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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education

Special, 1989

Introduction

The organization seeks to promote the right to education and freedom of education in accordance with the principles of article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes are to:

- Take a human rights-based approach to the study of education policies.
- Inform public opinion of progress and breaches in respect of the right to education and freedom of education.
- Provide training and information on the right to education and freedom of education to stakeholders in the area of education.
- Make statements before international organizations and bodies concerned with the protection of human rights with a view to defending and promoting the right to education and educational freedoms.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization coordinates NGO platforms on the right to education, cultural rights, human rights education and the right to development. The purpose of such platforms is to strengthen United Nations work in those areas. The organization worked very closely with the Council in preparing the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training. It organized several meetings to assist the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to draw up the draft. It works closely with the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and with the independent expert on human rights and international solidarity. With the independent expert, it organized in 2012 a meeting with civil society with a view to the draft declaration.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in all the sessions of the Human Rights Council. In 2009, it organized five human rights education panels on the following themes: human rights defenders, the education of girls, intercultural education, racism and discrimination. In 2010, it submitted written and oral statements on the following themes: the economic crisis, human rights education and children's rights. It organized five parallel events on the following themes: cultural rights, human rights education and international solidarity. In 2012, it submitted written and oral statements on the quality of education and organized a parallel event with the Special Rapporteur.

The organization participated in all the sessions of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

In 2011 and 2012, the organization participated in a working group on the right to development.

In July 2011, the organization participated in an expert mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples.

In 2009 and 2012, the organization participated in a forum on minorities.

In 2011, the organization participated in the Social Forum.

In 2009 and 2012, the organization participated in the meetings of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization attended the 2009 and 2011 substantive sessions of the Council; in 2011, it organized a parallel event and made a statement on the right to education in the plenary Council.

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

The organization held six training courses, including four summer schools, on economic, social and cultural rights for stakeholders in the area of human rights. The question of the Millennium Development Goals was addressed in the context of the approach to rights. Around 400 persons took part in the training courses. In conjunction with the platform on the right to education, the organization prepared a document on the post-2015 role of education.

Additional information

In 2009, the organization attended the World Conference on Higher Education organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

It participated in the UNESCO meetings on human rights.

It has established for UNESCO a framework for evaluating policies on the right to education.

It has established six publications on various aspects of the right to education.

2. International Peace and Development Organization

Special, 2009

Introduction

The organization was established to respond to communities affected by the civil war in the Sudan. It has its headquarters in Khartoum and implements field activities in a number of states. Its priorities are its programme activities for women and children.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization seeks to contribute to peacebuilding, to engage in advocacy regarding the rights of women and children, to deliver humanitarian assistance in emergency situations and to enhance community peace dialogue and conflict resolution.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The main activities undertaken by the organization to advance the achievement of the development agenda of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations are summarized as follows:

- (a) Empowering women through their participation in peacebuilding, disseminating a peace culture and maintaining a peaceful social coexistence;
- (b) Promoting the status of women by advocating women's rights to health, education and to make economic contributions;
- (c) Establishing a network with many partners against HIV/AIDS and harmful habits affecting women;
- (d) Facilitating microfinance projects for women to participate in poverty reduction;
- (e) Seeking to provide equal opportunities for the education of girls and reducing the illiteracy rate;
- (f) Working to disseminate the concept of human rights and strengthening efforts to cooperate in combating violence against women and children.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) Fifteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 13 September to 1 October 2010 and 30 May to 17 June 2011, respectively;
- (b) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 22 February to 4 March 2011, organizing parallel events on best practice with regard to educated women in the Sudan and Darfur as a case study of the impact of war on women's education in Africa;
- (c) Fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 27 February to 9 March 2012;
- (d) Workshop on writing reports of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration projects, held in Khartoum in 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization fulfilled the following programmes and projects with United Nations bodies:

- (a) Project with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on distribution of non-food items for internally displaced persons, in 2010;
- (b) Project with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to integrate ex-combatants in Blue Nile State, covering the period 2010-2011;
- (c) Project with the United Nations Mission in the Sudan on reinsertion of ex-combatants in Ed Damazin, Blue Nile State, covering the period 2011-2012.

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

The organization contributed to supporting the Millennium Development Goals by:

- (a) Implementing illiteracy reduction and education programmes for 1,500 women;
- (b) Establishing 75 pre-education classes in 15 states of the Sudan, in addition to six elementary schools with 2,400 pupils in five states;
- (c) Conducting 70 training courses in conflict resolution at the national, state and local levels;
- (d) Implementing 30 health campaigns;
- (e) Establishing 10 integrated development centres;
- (f) Implementing 10 training courses in livelihood skills;
- (g) Reintegrating 150 ex-combatants;
- (h) Providing food and non-food items to 7,000 families;
- (i) Providing support for women to manage small microfinance projects aimed at eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and targeted at 1,000 families.

3. International Research Centre for Environmental Structures “Pio Manzù”

General, 1972

Introduction

The organization is an international centre for research on geopolitical and environmental structures. Its research covers various sectors in the environmental sciences, with particular reference to the problems of the environment, technology and development. Alongside its activities aimed at bringing certain problems to the attention of the public, the organization carries out research work on behalf of various ministries, institutes and industries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main aims of the organization are to act as:

- (a) A promoter of specific research projects, through synergistic collaboration between researchers of distinct cultural and professional backgrounds;

(b) A link between the world of research and the practical sociopolitical decision makers, providing a forum for a free and frank exchange of views and expertise on both sides.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The themes of the organization's yearly international conferences in Rimini, Italy, relate to issues of importance to the United Nations. The international conference held from 23 to 25 October 2009 on the theme "Nomad power: values, illusions, aspirations of errant youth" focused on young people, drawing attention to the socioeconomic disadvantages that create challenges for young people and demanding a greater voice in economic, social and political life for them. The conference held from 15 to 17 October 2010 on the theme "Twenty-first century challenge: humankind, its needs and uncertainties: rediscovering reason, sharing values, expressing the future" focused on climate change, population growth, energy, terrorism, global development from the perspective of women, production of goods and services, the need for global ethical standards and long-term objectives. The conference held from 21 to 23 October 2011 on the theme "A twenty-first century for women: gender responses for the future of humankind" focused on women, with a concluding message that women must take responsibility within the international community to build a better, safer world in which everyone enjoys the right to live with dignity. The conference held from 12 to 14 October 2012 on the theme "Italy — international observatory on a country 'too big to fail'? The testbench of a system crisis" focused on the economic downturn of Italy, with participants scrutinizing the world economy. One of the recommendations was that the whole concept of work, education and training may need to be reconsidered in a world in which structures, technology and population dynamics are changing rapidly. The conferences brought together experts, scholars, observers, academics, politicians, researchers, economists, decision makers and leaders from all over the world, with the overriding motif of unity in diversity.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

Through its research, projects, conferences and other activities, the organization has given special attention to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality and empowering women, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development.

Additional information

There is no additional information.

4. International Road Transport Union

Special, 1949

Introduction

The organization upholds the interests of the road transport industry worldwide. Through its global network of national member associations, it represents the operators of buses, coaches, taxis and trucks, from large fleets to individual owner-operators. As at December 2012, it had 170 members in 74 countries, in addition to 22 new members of its regional committee for Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's priorities are the facilitation of road transport, trade and tourism and sustainable development. It also seeks to contribute, in the interest of society as a whole, to the development and prosperity, in all countries, of national and international road transport and to safeguard the role of road transport for hire and reward and on own account.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization continued to actively promote the adoption and practical implementation of United Nations multilateral legal instruments on international trade and road transport in South America, Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia. It closely cooperated with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries. It contributed to the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration for the launch of the Decade of Action for Road Safety. Under a United Nations mandate, it continued to ensure the efficient functioning of the TIR System and its international guarantee chain established by the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets. It developed effective information technology risk management tools to the benefit of all public and private stakeholders.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated actively in all the meetings of the Inland Transport Committee, in particular the Working Party on Road Transport and its expert groups, the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, the Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security and the Inland Transport Security Discussion Forum, the Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics and its expert groups, the Working Party on Transport Statistics, the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and joint meetings of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the Working Party on Customs

Questions affecting Transport and the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975, the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and its Working Party on General Safety Provisions, Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling and Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear. Representatives of the organization also participated in the sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, a regional preparatory meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, the fourteenth International Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers, the fourth Meeting of the Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries Responsible for Trade, the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, the Group of Experts for the revision of the IMO/ILO/UNECE Guidelines for Packing of Cargo Transport Units and round-table discussions (such as the policy segment on intelligent transport systems).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The following are examples of cooperation with United Nations bodies:

- (a) The organization became a participant in the Global Compact in 2010;
- (b) During the period 2011-2012, the organization financed a joint project with the United Nations Mine Action Service on demining Afghanistan;
- (c) In 2012, the organization, jointly with the Government of Turkmenistan and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, organized an international conference on the development of transport and transit in Central Asia and the Caspian region;
- (d) The organization holds the vice-chairship of the Group of Experts for the revision of the IMO/ILO/UNECE Guidelines for Packing of Cargo Transport Units.

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

The organization actively contributed to the eradication of poverty by facilitating road transport, trade and transit through the promotion of United Nations agreements and conventions, the signature of bilateral memorandums of understanding with transit countries and the implementation of various projects and initiatives, including the sustainable development of trade and transport in Afghanistan through a joint project with the United Nations Mine Action Service. It also engaged in efforts to combat HIV/AIDS by jointly developing, with the International Labour Organization, a programme for drivers, managers and instructors. It also sought to promote environmental sustainability by implementing policies to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 30 per cent by 2030.

5. International Shinto Foundation

Special, 2001

Introduction

As an indigenous faith tradition, Shinto contains values and elements common to most of the world's ethnographic cultures, meaning that it has much to contribute

in terms of intercultural dialogue and exchange. The organization has been cooperating harmoniously with other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and United Nations agencies in promoting human welfare and environmental sustainability. It is headquartered in Tokyo, with its New York centre functioning as an international centre. It maintains liaison offices in London, Moscow, Hangzhou, China, and Washington, D.C.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization assists scholarly research into aspects of culture and religion at academic institutions around the world and cooperates with them in sponsoring projects and events.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has been a member of the Committee of Religious Non-Governmental Organizations at the United Nations and the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security. Its representatives participated in the annual interfaith service of religious NGOs. It has been organizing events to mark International Children's Day in October/November at the Japan Society in New York City every year for the past 13 years, with a part of the proceeds donated to the United States Fund for UNICEF.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations conferences held in 2009 and 2011;
- (b) Fifty-third to fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, covering the period 2009-2012;
- (c) Forty-seventh to fiftieth sessions of the Commission for Social Development, covering the period 2009-2012;
- (d) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

6. International Social Science Council

Special, 1985

Introduction

The organization is the primary body representing social, economic and behavioural sciences at the international level. Members include international professional associations and unions, regional and national social science academies and research councils and other international organizations with major interests in the social sciences.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's main objective is to increase the production and use of social science knowledge in all parts of the world in order to help to address global priority problems. This includes scoping and agenda-setting, advocacy and promotion, capacity development, networking, information brokerage and dissemination, science policy development and resource mobilization.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The primary link of the organization with the United Nations is through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with which it has formal associate relations status. The organization's activities are designed to directly support the UNESCO programme of work. Examples include the World Social Science Forum, held for the first time in 2009 on the theme "One planet — worlds apart". The organization was also involved in the preparations for the 2013 edition of the Forum, which focused on social transformations and the digital age. In addition, the organization is a founding member of the Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability, which includes UNESCO, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations University, and it has initiated Future Earth, a 10-year international research programme for global sustainability.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Durban, South Africa, from 28 November to 11 December 2011;
- (b) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, including a side event with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;
- (c) Regular meetings of the Programme on the Management of Social Transformation;
- (d) Thirty-sixth session of the UNESCO General Conference, held in Paris from 25 October to 10 November 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated in the following manner:

(a) In partnership with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development in the development of a social sustainability science knowledge framework (published as a report entitled “Transformative cornerstones of social science research for global change”);

(b) Through a framework agreement with UNESCO covering the period 2008-2013, with a specific focus on the preparation and publication of the 2010 and 2013 editions of the *World Social Science Report*.

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

The organization took the following initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals:

(a) With regard to poverty, it co-sponsored international programmes such as the Comparative Research Programme on Poverty;

(b) On gender equality, it sponsored an international research network on gender, globalization and democracy;

(c) On combating HIV/AIDS, it organized a session at the XIX International AIDS Conference, held in Washington, D.C., in 2012, on rethinking the role of social science in the context of HIV/AIDS;

(d) With regard to ensuring environmental sustainability and a global partnership for development, it initiated and sponsored Future Earth, a project that will bring Earth system science and social concerns such as poverty into the arena of sustainability research and will inform the post-2015 development agenda.

7. International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics

Special, 1993

Introduction

The organization is a global multidisciplinary organization aiming to improve the quality of life of persons who may benefit from prosthetic, orthotic, mobility and assistive devices. Its members are prosthetic/orthotic technicians, orthopaedic surgeons, rehabilitation doctors, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, orthopaedic shoemakers and biomechanical/rehabilitation engineers. For more than 40 years, the organization has provided an effective platform for exchange and communication on all aspects of science, practice and education associated with the provision of prosthetic/orthotic care, rehabilitation engineering and related areas.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization contributes to a world in which all persons have an equal opportunity to fully participate in society. Through its member societies, the organization addresses the needs of both industrial and less-resourced regions, promoting the provision of high-quality services, innovative technology, clinically

relevant research, training and education, advocating best practices and advising Governments and NGOs on key issues.

Significant changes in the organization

A no-cost extension of the multi-year grant awarded by the United States Agency for International Development was secured, enabling the organization to continue its activities in developing countries to foster effective training and education of local prosthetists and orthotists.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization was not directly involved in the work of the Economic and Social Council owing to its specific focus on persons who may benefit from assistive technologies such as artificial limbs, body braces, wheelchairs and similar mobility aids.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation were specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and through its activities is committed to contributing to several of the WHO objectives. In the framework of its collaboration, the organization and WHO agreed to jointly develop guidelines on prosthetic and orthotic services for the period 2013-2016.

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

Many of the organization's activities were in support of the Millennium Development Goals. The organization's principal focus on optimizing rehabilitation opportunities for persons with physical disabilities furthers Goals 1 and 3. In reference to Goal 8, the organization provides support to professionals from low-income countries by awarding travel grants to its world congresses, granting free membership to newly established member societies in low-income countries and seeking any other opportunity for assistance, cooperation and support.

8. International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies

Special, 1993

Introduction

The organization was founded for professionals to share information about the effects of trauma.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is dedicated to discovery, disseminating knowledge and advancing policy, programme and service initiatives that seek to reduce traumatic stressors and their immediate and long-term consequences.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In 2012, the organization participated in drafting the report of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on the right of peoples to peace, as well as in advocacy in that regard. It chaired the NGO Committee on Mental Health and delivered a joint NGO statement on the occasion of the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June).

In 2011, it contributed to the development of a joint statement for the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held from 24 to 28 October in Marrakech, Morocco. It also engaged in correspondence supporting the Victims' Rights Working Group with regard to the International Criminal Court. It chaired the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

In 2010, it participated in the nineteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 May. It also chaired the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

Additional information

There is no additional information.

9. International Telecommunication Academy**Special, 2001****Introduction**

The organization is a voluntary non-commercial association of scientists, top managers and first-class experts working in the telecommunications and information technology sector. Its work is to develop creative relations and cooperation and to advance the integration of the scientific and innovative potential of specialists working in the communications field.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main tasks of the organization are:

(a) To assist with the effective development of information and telecommunications technologies for the infrastructure of the global information society;

(b) To conduct research and offer expertise on the problems of the development and application of information and telecommunications technologies;

(c) To participate in the work of national and international organizations with regard to preparing normative documents, agreements and recommendations on defining the development of communications infrastructure at the national and global levels.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization held annual international conferences in the Russian Federation on the social and economic problems of the development of the telecommunications and information society.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is a co-signatory of the Global Compact in the Russian Federation. In 2010, it participated in a UNDP/Global Compact forum in the Russian Federation on creating a shared value strategy with regard to corporate social responsibility. It also participated, in 2011, in the preparation of a Global Compact initiative in the Russian Federation entitled “World without corruption”, pertaining to the use of information technology, resources and social advertising to prevent corruption. The organization cooperates with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). It participated in several global activities of ITU, such as the fifth World Telecommunication Development Conference, held in Hyderabad, India, in 2010; the 2010 session of the Plenipotentiary Conference, held in Guadalajara, Mexico; the eleventh Global Symposium for Regulators and the fourth Global Industry Leaders’ Forum, held in Armenia City, Colombia, in 2011; and the World Conference on International Telecommunications, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in 2012.

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

In support of the Millennium Development Goals, the organization promotes equal access to global information services and resources, in addition to the benefits of new information and telecommunications technologies.

10. International Union of Architects

Special, 1949

Introduction

The organization is a global federation of national associations of architects. Its goal is to unite the architects of the world without any form of discrimination. From the 27 delegations present at the founding assembly in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1948, the organization has grown to encompass the key professional organizations of architects in 124 countries and territories, and now represents, through them, close to 1.3 million architects worldwide.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to unite the architects of the world on a democratic basis and represent them at the international and governmental levels; to ensure the continued development of professional methods and the high level of educational criteria while respecting the specificity of different communities; and to aid in the sustainable development of the environment, disaster relief and housing without borders.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization organized its World Day of Architecture to coincide with World Habitat Day. On Monday, 4 October 2010, the theme was “Better city, better life — sustainable by design”; on Monday, 3 October 2011, it was “Architecture and human rights”; and on Monday, 1 October 2012, it was “Architects are city changers”.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) Twenty-third session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, held from 11 to 15 April 2011 in Nairobi, giving a presentation on behalf of the Habitat Professionals Forum;
- (b) United Nations climate change conferences from 2009 to 2011;
- (c) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and associated preparatory meetings and side events, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012;
- (d) Sixth session of the World Urban Forum, held in Naples, Italy, from 1 to 7 September 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated by participating in the following meetings:

- (a) 2009 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, held in July in Geneva;

(b) Various meetings of UNESCO and its subsidiary bodies, covering the period 2009-2012;

(c) Seventieth session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management, held in Geneva from 23 to 25 September 2009;

(d) Fifty-fifth World Health Assembly, held from 13 to 18 May 2012 in Geneva.

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

No activities were specified.

11. International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific

Special, 2001

Introduction

The organization is an international women's human rights organization. Since 1993, it has worked to contribute to the progressive interpretation and realization of the human rights of women through the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other international human rights treaties. It promotes the national implementation of international human rights standards by building the capacity of women and human rights advocates to claim and realize women's human rights. This is done through the following three key strategies: building capacity for change; enhancing realization of rights; and disseminating, applying and exchanging information. This encompasses training, communication, information, education, advocacy and supporting national-level women's organizations and community groups working to improve the lives of women.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's vision is of a world in which everyone enjoys human rights and fundamental freedoms on the basis of equality, without discrimination on the grounds of sex and gender, and free of oppressive power relationships, within a developmentally sustainable and inclusive society. To achieve this vision, the organization has adopted an approach based on the universal nature of human rights, focusing on the experiences of women from the global South by:

(a) Promoting and facilitating the effective implementation of human rights in conformity with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and other international human rights treaties and mechanisms;

(b) Advocating and facilitating the inclusion of women and a women's rights perspective in human rights standard-setting, interpretation, monitoring and implementation;

(c) Critically engaging with and advocating progressive interpretations of human rights standards, promoting the adoption of new standards and, in collaboration with partners, generating new knowledge and material on women's human rights;

(d) Contributing to the further mobilization of women towards achieving human rights-based governance and sustainable development, and holding accountable both State and non-State actors when it comes to protecting, promoting and fulfilling women's human rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has worked for 20 years to support State accountability under international women's human rights norms and standards through the treaty-monitoring process. It is the NGO recognized by the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in supporting NGOs to interact with the Committee. It has played this support role since 2004. It provides technical support and training to more than 800 women members of NGOs from 150 countries to attend sessions of the Committee to observe the international review process, thereby increasing State capacity to realize gender equality for women.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) Sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2009 to 2012;
- (b) Sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women from 2009 to 2012;
- (c) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization supported the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in organizing an Asia-Pacific regional consultation for a proposed general recommendation on the human rights of women in situations of conflict and post-conflict.

It also cooperated with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in a regional dialogue between representatives of national machineries and mechanisms for the advancement of women in 10 States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including Timor-Leste. It highlighted the challenges ahead for women's advancement in South-East Asia, along with the potential for collaboration, at the national and regional levels.

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

Representatives of the organization participated in the fifth Asia-Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights, held in Beijing in October 2009, to track the implementation of Millennium Development Goal 5.B.

12. International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

Special, 1989

Introduction

The organization is an international human rights organization staffed by specialists and advisers on indigenous affairs. It supports the struggle of indigenous peoples for human rights, self-determination, the right to territory, control of land and resources, cultural integrity and the right to development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's work with indigenous peoples is guided by a rights-based approach. A key principle for the organization is that human rights are a fundamental tool for improving the economic and political situation of marginalized indigenous peoples. The organization's main tasks are:

- (a) To produce, document and disseminate information about the contemporary situation of indigenous peoples;
- (b) To ensure that the situation of indigenous peoples is placed firmly on the agenda of strategically important international and regional forums;
- (c) To support indigenous peoples and their own organizations in developing and implementing activities that aim to build their own capacity and to empower them to advocate and advance their own cause effectively;
- (d) To influence major donor organizations and other national and international institutions.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since 2009, the organization has increasingly focused on the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through its publication *Making the Declaration Work: The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2009). It supported the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in 15 of his missions from 2009 to 2012. From 4 to 6 February 2009, it organized an international expert seminar in Madrid on the role of United Nations mechanisms with specific mandates regarding the rights of indigenous peoples, in collaboration with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur. From 20 to 22 January 2010, it supported a seminar in Chiang Mai, Thailand, on the right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making. In 2010, it assisted the Special Rapporteur appointed by the Permanent Forum to undertake a study on the status of implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Accord of 1997. It supported the launch of the 2009-2012 editions of *State of the World's Indigenous Peoples* and produced a joint report with UNICEF, *Suicidio adolescente en pueblos indígenas: tres estudios de caso* (2011).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

- (a) Sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from 2009 to 2012;
- (b) Sessions of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from 2009 to 2012, launching *What Future for the Baka? Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Livelihood Opportunities in South-East Cameroon* in 2012;
- (c) Twelfth, fifteenth and eighteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 14 September to 2 October 2009, 13 September to 1 October 2010 and 12 to 30 September 2011, respectively;
- (d) Fourth, eighth, tenth and twelfth sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, held in Geneva from 2 to 13 February 2009, 3 to 14 May 2010, 24 January to 4 February 2011 and 3 to 14 October 2011, respectively, submitting stakeholder reports regarding the reviews of Bangladesh, the Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania;
- (e) Seventy-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, held in Geneva from 3 to 28 August 2009;
- (f) Forty-sixth and forty-ninth sessions of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, held in Geneva from 2 to 20 May 2011 and 12 to 30 November 2012, respectively, submitting shadow reports on the Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania;
- (g) Thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sessions of the World Heritage Committee, held in Paris from 19 to 29 June 2011 and in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 24 June to 6 July 2012, in addition to the closing event of the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 6 to 8 November 2012;
- (h) First session of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, held in Geneva from 16 to 20 January 2012, and first session of the Forum on Business and Human Rights, held in Geneva on 4 and 5 December 2012, launching *Pitfalls & Pipelines: Indigenous Peoples and Extractive Industries*.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

From July to October 2010, the organization was contracted by the Asia-Pacific Regional Centre of UNDP in Bangkok to assess the Regional Initiative on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development. On 17 and 18 February 2011, it facilitated a workshop organized by the International Fund for Agricultural Development on establishing an indigenous peoples' forum. On 5 and 6 November 2012, it facilitated, in cooperation with the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, a meeting for indigenous peoples in preparation for the first session of the Forum on Business and Human Rights.

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

No activities were specified.

13. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations

General, 1973

Introduction

The organization works with young people and students to promote informed public and wider knowledge of the United Nations, its actual meaning and its potential.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization fulfils the aims and ideals of the United Nations in the areas of peace, justice, development and human rights through advocacy and dissemination of knowledge about the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As an NGO with most of its constituents in the South, the organization accords high priority to supporting the United Nations development agenda and advocacy for the full implementation of the declarations and programmes adopted by the United Nations in the social and economic fields. It seeks to contribute through research and participation in relevant United Nations conferences and bodies, as its capacity permits. It seeks cooperation with like-minded NGOs at the international level and encourages a similar approach by its national affiliates.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization has regularly attended and contributed to the deliberations of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent.

It played an active role in the NGO preparations for the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva in April 2009, and representatives attended and addressed preparatory and plenary meetings. It organized a side event and co-chaired a civil society forum for the Conference. It attended the informal consultations of the General Assembly for the high-level meeting of the Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. It addressed a round-table session that formed part of the high-level meeting on 22 September 2011.

Representatives of the organization attended preparatory meetings for and participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. The organization organized a side event on sustainable development and intergenerational equity issues.

Representatives of the organization participated in the United Nations climate change conferences from 2009 to 2012, in addition to attending meetings of the intersessional mechanisms of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

Members of the organization undertake research and publish reports on such subjects as environment, poverty, health and racism. United Nations observances were used as an opportunity to educate and create awareness with regard to key issues. The organization has been engaged in research and advocacy in relation to Millennium Development Goal 8, in particular the promotion of greater equity in the global trade and financial system and the democratization of international relations.

Additional information

The organization participates in NGO committees relevant to its priority areas. It serves as an elected member of the Board of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. It was the convenor of that body's working group on the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and is now the convenor of its working group on the post-2015 development agenda.

14. Italian Centre of Solidarity**Special, 1985****Introduction**

The organization is a private, non-profit organization founded in Rome in 1971. Through projects funded by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the European Union and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, the organization has developed drug reduction and community empowerment projects in several countries. It has some 850 clients annually. In addition, it runs vocational training programmes, employment initiatives and social reintegration activities.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In line with its central belief that problem solving should focus on the person and not on the symptoms, the organization runs several services to respond to a wide range of social needs and community engagement, which root its work in the Italian culture of volunteerism and social enterprise.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Each year, the organization marks the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June) and World AIDS Day (1 December).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the fifty-second to fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, covering the period 2009-2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Since 1985, the organization has cooperated with UNODC through projects in Latin America. This cooperation continued during the reporting period in the Plurinational State of Bolivia with activities in the health and social fields. In June 2010, the organization celebrated its 25 years of cooperation with UNODC by holding a round table on international cooperation.

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

From 2008 to 2012, in partnership with Caritas Egypt, the organization carried out a project in Egypt to create a centre for psychosocial support and professional training of socially excluded women, funded by the Italian Episcopal Conference. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, it continued to support the development of the general hospital in Coroico, La Paz, and a local NGO, Fundación ProYungas. It undertook activities relating to health and social development, aiming to strengthen the rural health-care network in the area, with particular focus on children's health and maternal care. In Rome, it created a service for children, "Progetto Bambino", consisting of childcare and psychological support for families (in particular where the mother is the head of the household) with socioeconomic problems. In Italy, it runs a home-care service for people with AIDS and works in schools on prevention programmes. In December 2010, it supported the participation of eight Latin American NGOs in a conference in Guatemala organized by Italian Cooperation, Milan, the aim of which was to facilitate their access to Italian funding and to strengthen the local network of NGOs.

Additional information

In addition to the international work of the organization that supports the Millennium Development Goals, its work in Italy has a strong focus on child health, universal education, HIV/AIDS, gender equality and empowerment of women.

15. Jaime Guzman Errazuriz Foundation**Special, 2001****Introduction**

The organization works in Chile to promote young professionals in public service.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization has various programmes, such as work in low-income municipalities. It also has programmes to promote the work of young professionals in local congresses studying legislative issues. The focus is on training young people.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization works to inform the National Congress about the United Nations agenda, such as through follow-up on the work of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Since 2008, when the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), was ratified by Chile, the organization has followed its implementation in the judicial system, publishing a paper on 19 September 2012 on the judicial implications of article 6 of the Convention. It also works on drafting new environmental legislation that includes consultations with indigenous peoples in order to meet the requirements of the Convention and other law concerning indigenous populations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Representatives of the organization attended a seminar of the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean, held in Santiago on 18 April 2012, on the implications for Chile and its development of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

With regard to migration, in 2011 and 2012, it worked with the International Organization for Migration to publish a manual that systematized all the legal requirements that had to be met by immigrants, in addition to the paperwork that should be completed. The aim was to attract Chileans who had left the country some years ago and wished to return. The manual was completed in December 2012 and published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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

To eradicate extreme poverty, a programme on young people helping Chile is in operation in 93 locations. In addition, 30 professionals have been working in schools to develop educational programmes and improve the quality of education in vulnerable sectors.