions for the study and development of social, economic and cultural conditions. The national member associations, of which there are 23, have national constitutions which include indigenous priorities within the broad framework of the parent international association. Members reach out to the underprivileged, vulnerable, displaced and orphaned. We welcome and applaud the social, ethnic, religious and economic diversity of our members. Our aims continue and have expanded since the previous reporting period, e.g. friendship links: Russian Federation/Australia, Thailand/China, Japan/Republic of Korea, Papua New Guinea/Australia; student education exchange: two young women from Fiji spent 2 1/2 months of practical training at the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute; financial assistance: \$5,000 to Mercy Malaysia to assist in the rebuilding efforts in Banda Aceh following the 2005 tsunami, and \$5000 to Mercy Indonesia to assist in the rebuilding efforts in Jogjakarta following the destruction caused by the earthquake

in 2006; support for income-generating projects for women, e.g. sewing machines and assisting with market gardens for members in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands; supporting and participating in Government initiatives through membership of the Australian Women's Coalition aimed at improving the quality of life of indigenous families in Australia; literacy programmes and support for schools and scholarships for disadvantaged children; networking with community agencies to help women on the fringe of society, women's prisons, abused women's shelters and action groups against trafficking of women; financial support for women over 25 years of age who return to college or university to complete their studies.

Linkages/affiliations: All national member associations have strong linkages with relevant Government agencies that may include ministries for women, the environment, education, social development and, where they exist, peace councils. It should be noted that many PPSEAWA women are also members of local NGOs and civil society organizations, United Nations Associations, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), national women's associations and international organizations such as Soroptimist International, the Red Cross and the Girl Guides. PPSEAWA values the opportunities to network among these and other women's organizations, allowing PPSEAWA to be an important part of the collective decision-making. All such linkages are powerful tools for effecting change for peace, which we try to exploit wherever possible. In spite of our difficult financial situation, we undertook considerable investment in upgrading our old website to increase inter-agency programme discussions and foster projects promoting United Nations activities among our membership. The website served to inform, educate and enlarge our membership. Links were included to relevant United Nations agencies' websites, which facilitate direct access for our members.

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

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: We serve the work of the United Nations through advocacy, and participating in United Nations days, e.g. International Women's Day, 8 March; International Day of Peace, 21 September; International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, 25 November; Human Rights Day, 10 December; International Day for Volunteer for Economic and Social Development, 5 December and other international days of particular interest to members. Our triennial meetings devoted a session to the United Nations, with speakers from various United Nations agencies representing different facets of United Nations outreach. PPSEAWA is accredited to the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna and to its subsidiary bodies, UNIFEM, UNICEF, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. PPSEAWA is also accredited to the Department of Public Information.

PPSEAWA representatives attended the United Nations meetings on "Say No to violence" and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women; PPSEAWA was represented at the eighteenth annual celebration of the International Day of Older Persons, 1 October 2008, New York; Conference on Interfaith Cooperation and the Protection of Human Rights September 2008, Geneva; Human Rights Committee, 2008, Geneva; "Celebrating the Sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights", 9 December 2008, Geneva. United Nations representatives made recommendations to PPSEAWA for endorsements of

United Nations initiatives such as the following: PPSEAWA signed the Campaign for the Establishment of a Parliamentary Assembly at the United Nations, July 2008; supported Security Council resolution 1820 (2008) on women and peace and security; is a signatory to a joint statement on the eradication of extreme poverty as a condition to the full and effective enjoyment of the human right to peace; is a signatory to the UNIFEM “Say NO to Violence against Women” campaign; supported an NGO joint statement on human rights education and learning; is a signatory to the statement prepared by the Working Group on Girls of the NGO Committee on UNICEF on the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS.

United Nations representatives lobbied for the creation of an independent women’s agency to be on a par with major agencies like UNICEF and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and which should be headed at the rank of Under-Secretary-General, reporting to the Economic and Social Council. They signed in support of a movement spearheaded by the Centre for Women’s Global Leadership and others called “gender equality architectural reform”. PPSEAWA was listed among many NGOs for an online petition calling for a special representative on violence against children. PPSEAWA is a member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations and was represented on its board for two terms until the end of 2007.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies/specialized agencies in the field:

Following almost two years of planning and revisions, in which PPSEAWA was involved, crisis prevention and recovery capacity-development training is about to begin at the UNDP Pacific Centre for senior practitioners in order to develop a community of practitioners, increasing the capacity of the strategic actors that constitute the crisis prevention and recovery architecture of the Pacific. PPSEAWA International and regional members will seek every opportunity to support this work. Representatives of PPSEAWA attended the following sessions: special UNICEF Working Group on Girls general meetings. A PPSEAWA member was appointed to the board of the Working Group; annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women workshop on empowering women in the political process, caucuses on girls’ issues; workshop on financing for gender equality in education; workshop on empowering girls to enter the workforce through non-traditional channels. NGO Committee on UNIFEM at its monthly meetings: a PPSEAWA member was elected to be its “archivist historian”, giving her a position on the executive committee. PPSEAWA joined and helped to form the Task Force on Violence against Women.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals:

The attainment of the Millennium Development Goals is seen as an important milestone to achieve world peace. PPSEAWA International adopted the Millennium Development Goals for programme action, specifically **Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women**, which is the focus of PPSEAWA activities for the next few years and national member associations are engaged in implementing projects relevant to their cultural, economic and social conditions. These include: mentoring and empowerment of women in rural areas; law reform that protects and guarantees women’s rights; membership of local Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) partnerships or women’s ministries; voter and women candidates education; supporting capacity-building training for members; scholarships for disadvantaged young women; and financial support to

schools for under-achieving young women and anti-human trafficking initiatives. PPSEAWA International approved a project to train an MDG3 project officer from each national member association in the development and implementation of activities to achieve goal 3 in their countries. At the international conference held in 2007, it was encouraging to note that national member associations were engaged in activities involving one or more Millennium Development Goals and that all eight were covered to an extent.

Activities in support of global principles: PPSEAWA representatives were selected for their commitment to the purposes of PPSEAWA and their support for the work of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies as well as their residential proximity to the various United Nations Offices. A representative from Indonesia attended the sixty-second session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific held in Jakarta in April 2006.

Other meetings: At the last PPSEAWA International Conference held in Auckland in March 2007 (“Women making a difference for peace”), members agreed to extend the Association’s focus, realizing the impact that factors such as social, economic and human rights, lack of opportunities and inequality have on people’s desire to live in peace and harmony. PPSEAWA is affiliated with the Asia Pacific Women’s Watch, the All India Women’s Congress and the All Pakistan Women’s Congress.

Activities for peace: The emphasis given to peace was reflected in the appointment of a Peace Ambassador who advised the International Council and national member associations on all matters pertaining to peace. Four PPSEAWA members were nominated for the “1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005”. PPSEAWA was represented in the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom by a member from Australia. Their slogan underpins what PPSEAWA epitomizes: “If you want peace, live peace, prepare for peace and work for peace”. Members have instigated and participated in interfaith celebrations held on or near the International Day of Peace, 21 September. PPSEAWA groups, when planning their programmes, tried to include a component on peace; A “Design for young peace” project targeting schoolchildren is active in the Cook Islands and Fiji. Several individual members and national member associations adopted Virtues Projects (endorsed by the United Nations) in schools, communities and prisons. The UNICEF-funded production of “Peace Songs”, composed by a former Peace Ambassador, has been widely distributed to national member associations and others. It has been used especially by teachers promoting peace and dance in schools.

4. People with Disability Australia (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims, purposes and main course of action of the organization: People with Disability Australia is an Australian disability rights and advocacy organization, founded in 1980 in the lead-up to the International Year of Disabled Persons (1981) to provide people with disability with a voice of our own. We exist within the international human rights framework and provide a number of activities, which include individual, group and systemic advocacy, consumer protection, information, education and training. Individuals with disability and organizations of people with disability are our primary voting membership. We have a fundamental commitment

to self-help and self-representation for people with disability, by people with disability.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

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

United Nations Headquarters, New York: (a) fifth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 2005. PWDA attended and worked closely with the Government of Australia and other delegations to influence views on the key issues relating to proposed articles; (b) sixth session of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 2005. PWDA attended and, in collaboration with the National Association of Community Legal Centres, distributed a compendium of written statements at the beginning of negotiations, and further intervened in negotiations when authorized; (c) seventh session of the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 2006. PWDA attended and, in conjunction with the National Association of Community Legal Centres, made a number of interventions in negotiations on the inclusion of women and children with disability, equal recognition before the law, access to justice, health, education and international monitoring; (d) thirty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 2006. PWDA participated on the NGO delegation presenting the “Australian NGO report on CEDAW”, and actively lobbied the Committee on key human rights issues for women in Australia; (e) eighth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 2006. PWDA attended, provided a report on consultations with members and stakeholders and made key interventions in negotiations where permitted.

Bangkok: (a) tenth session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Thematic Working Group on Disability-related Concerns, 2005. PWDA attended and actively contributed to agenda discussions on inclusive education, employment and poverty alleviation, women with disability, and the proposed United Nations convention for people with disability; (b) ESCAP workshop “Towards the midpoint review of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific”, October 2005. PWDA attended and actively participated in discussions about the Biwako Millennium Framework implementation, action planning, and participatory monitoring and evaluation from the disability perspective; (c) first session of the Biwako Millennium Framework Stakeholders’ Coordination Meeting, July 2006. PWDA participated in working groups to formulate recommendations for Biwako plus 5; (d) UNESCAP High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, September 2007. PWDA attended and, in partnership with Disability Promotion and Advocacy Vanuatu, delivered our statement to the meeting.

Nadi, Fiji: ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Disability in the Pacific: Strengthening Implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework, March 2007, PWDA attended and contributed to discussions, prepared consolidated input from the Pacific to the five-year review of the Biwako Millennium Framework, and considered ways to improve regional coordination.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: PWDA contributions were: (a) disability issues round table hosted by PWDA for the United Nations Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, during his visit to Australia in 2006; (b) preparation of NGO shadow reports for United Nations treaty body reviews of Australia in relation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (2005), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (2008), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2007/08).

Initiatives undertaken by PWDA in support of internationally agreed development goals: BMF provided a plan of action for poverty alleviation and realization of human rights for people with disability in the Asian and Pacific region. The following activities were undertaken in line with the Framework.

Self-help organizations of persons with disabilities: (a) ongoing, active contribution, throughout the reporting period, to the development of the Pacific Disability Forum, the regional focal point for disabled people's organizations in the Pacific; (b) ongoing technical assistance and practical support provided to Pacific Island disabled peoples' organizations throughout the reporting period; (c) in partnership with Disability Promotion and Advocacy Vanuatu, PWDA delivered a workshop on advocacy skills and action planning using a human rights framework in July 2005; (d) in partnership with development agencies, developed and delivered a leadership training and skills development programme for 21 representatives with disability from disabled peoples' organizations in the Asian and Pacific region in October 2008 in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne, Australia.

Women with disabilities: (a) ongoing technical assistance and practical support provided to women's coordinators from Pacific Island disabled peoples' organizations and networks of women with disability throughout the reporting period; (b) in partnership with Morobe Disabled Agency, developed and delivered a national leadership training seminar for women with disability in Papua New Guinea in July 2006 in Lae, Morobe, Papua New Guinea.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: In partnership with development organizations, guided the development and formation of the Australian Disability and Development Consortium throughout the reporting period. The Consortium focuses attention, expertise and action on promoting the rights and inclusion of people with disability in development activities and on the inclusion of people with disability in the Millennium Development Goals.

5. War Resisters International (Special; 1973)

I. Introduction

War Resisters International was founded in 1921. Its aim is stated in the WRI declaration: "War is a crime against humanity. I am therefore determined not to

support any kind of war and to strive for the removal of all causes of war". From 2005 to 2008, WRI organized several major events: (a) 2005: council meeting and seminar, "Peace in North-East Asia", Seoul. For more information, see <http://wri-irg.org/books/seoul-reader.htm> (conference reader) and <http://wri-irg.org/news/2005/reportseminar-en.htm> (report); (b) 2006: twenty-fourth Triennial Conference, "Globalising non-violence", Paderborn, Germany. For more information, see: <http://wri-irg.org/tri2006/en/reader-en.htm>; (c) 2007: international seminar; "Gender and militarism", Newe Shalom/Wahat al Salaam, Israel; (d) 2008: International Non-violence Training Exchange, Bilbao, Spain. The main programme work focused on the right to conscientious objection and on non-violence.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations in the field and/or at Headquarters

War Resisters International and the United Nations: In the period 2005 to 2008 WRI participated in particular in the work of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, replaced by the Human Rights Council, and the Human Rights Committee. It also submitted information to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. Reports include: (a) report for the Human Rights Committee in relation to Greece and article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2005 at <http://wri-irg.org/news/2005/greece05a-en.htm>; (b) United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Human Rights and the Armed Forces, 2007, at <http://wri-irg.org/news/2007/uk2007-unreport-en.htm>. In addition, WRI made oral presentations on the situation of conscientious objectors to military service at the Human Rights Committee (on conscientious objection in Greece), and to the Commission on Human Rights in 2005 (on the right to conscientious objection in Eritrea, at <http://wri-irg.org/node/2918>).

Regarding the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, War Resisters International submitted cases of conscientious objectors from Colombia and Turkey, which both led to opinions of the Working Group adopted in 2008 (Opinion No. 8/2008 (Colombia) and Opinion No. 16/2008 (Turkey)). During visits to Colombia in 2007 and 2008, War Resisters International met with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Medellin and Bogotá. WRI has accredited representatives in New York.

6. Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development and Peace (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization: Women's Learning Partnership (WLP) works with grass-roots, autonomous partner organizations in the Global South to build a world where leadership is democratic and ethical and women's human rights are realized and protected. Our course of action is to (a) build the capacity of partner and women's organizations to increase effectiveness and sustainability; (b) strengthen regional and international networks and campaigns that promote gender equality; (c) conduct grass-roots training in leadership and information communication technologies to foster civic participation; and (d) create culture-specific curricula and publications for use in training and sharing of knowledge.

Expanded areas of activity: While objectives and programs outlined in the 2004 submission remain unchanged, the Partnership has expanded to include 20 organizations in 20 countries, two of which are in Latin America. Partner organizations are now located in: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Brazil, Cameroon, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palestine, Turkey and Zimbabwe. Prior to 2005 the Partnership consisted of twelve organizations in 12 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. The additional partner organizations have expanded our pool of knowledge and resources and created a more genuinely “global” partnership. The WLP budget has grown from US\$ 800,000 in 2004 to US\$ 1.5 million in 2008 as a result of expanded capacity-building programmes and information communication technology leadership, and political participation training programs for women and youth. WLP now provides direct services to 4,000 individuals a year.

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

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities: Nearly all areas of our work supported the United Nations. WLP supported the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). Development of culturally appropriate curricula and training coincided with practices of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and advocacy for the elimination of violence against women aligned with the goals of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). WLP participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies, major conferences, and other meetings as follows: (a) with the financial support of UNFPA, WLP convened the symposium “Leading to change: eliminating violence against women in Muslim societies” to coincide with the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing (2005); (b) with the support of UNFPA, WLP convened a parallel event at the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women and a public event at Johns Hopkins University, both entitled “Against all odds: women partnering for change in a time of crisis”, (2007); (c) forty-second session of Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2008). WLP Bahrain, along with a national delegation, presented an NGO shadow report.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: The following activities were undertaken by representatives of WLP: (a) the WLP President worked with representatives from NGOs, universities and UNFPA to launch the Women Leaders Intercultural Forum. The Forum committee members gathered to develop a programme of annual symposiums at Columbia University, where the WLP President delivered a speech entitled “Violence against women” (2005); (b) the WLP President met with the Senior Adviser to the President of the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organization to discuss women’s empowerment through entrepreneurship (2007); (c) WLP President and former United States of America Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt attended hearings of the United States House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) (2008); (d) the WLP Executive Director met with the Head of the Rule of Law Unit of the United Nations

Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to discuss the WLP approach to and strategies for law reform based on a universal human rights framework and supported by positive cultural resources (2008); (e) a WLP Programme Associate attended the United Nations Development Programme Washington Roundtable, "The state of women's political participation in the world" (2008); (f) the General Coordinator of WLP Jordan assumed leadership of a national body seeking to raise awareness of Council resolution 1325 (2000) and to initiate programmes to ensure its implementation. WLP Jordan trained police on violence against women and trained women in peacekeeping (2008); (g) since 2005, WLP Palestine has integrated Council resolution 1325 (2000) into training programmes and outreach, including radio, television and newsletters. In 2008, WLP Palestine prepared facilitators to conduct workshops on the resolution in the Gaza Strip (2005-2008); (h) the WLP Executive Director and representatives from WLP partner organizations in Egypt, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nicaragua and Nigeria attended a meeting on the resolution in Cape Town, South Africa (2008); (i) the WLP President participated in a panel discussion held in conjunction with the launch of the UNFPA report *State of World Population 2008: Reaching Common Ground: Culture, Gender and Human Rights* (2008); (j) WLP Morocco coordinated the regional "Equality without reservations" campaign for ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the withdrawal of all reservations that reinforce gender discrimination. WLP Morocco maintained an online campaign blog and petition in Arabic, English and French (2008).

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: WLP contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by promoting gender equality and empowering women (goal 3) and developing a global partnership for development (goal 8). Between 2005 and 2008, in support of goal 3, the Partnership: (a) trained 6,480 grass-roots women, men and youth to be leaders and leadership trainers in their families and communities and to practise leadership that is inclusive of women and underrepresented groups; (b) equipped three new information communication technology centres and trained 860 grass-roots women, men and youth in information communication technology for social activism and professional growth; (c) distributed US\$ 1.5 million to develop the capacity of grass-roots organizations to carry out programmes for women's empowerment; (d) published eight books/manuals, one multimedia pack and one documentary for training workshops and advocacy campaigns for women's empowerment.

WLP worked as a global partnership for development, rights and peace. The Partnership comprised a coordinating office located in the United States of America and 20 grass-roots organizations across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. To support goal 8 between 2005 and 2008, the Partnership: (a) brought international attention to local and regional campaigns for women's human rights, including: the "One million signatures" campaign in the Islamic Republic of Iran for equal rights in marriage, custody and inheritance; the "Claiming equal citizenship" campaign for Arab women's equal citizenship rights; and the "Equality without reservation" campaign that pressures Governments to withdraw all reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; (b) convened four annual conferences with partner organizations to develop a shared vision for the women's movement, share experiences, and explore ways of better supporting each other's work; (c) organized peer-facilitated, cross-national strategic planning and capacity-building processes among partner organizations and

facilitated exchange and mentoring programmes between partner organizations in Africa; (d) issued 45 email alerts, each reaching more than 15,000 people, in immediate response to human rights abuses affecting partner organizations; (e) facilitated North-South dialogue and knowledge-sharing within the international women's movement by translating books on women's rights campaigns; (f) developed the Global Women's Action Network for Children, an alliance of women leaders working to realize goal 2 on universal primary education and goal 5 on maternal mortality. WLP co-founded the Network with the Children's Defense Fund in 2004; (g) co-founded the Women Leaders Intercultural Forum with UNFPA and other women's organizations in 2006 to advance the role of women in promoting intercultural understanding. Because women suffer disproportionately from underdevelopment, the Millennium Development Goals can be achieved largely by improving the lives of women. By providing women with tools to fully engage in society, and bolstering the capacity of women's organizations to empower exponentially more women, WLP indirectly contributes to the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals.
