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### Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

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#### Note by the Secretary-General

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

## 1. International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity

### Special Consultative Status granted 1972

**Aims and Purpose:** CIDSE is an international coalition of Catholic development organisations based in Europe and North America, working with organisations and partners in all continents on issues of advocacy/lobbying and campaigning, development programmes, development education and peace building. CIDSE represents the desire of these organisations to share experiences, build capacities and work together in furthering the mission and strategies of the individual member organisations (MOs) and in strengthening CIDSE's own objectives. CIDSE's main role is: 1) to enhance and sustain the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of the work of MOs; 2) to enable MOs to achieve together what they cannot achieve singly; 3) to support MOs to work together in furthering CIDSE's own mission and strategies.

Changes in membership since the last quadrennial report include the departure of Catholic Relief Services/USA (1991) which remains a strategic partner of CIDSE and a new associated member, Center of Concern/USA (2003). A new Strategic Plan (2001-2004) was introduced in 2001. As the report below testifies, CIDSE's activities during the period 2000-2003 in relation to the UN has evolved mainly around issues of **financing for development (FfD)**, food security and trade. CIDSE, through its member agencies and its task group on social justice, has participated in UN summits and conferences on these topics, and has presented papers at them in close co-operation with other international networks, however, foremost together with Caritas Internationalis. Other activities have involved organising meetings and workshops, monitoring the follow-up process to the 1995 World Social Summit for Development and lobbying activities in relation to the financing for development process and other social justice issues.

### Participation in Conferences/Meetings of ECOSOC and its Subsidiary Bodies:

#### 2000

- Participation in the “38<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Commission for Social Development” (New York, 8-18 February) and the *Intersessional meeting of the 1st Preparatory Committee of the Copenhagen +5 Review* (New York 21-25 February). position paper “Advocating for Greater Social Justice”- World Summit for Social Development: Review 2000 and Beyond - The UN “Financing for Development 2001” Consultation
- Participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Preparatory Committee of the Copenhagen +5 Review (New York, 3-14 April).
- Participation in the 1st Preparatory Committee for the “High-Level Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development” of the General Assembly (New York, 30 May-2 June).

- Participation in the *Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives* (Geneva, 26–30 June).
- Participation in *NGO hearings on financing for development* (New York, 6-7 November).

## 2001

- Participation in the *2nd Preparatory Committee for the "High-Level Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development of the General Assembly"* (New York, 12-23 February). Oral statement and Background paper.
- Participation in the *2<sup>nd</sup> Substantive Session of the Preparatory Committee for Istanbul +5* (Nairobi, 19-23 February).
- Participation in the *1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Preparatory Committee for the "International Conference Financing for Development" of the General Assembly* (New York, 2 - 8 May). Oral statement in the plenary . Organisation of a side event on “A fair and transparent arbitration procedure”.
- Participation in the *Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, UN-LDC III* (Brussels, 14-20 May). Participation in the *UN General Assembly Special Session Istanbul+5* (New York, 6-8 June).
- Participation in the *UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS* (Geneva, 25-27 June).
- Participation in the *UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance* (Durban, 31 August-7 September)
- Participation in the *resumed Session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Preparatory Committee for the "International Conference Financing for Development" of the General Assembly* (New York, 15-19 October). Launch of position paper Financing Development through Redistribution. Oral statements in plenary on CTT and debt sustainability. Organisation of a workshop with the Director of UN-DESA on the technical note on “innovative resources including the CTT.”.
- Written input to the *UNCTAD-civil society dialogue on selected, critical development issues, being addressed by the UN System* (Geneva, 10 December 2001)

## 2002

- Participation in the *4<sup>th</sup> Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly for the "International Conference Financing for Development"* (New York, 14-25 January). Oral statements on global governance and debt and written statement on trade. Organisation of two workshops, on debt arbitration in collaboration with UN-DESA and global governance.

- Participation and presentation at the *UN International Symposium on Social Development (Cop.+5 and Financing for Development)* (New York, 15 February).
- Participation in the *International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 18-22 March)*. Written statement.
- Participation in the *ECOSOC/Bretton Woods Institutions/WTO Spring meeting (New York, 22 April)*. Statement.
- Participation in the *90<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Organisation (Geneva 4-20 June)*
- Participation in the *World Food Summit: five years later (Rome, 10-13 June)*. Policy Statement: *Trade for Food Security? Reforming Trade to make Food for All a Reality*
- Participation in the *UN ECOSOC General segment meeting (New York, 18 July)*.
- Participation in the *UN World Summit on Sustainable Development conference (Johannesburg, 26 August-4 September)*. Organisation of a workshop on Currency Transaction Tax together with the Southern Africa Alliance of the Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC).

### **2003**

- Participation in the *UN ECOSOC Hearings and Dialogue with Civil Society & the private sector (New York, 20-21 March)*:
- Participation in the *FAO Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Food (Rome 24-26 March)*
- Participation in the *UN ECOSOC meeting with the Boards of the Bretton Woods Institutions and the WTO (New York, 14 April)*: Contribution on coherence and debt by the CIDSE Secretary General
- Participation in the *91<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Organisation (Geneva 3-19 June)*
- Participation in the *ECOSOC annual conference (Geneva, 16 July)*. Oral statement
- Participation in the *55th Session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Geneva, 28 July-15 August)* (intersessional Working Group on the Working Methods and Activities of Transnational Corporations)
- Participation in the *UNU-WIDER high-level international expert meeting on innovative resources (Helsinki, 6-7 September)*.
- Participation in the *UN General Assembly Hearings of Civil Society and the High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development (New York, 28-30 October)*: Presentations on ODA, debt and trade at the civil society hearings, participation in three official roundtables and the interactive dialogue in plenary. Written statement (Annexed). Co-organisation of a side event on global governance.

## **OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES**

### **Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions**

- CIDSE, together with other Catholic networks, continued to monitor the follow-up process to the 1995 World Social Summit for Development in the run up to the Geneva Special Session in 2000. Meetings, workshops, luncheon-discussions, participation in NGO Caucuses were as many occasions during committee Sessions and PrepCom meetings to promote discussions and lobby official delegates.
- After March 2002, CIDSE decided to closely monitor the implementation of the 'Monterrey Consensus' and actively lobbied for the establishment of the Financing for Development Office (FFDO). CIDSE joined the International Facilitating Group on Financing for Development (IFG) and was instrumental in the creation of the CONCORD<sup>1</sup> Working Group on FfD. Again, meetings, seminars, side-events to official meetings, were as many occasions to lobby the International Financial Institutions, the EU, governments and official delegates.
- Co-organisation of the CONCORD two-day conference on FfD and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (13 May) (Brussels). Event co-sponsored by UNDP.
- Co-organisation of an international experts' meeting on global governance together with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the IFG (New York, July 2003) followed by a seminar for staff from UN missions of North and South (October 2003)
- Support to the International MDG campaign: creation of a CIDSE MDG logo to be used in all future CIDSE publications. International launch of joint CIDSE/Caritas Internationalis paper "*International Campaign on the Millennium Development Goals*" (Sept. 2003)

## **2. International Council on Alcohol and Addictions**

### **Special Consultative Status Granted 1972**

#### **1. The objectives of the organization**

The International Council on Alcohol and Addictions (hereafter ICAA) aims to reduce and prevent the harmful effects resulting from the use of illicit and licit drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, as well as gambling. It provides a forum for discussion and debate for outstanding scholars, practitioners and executives in the field of substance abuse. Through its annual international conferences, symposia, expert groups, and publications it is instrumental in providing up-to-date and high quality information on issues concerning substance abuse policies, prevention and treatment programmes, as well as research findings. ICAA serves as a network among national NGOs all over the world.

**2. Organizational Development:** The period under review was marked by an ongoing restructuring process, resulting in changes both within the organization's professional Secretariat and the volunteer Board of Directors, ICAA's governing body. A Strategic Planning Committee was set up in order to enhance ICAA's role as a leading international NGO in the field of substance abuse prevention, as well as to further strengthen the Council's relationship with international bodies, including the United Nations Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention (UNODC), the International Labor Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO).

### **3. Membership Development**

Between 2000 and 2003, ICAA's membership has continuously expanded, notably in countries of the Eastern European region, in Africa, Latin America and Asia. At the end of 2003 membership was composed of some 600 members (both associate and individual) in more than 85 countries

### **4. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other UN meetings**

Volunteer representatives in Vienna, Geneva and New York continued to participate at various meetings of the United Nations (UN) and were involved in organizing networking and other events of the international NGO community. ICAA participated regularly at the annual Sessions of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UNCND), where the representatives of the organisation made oral and written statements, reflecting ICAA's support of various resolutions, in particular in the field of reduction of demand for illicit drugs. ICAA also participated in Sessions of the UN Commission for Social Development (UNCSD) and the UN Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (UNCPCJ).

### **5. Co-operation with UN Programmes and bodies and specialized agencies**

- Regular consultations with UNODC continued, especially linked to follow-up activities related to the Special Session of the UN General Assembly devoted to the Fight against the Illicit Production, Sale, Demand, Traffic and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (New York, June 1998).

- ICAA was closely involved in the drafting process for the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC). ICAA formally joined the Framework Convention Alliance in 2001.

- ICAA participated in various meetings of WHO, including sessions of the World Health Assembly (WHA), and the WHO Ministerial Conference on Young People and Alcohol (Stockholm, February 2001).

- ICAA continued collaborating with relevant parts of ILO concerned with issues related to health at the workplace, and - as single organization working in the substance abuse field - participated at an ILO-sponsored Global Congress on Mental Health at the Workplace (Geneva, October 2001).

## 6. Other relevant activities

- **Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs:** The permanent representative of ICAA to the UN Offices in Vienna was again elected as Chairman of this Committee, a position ICAA has been holding since the early 1980s. The Committee continues to be an important networking platform for local national and international NGOs, and ICAA plays a leading role in information dissemination. It also co-organizes the annual Mini NGO Forum during the Session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and helps co-ordinate world-wide activities on the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking each year.

**Vienna NGO Committee on the Family:** Since 1998, ICAA also chairs this Committee, which is an important international networking body for family related issues and closely co-operates with the Programme on the Family within the Department of Economics and Social Affairs (DESA) and the UN Commission on Social Development.

- **ICAA-Membership Network:** ICAA continued to use its global network and made several recommendations to its members, urging them to implement, on regional and national levels, various resolutions of the UN and specialised agencies, particularly concerning the area of drug demand reduction. Through its quarterly ICAA-Newsletter and Internet page ([www.icaa.ch](http://www.icaa.ch)), regular reports were published on the numerous meetings of the UN and its specialised agencies.

- **UNODC-NGO Directory:** ICAA had regular consultations with the NGO Unit of UNODC, and assisted in assembling information for the UNODC Directory of NGOs.

- **UNODC presentations:** UNODC representatives presented the UN drug policy as well as aims and activities of UNODC at ICAA's international conferences in At-Manama (2000), Heidelberg (2001), Sao Paulo/Rio de Janeiro (2002) and Toronto (2003).

## 3. National Council of Women of Thailand

### Special Consultative Status Granted 2000

The National Council of Women of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen (NCWT) was founded on September 9, 1956, and has been under the ROYAL PATRONAGE OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN SIRIKIT since May 5, 1961.

In 1960, NCWT became an organizational member of the International Council of Women (ICW) In 1980, NCWT became a member of the ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organizations (ACWO)

**OBJECTIVE:** A peaceful and stable nation must have as its foundation kind, considerate, and sympathetic citizens. These qualities should be instilled in everyone since childhood by their parents, who are the most significant people in setting examples on how to behave righteously as well as instilling and cultivating good morals in the mind of their children.

This is an extremely important task which I would like to entrust the National Council of Women of Thailand to share with all the Thai women. The key message to communicate is that everyone should bring up Thai children to be a good person with kindness toward their fellow man. If all the citizens are firmly established with good morals, it will bring forth peace, security, and ultimately a permanently stable nation.

**MISSION:** 1. To raise the status of all groups of women including children, adolescent, adult, elderly, as well as disadvantaged women; 2. To draft the National Women Council Act; 3. To find out the possible directions and means in raising the status and quality of lives of Thai women by removing or solving problems and obstacles against the development of women and women's organizations; 4. To cooperate and coordinate with a national and international agencies both governmental and non-governmental, in carry out activities that are beneficial to women and society in general; and 5. To study, collect information, research, and exchange ideas among women organizations both domestically and internationally, for the purpose of creating the stability, security, good understanding and well-being for all people, especially women.

**NCWT'S AREAS OF WORK INCLUDE:**

1. **Improvement of Women's Status:** NCWT strives to make women's participation more accepted in society, by fighting against all typed of discrimination. NCWT encourages the improvement of women's status, and women's involvement in any social and business arenas, including in politics, both locally and nationally.
2. **Development of Family Institution:** NCWT promotes the development of the family institution within Thai society. It is necessary to promote the development of the family institution within Thai society. We strongly believe that the family is the foundation of society and directly relates to the development of women.
3. **Promotion of Young Women's Education, Morals and Ethics:** Young women need support and care during theirs childhood, to ensure that they grow up to be good citizens. A good education is the key to success; however, this must be combined with the teaching of Morals and ethics for young girl to become a productive member of society.
4. **Work in Accordance with the Government's Policy:** NCWT will work in accordance with the Government's long-term plan for the development of women, including assessing the role of new technology in the coming years. The NCWT will work to use the new information technology to promote and improve women's status, capacities, and the quality of lives.
5. **Cooperation with International Organization:** The NCWT will closely cooperate, particularly as an organizational member, with several international organizations, for instance, the ASEAN Confederation of Women's Organizations (ACWO), International Council of Women (ICW) and Consumers International (CI); the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) and will cooperate, as an NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

of the United Nations. This will present a wide distribution of good image and proper roles of Thai women to foreigners.

6. **Center of Organizational Members:** The NCWT is mainly emphasized to become a focal point of organizational members throughout the country, dealing with activities pertaining to the development of women in any areas in order for women to be able to achieve their own independence and self-reliance. To achieve this, NCWT should closely cooperate and coordinate with other organizational members nationwide in any areas, especially in providing financial assistance, so that women can utilize their own local resource and potential in order to increase their earnings and to present.

#### **ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE UN AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES FOR THE PERIOD 2000-2003:**

- Asia-Pacific Summit of Women Mayors and Counselors Meeting during 19-22 June 2002 at Pichanuloke province.
- Conference “Convention to Elimination all forms of Discrimination Against Women – CEDAW” on 15 November, 2000.
- 27<sup>th</sup> UNICEF Meeting on “World Youth” during 19-21 September, 2001 at United Nation Building Plaza, New York, United States of America.
- 21<sup>st</sup> World Food Day on 16 October, 2001 at UN-FAO Asia Pacific branch, BKK.
- Comprehensive report on “Comprehensive implementation, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance” to The High Commissioner for Human Rights / United Nation for 57<sup>th</sup> –58<sup>th</sup> Human Rights General Assembly arrangement.
- Attended the “55<sup>th</sup> Promotion and Protection of Human Rights Meeting” during 28 July-15 August 2003 in Conference Room XVIII of the Palais des Nations, United Nations.
- “Conference on Sharing experiences of passage of Domestic Violence Bill with Cambodian Women Parliamentarians” on 13 February, 2003 at the Parliament Building.
- “Opening session of UNESCAP Committee on Emerging Social Issues” on 4 September 2003.
- “Women, Men and HIV/AIDs: Responding to the Challenge” on 3 September, 2003 at United Nation Conference Center.
- “23<sup>rd</sup> World Food Day” on 16 October, 2003 at Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, BKK.
- “Thematic Working Group on Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality” on 10 November 2003 at United Nation Building, BKK.

**Additional Activities for the period 2000-2003:**

- Danang Women's Association, Vietnam during 26-29 May 2000.
- China-Tibet Women's Federation, China during 22-31 July 2000.
- Korean Democratic Women's Union, Korea during 24-29 September, 2000.
- Korean Democratic Women's Union, Korea during 17-21 June 2000.
- All-China Women's Federation, China during 23-32 October, 2002.
- Vietnam Women's Union during 16-20 February 2003.

**Meeting & Seminars**

- ASEAN Regional Workshop to Recommended Set of Strategies to Address the Lack of Access by Women to opportunities for Employment and Skill Enhancement, during 15-17 August 2003, at Bander Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.
- Consumer International World Congress during 13-17 November 2000 at Durban, South Africa.
- Membership: Empowerment of Young Women during 23-26 June 2004 at Malaysia.
- 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Asean sub-committee on Women during 25-25 October, Lao PDR.
- 10<sup>th</sup> ACWO General Assembly during 5-8 July, 2002 at Singapore.
- Saga Prefectural Coverment : Asian Women's Forum, Learn about Asian Picture Books during 11-13 October, 2003 at Saga, Japan.

**4. Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development**

**Special Consultative Status Granted 1996.**

Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO)'s goal is to promote world peace by alleviating poverty and providing for the establishment of basic human needs (as stated in Article 1, UN Charter), as well as by promoting the protection and improvement of the environment (as stated in Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment). Towards that end, NICCO is constantly devoting its energy to achieving environmental conservation and rural development in impoverished and desolate areas of the world, as stated in Article 4, Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. In order to achieve the financial and mental self-reliance of those living in poverty-stricken regions, while improving the environmental conditions that they live in, NICCO is engaged in the following activities: Environmental conserving, sustainable rural development, Vocational trainings, Education and healthcare programs, and Emergency humanitarian aid upon disaster strikes.

### **Participation in UN Conferences and Meetings in the period 2000-2003:**

- UN Millennium Kyoto Conference (Kyoto, Japan, 4 August 2000): Attended by Satoyo Ono (President) to discuss trends of international society and the United Nations.
- Information Session for Non-governmental Organizations (United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland; 27-28 November 2000; organized by United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS)): Attended by Satoyo Ono (President) to discuss about cooperation between the UN and NGOs.
- NGO Conference in Tokyo on the Reconstruction of Afghanistan (Tokyo; 11-13 December 2001; hosted by Japanese NGOs): Attended by Satoyo Ono (President), Osamu Ono (Vice President) and Tsukasa Kobayashi (surgeon) to discuss about assistance in the fields of education, healthcare, and landmine issues based on their earlier visit to Afghanistan.
- International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan (Tokyo; 21-22 January 2002; hosted by Japanese government): Attended by Satoyo Ono (President) and Osamu Ono (Vice President) to have dialogue with cabinet members of Afghan interim government. NICCO's targeted projects in Herat province were discussed with Education Minister and Health and Welfare Minister.
- Inter-agency meeting (Mashhad city, Iran; October 2002-present; weekly; hosted by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)): to share information on repatriation of Afghan refugees. Attended by Project Manager stationed in Iran.
- UN-NGO general meeting (Bam city, Iran; December 2003-April 2004; weekly) and water and sanitation meeting (same place and period as UN-NGO general meeting; 2-3 times per week) : Hosted by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to discuss e earthquake emergency aid. Attended by Project Manager stationed in Iran.
- Security meeting (Herat province, Afghanistan; February 2002-present; weekly): Information exchange with United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). Attended by Project Manager.

Since its establishment, NICCO has made major contributions to 'international cooperation' in the 'economic, cultural, educational, and health fields', as stated in Article 13. NICCO has also acted to implement 'conditions of stability' necessary for 'peaceful and friendly relations' as stated in Article 55. This has been achieved through the promotion of 'higher standards of living, full employment, social progress and development', as well as through working for 'solutions of economic, social, health and related problems', and implementing 'international, cultural and educational cooperation.' (a. and b. of Article 55).

In recent years, NICCO has acted on clear priorities on 'the need to safeguard and improve the environment' of developing countries. (Article 4, Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment). NICCO will continue to dedicate itself on 'eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development' based on the principle that 'the least developed and those most environmentally vulnerable shall be given special priority'. (Principle 5 and 6, Rio Declaration on Environment and Development). During the report period NICCO has implemented projects in the fields of: Environmental Conservation, Rural and Community Development, Vocational Training, Healthcare, Education, Emergency Aid and Consultative Work, as listed below.

### **Activities for Period 2000-2003**

**2000: Environmental Conservation Projects:** (Vietnam) managing 0.5 hectares of Permaculture pilot farm; planting 87,500 trees. (Jordan) preparation of Permaculture pilot farm (4.8 hectares); establishing farming materials bank.

**Technical Dispatch and Vocational Training:** (Vietnam) dressmaking, knitting, and mechanical repair training for ethnic minority groups in mountainous area. (Nepal) handmade papermaking training for impoverished people. (Yemen) dressmaking training for impoverished women.

**Educational Programs:** (Vietnam) managing NICCO Japanese language school; providing scholarships and building additional elementary school rooms. (Laos) building additional elementary school rooms.

**Rural Development:** (Laos) establishing and managing weaving materials bank and cattle bank; supplying electric equipment.

**Consultative Work:** (Vietnam) conducting marketing research on clean energy; poverty-eradication program in northern mountainous areas under the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) established by the Japanese government and the World Bank.

**2001: Environmental Conservation Projects:** (Vietnam) managing Permaculture pilot farm. (Jordan) prevention of desertification; soil improvement and crop cultivation at the pilot farm; managing farming materials bank and cattle bank.

**Technical Dispatch and Vocational Training:** (Vietnam) dressmaking and knitting trainings to ethnic minority groups. (Yemen) dressmaking trainings to impoverished women.

**Educational Programs:** (Vietnam) managing Japanese language school; providing scholarship to elementary school.

**Healthcare Programs:** (Vietnam) providing medical checkups; surveying hygienic and nutritious conditions.

**Rural Development:** (Laos) total village development; managing and monitoring weaving materials bank and cattle bank.

**Refugee Relief Programs:** (Iran / Afghanistan border): surveying refugees' needs. (Afghanistan) emergency medical aid; emergency educational assistance in Herat province.

**2002: Environmental Conservation Projects:** (Vietnam) managing Permaculture pilot farm; constructing 86 composting toilets. (Jordan) implementing integrated agricultural and animal husbandry development projects for sustainable environmental protection. (Afghanistan) promoting kitchen gardens and planting; cultivating 25 kinds, over 50,000 vegetable seedlings and over 10,000 seedlings of fruit and non-fruit trees.

**Technical Dispatch and Vocational Training:** (Yemen) dressmaking training for impoverished women. (Iran) founding local office and preparing for start of IT training. Educational Programs: (Vietnam) providing scholarships to elementary school; managing NICCO Japanese language school. (Afghanistan) providing school furniture and equipment to local schools.

**Healthcare Programs:** (Vietnam) dispatching medical team and conducting surveys on hygiene. (Afghanistan) conducting healthcare environment improvement projects with main focus on tuberculosis treatment in cooperation with World Health Organization (Herat province).

**Refugee Relief Programs:** (Iran) vocational trainings for refugees; weekly information exchange meetings with UNHCR (Mashhad city).

**Consultative Work:** (Vietnam) poverty reduction program in northern mountainous areas. (Iran and Afghanistan) conducting surveys on printing industries.

**2003: Environmental Conservation Projects:** (Vietnam) maintaining, managing and expanding (from 0.5 hectares to 0.75 hectares) Permaculture farm; constructing 95 composting toilets in the village of ethnic minority groups in the mountainous area. (Jordan) managing environmental conserving agriculture and forestry programs; managing farming materials bank. (Afghanistan) providing training to promote vegetable cultivation at kitchen gardens among impoverished families; repairing water channels for irrigation measures.

**Technical Dispatch and Vocational Training:** (Iran) opening of IT vocational school; conducting computer trainings for Afghan refugees and impoverished Iranians.

**Education:** (Vietnam) providing scholarships to elementary schools. (Afghanistan) providing winter clothing to students; building kitchen and shower facilities at agricultural high school (Herat province).

**Healthcare Projects:** (Vietnam) dispatching medical team. (Afghanistan) conducting tuberculosis treatment; building health centers; providing medicine and ambulance.

**Consultative Work:** (Laos) monitoring existing projects. Emergency Humanitarian Aid: (Iran) installing toilets and showers in Zone 10 of Bam city under the coordination by UNICEF after the earthquake.

## **5. World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations**

### **Special Consultative Status Granted 1993**

The World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUWO), founded in 1948, is an international federation of 24 nonprofit organizations from 15 countries located on four continents. The WFUWO headquarters and its member organizations support cultural, educational, humanitarian and social programs, especially those pertaining to the advancement of the status of women, to advocacy on behalf of children's rights and to the promotion of family-friendly government policies. The Organization upholds the principles of political and religious tolerance and universal human rights.

During the reporting period, NGO representatives of the Organization followed the Special Session of the General Assembly June 5-9, 2000, during which Governments reaffirmed their commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995. Our Organization was represented in Beijing and participated in a number of NGO side events. One of the issues of special interest to our Organization is that of the needs of older women and widows, who are often invisible or marginalized groups. The Organization also participated in the Special Session On Children at the United Nations, May 8-10, 2002 and fully supported the goals proposed in the final outcome document, "A World Fit For Children" which articulates a plan of action dedicated to the future empowerment and well-being of youth.

During the reporting period, several of our Organization's representatives, including the Organization's President, participated in the 46<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> annual meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York and the Organization's Main Representative worked on the NGO Planning Committee for the March 2003 Session of the CSW. In 2002, upon our Organization's invitation, the President of the Ukrainian Women's League of Lviv (Ukraine) attended the 46<sup>th</sup> CSW and found the themes of the Commission of great relevance to the work of women's organizations in Ukraine. Upon her return to Lviv, she saw to the sharing of information and knowledge gained by her with women's groups in Ukraine. In 2003, a journalist who is the President of the Ukraine-wide Olena Teliha Society and also serves as a Vice President of the National Council of Women of Ukraine, was invited by the Division for the Advancement of Women (upon the recommendation of our Organization) to attend the 47<sup>th</sup> Session of the CSW. She widely publicized the ideas and outcomes of the Commission in the Ukrainian press. The Organization also participated in the planning of the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual DPI/NGO Conference and attended all the annual DPI/NGO Conferences during the review period. During the 56<sup>th</sup> Conference, the Organization sponsored, together with National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the National Council of Women, Inc., USA, and World Information Transfer, a very successful workshop entitled "HIV/AIDS on Two Continents: Restoring Human Dignity and Security in Africa and Eastern Europe."

During the reporting period, representatives of the Organization participated in the work of many NGO Committees, involving themselves in the planning and sponsorship of workshops and statements during Commission Sessions and Conferences: the NGO Committee on the Family New York, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Subcommittee on Older Women (SCOW) of the Committee on the Status of Women, NGO Committee on Ageing, NGO Committee on Health and Communications, NGO Committee on Children's Rights, NGO Committee on UNICEF, Conference of NGOs, CONGO, NGO Committee on UNIFEM.

The President of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations attended the Second World Assembly on Ageing in Madrid, April 2002. Our Organization's representatives also regularly attended the International Conferences on "Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions" sponsored by the World Information Transfer and Governments, since these focus on the environmental and health consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. For over a decade now our member organizations have helped victims of the Chernobyl disaster and continue to provide medical help to Ukraine. During the reporting period, our NGO representatives have also closely followed CEDAW proceedings, the Ukrainian (and other) state government reports and NGO shadow reports. Our Organization has long expressed concern over the trafficking of women. (See our 1998 statement presented during the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the CSW entitled "Trafficking in and Enslavement of Women" (E/CN.6/1998/NGO/1)). The Organization continues to address the problem:

During the reporting period, our Organization, in cooperation with other NGOs, prepared and submitted several statements, e.g.: NGO Committee on the Family / NY: statement to the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> Commissions for Social Development (2002 and, 2003); Individual statement to the Commission on the Status of Women, 3-14<sup>th</sup> of March 2003, regarding violence against women (E/CN.6/2003/NGO/8).

Our Organization's participation in the UN conferences and in the weekly DPI briefings on a variety of topics concerning women, children, health, peace, ageing, Millennium Development Goals, and human rights has helped our Organization communicate the goals and ideals of the United Nations to its member organizations. To this end, our members publish articles in our Organization's "Ukrainian Woman in the World," and in the Ukrainian periodical press (such as the English language "Ukrainian Weekly" and the Ukrainian language weekly, "Svoboda" as well as on the website "BRAMA Gateway".