

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General  
9 November 2007

Original: English

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**Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations**

**2008 regular session**

21-30 January 2008

**Quadrennial reports for the period 2003-2006 submitted by  
non-governmental organizations in consultative status with  
the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-  
General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31\***

**Note by the Secretary-General**

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



## **1. Centre for Democracy and Development**

**(Special; 2003)**

### **Introduction**

The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) is a flagship institution and a resource of first instance on public policy and scholarship within the West African sub region. Since its inception, CDD has been at the cutting edge in terms of harnessing the capacity of the academy through research and dialogue on the critical issues of governance, poverty, constitutionalism, security sector transformation in countries in transition and other core concerns that have since been articulated within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The organization has over the years, developed a strong policy platform for governments and the civil society which has equally combined a robust advocacy organ to link the component of academy with that of activism in driving social processes and change. In February 2006, CDD's founding Director Dr. Kayode Fayemi concluded his statutory tenure and was replaced by renowned West African bilingual scholar and activist, Dr. Jibrin Ibrahim, formerly Nigerian Country Director of the United States organization, Global Rights Partners for Justice. Dr Fayemi now sits on the organization's trustees board. Following this transition, the centre has been repositioned for a deepened engagement in West Africa even though the organization's aims and purposes remain the same. As such our work has enlarged to address the emerging challenges to the democratization agenda with our West African programmes outreach expanding to cover political parties and electoral processes, a regional tracking of the Millennium Development Goals through research and advocacy on gender responsive budgeting and a continued commitment to rebuilding democratic institutions and processes in post-conflict West Africa.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

- i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings**
  - a. "The Commission on the Status of Women" 28 February-11 March 2005, New York, United Nations Headquarters. A representative of CDD attended and lobbied for full implementation of the principles of the Beijing Platform for Action by the member states of the United Nations ten years after they were adopted.
  - b. "The United Nations/Civil Society dialogue on the Responsibility to Protect", 23 June 2005. CDD's representative participated in the review of the report of the former United Nations Secretary-General titled 'in larger freedoms' we participated in producing an advocacy document urging the adoption of Responsibility to protect principles as part of a continuum of action and a core policy and practice issue within the United Nations.

**ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or headquarters**

- a. Project Collaboration with the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to generate data and carry out advocacy on gender responsive budgeting.
  - Workshops/Trainings for civil society: Abuja, Nigeria, 12-19 September 2004; Cross Rivers state, Nigeria, 30 July-1 August 2006; Lagos, Nigeria, 12-15 March 2007.
  - Gender analysis of the national poverty reduction strategy paper and publication of findings: Nigeria, August 2005
  - Training for Parliamentarians from the 36 Nigerian states: 22-25 August 2005
  - Training for Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) parliamentarians: Abuja, Nigeria 12-14 September 2005.
  - Review of the draft copies of the poverty reduction strategies of the 36 states in Nigeria: 1 September-25 October 2005.
  - Technical input workshop for drafting teams responsible for drafting poverty reduction strategies: Nigeria, 9-11 November 2005.
- b. Establishment of website on gender budgeting ([www.nigeriagenderbudget.org](http://www.nigeriagenderbudget.org)): November 2006.
- c. Provision of advisory support through the development of a concept note to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the development of the UNDP (Niger Delta) Human Development Report in 2005, Nigeria.
- d. Project with UNDP to facilitate electoral mandate protection in Nigeria: Six Nigerian states in South East Nigeria, 11 August-30 September 2004.

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

- a. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The organization is involved in contributing to the attainment of the MDGs in the West African sub region. Major actions have been undertaken in the following areas:

**• Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**

- Target 2 (reducing poverty ratio gap). ACTIONS:
  - Conduct of poverty diagnostics in order to tease out and compile voices of the poor; development of an alternative national poverty reduction strategy which provided input into Nigerian national poverty reduction framework: 2 June-15 December 2003. Supported by the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID).

- **Goal 2. Achieve Universal Primary Education**

- Target 3 (net enrolment ratio in primary school). ACTIONS:
  - Tracking Nigerian federal and state education sector budgets for compliance with MDG framework: 1999-2003.
  - Policy Dialogue at national parliament for increase on Federal Education sector budget: 14 September 2003. Supported by the Heinrich Boell Foundation (There was 10% increase in the Nigerian federal education sector budget in 2004 for the Universal Primary Education Programme as direct result).
  - Training of 65 community based groups to track education sector budgets at local; levels for compliance with MDG's: Abuja, Nigeria, 19-23 January 2004; 15-19 March 2005.

- **Goal 3: Achieve Gender equality and the empowerment of Women**

- Target 4 (proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments; ratio of women in wage employment). ACTIONS:
  - Expanding space for women's political participation in West Africa through training and advocacy at level of ECOWAS parliament and documentation of women's experiences in the political space. March-October 2003 (supported by the Open Society Institute)
  - Citizenship and leadership training for 400 women in conflict situations in West Africa: January 2002-April 2005 (supported by Oxfam Novib)
  - Research and advocacy on gender responsive budgeting in West Africa. March 2007 to date. Covering Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger (supported by Oxfam Novib)

- **Goal 5. Improve maternal health**

- Target 6 (reduction of maternal mortality ratio). ACTIONS:
  - Tracking planning and spending trends in national/local level health sector budgets for compliance with MDG frameworks: January 2005 (Support from Oxfam Novib)

- **Goal 7. Ensure Environmental Stability**

- Target 9 (integrate principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes). ACTIONS:
  - The production of a policy brief on how to adopt an integrated approach to development in the Niger Delta: January 2004-September 2004 (Supported by OXFAM GB)
  - Citizenship and environmental sustainability advocacy training for 250 youth leaders for community level advocacy: Niger Delta region, Nigeria, January 2002-April 2005 (supported by Oxfam Novib)

**iv. Activities in support of Global Principles**

- Policy dialogues to commemorate International Women's Day: Abuja, Nigeria, 10 March 2006.

- Global stand against poverty day: Abuja, Nigeria, 17 October 2006.

**v. General participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council**

We are interested in participating in more of the Council's activities. Part of the reason for the slight limitation in participation is the fact that information about international meetings and conferences is sparse does not always reach us on time. We have therefore provided updated contact email information to facilitate better communication.

## **2. Global Fund for Women**

**(Special; 1995)**

### **Part I**

*i. Introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization*

The aim and purpose of the Organization is to provide funds to seed, strengthen and link groups that are committed to women's well being and that work for their full participation in society; to encourage increased support for women's programs globally; and to provide leadership in promoting a greater understanding of the importance of supporting women's full participation internationally. The Global Fund for Women (GFW) envisions a just and democratic world, where women and men can participate equally in all aspects of social, political, and economic life. The organization is part of a global women's movement that is rooted in a commitment to justice and an appreciation of the value of women's experience.

The challenges that women face vary widely across communities, cultures, religious traditions and countries. It is the Global Fund for Women's belief that women themselves know best how to determine their needs and propose solutions for lasting change.

*1) Increase in geographical membership*

Geographical Distribution of the Organization's Advisory Council for Programs has not changed since the last Report.

Since the Organization's last report in 2002, 1,736 grants totaling \$20.8 million, have been given to 1,391 women's groups in 138 countries and territories. In fiscal year 2005-06, 649 grants totaling \$7.8 million have gone to 618 women's groups in 120 countries.

*Sources of funding/Expenditures*

The Global Fund for Women's net assets at the end of fiscal year 2005-06 were \$20 million as compared to \$12.3 million at the end of the last reporting period, fiscal year ending in 2002. This increase was contributed to by increases in individual contributions and the completion of the endowment campaign.

## Part II

*i. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings*

- 1) In response to request, the Global Fund sent two statements made by our Board of Directors to be distributed at 59th Session of the Commission on Human Rights, 17 March-25 April 2003.
- 2) Organization President, Kavita N. Ramdas, was an expert respondent at the 57th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI/NGO) Conference, Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action, at United Nations Headquarters, New York, 8-10 September 2004.
- 3) The Global Fund for Women has supported many organizations, enabling them to participate in the regional PrepCom meetings for Beijing +10, in Asia and Africa and Latin America.

The Global Fund for Women Organization President and other staff attended Beijing +10 meetings at the 49th Session of United Nations Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations headquarters in New York City 28 February to 11 March 2005.

GFW funded NGOs to enable them to participate in United Nations Conferences as listed below:

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 48th session, 1-12 March 2004 in New York City: Women in Law and Development, Togo; Asia Pacific NGO Forum for Beijing Plus 10 in Bangkok in July 2004; Asia Pacific Women's Watch, Philippines; Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, Malaysia; Network of Asia Pacific Youth (NAPY), India; Mongolian Women's Fund, Mongolia.

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in New York in 10-21 May 2004: Women's League of Burma (Thailand); 7th Regional Conference on Women, scheduled for 6-14 October 2004 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Women in Law and Development in Africa, Zimbabwe; Women in Law and Development, Togo.

Beijing+10, Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome Document of the Twenty-third Special Session of the General Assembly in United Nations Headquarters in 28 September-11 March 2005: Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women, Malaysia; Karat Coalition, Poland; Red de Educacion Popular Entre Mujeres, Uruguay; Women in Law and Development, Togo; Reseau des Femmes Africaines Economistes, Mali; La Rona: Young African Advocates for Rights, Zambia; Coalition of Eastern Non-Governmental Organizations, Nigeria; Women's League of Burma (Thailand); Model Mission of Assistance in Africa, Nigeria; Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Poland; Feminist League, Kazakhstan; African Center for Empowerment Gender and Advocacy, Kenya; Lolas Kampanyera Para Sa Kapayapaan at Kumpensasyon, Philippines; Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Bangladesh; Isis Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange, Uganda; Network of Asia Pacific Youth (NAPY), India; Jovens Feministas de Sao Paulo, Brazil; Kaunas

Women's Employment and Information Centre, Lithuania; Slovak-Czech Women's Fund, Czech Republic; Croatian Women's Network, Croatia; African Center for Development of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Ethiopia; Women in Law and Development in Africa, Zimbabwe; CODEPINK: Women for Peace, United States of America; Women's Environment and Development Organization, United States of America.

ii. *Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies.*

1) The Global Fund for Women provides funding to thousands of women's organizations in the Global South. These grants provide grantees with the means to work on many issues that relate to United Nations activities/interests, including elimination and treatment of HIV/AIDS, access to clean water, education for girls, violence against women, trafficking, disaster relief, etc.

iii. *Other relevant activities:*

*Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions*

The Global Fund for Women's overarching interest is in female human rights; since the creation of the Organization, we have supported numerous groups whose purposes have been to publicize and work toward the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). GFW has also supported groups working toward the full implementation of the Cairo Declaration made at the International conference on Population and Development, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In addition, the Organization has sponsored participation by women at various international meetings.

### **3. Handicap International**

**(Special; 1999)**

#### **I. Introduction**

(i) Handicap International intervenes in all settings on behalf of people with disabilities to enable them to access services and to promote the exercise of their rights of self-determination. Within its areas of activity, it works to reduce the risks of disability and to prevent people from becoming disabled. As an international solidarity association, it is non-governmental, non-denominational, without political affiliation and not for profit. The network of national associations work tirelessly to mobilize resources, co-manage projects and draw attention to the principles and activities of the Handicap International movement.

(ii) *Significant changes since 2003:*

- On 1 July 2006, Handicap International merged with another emergency relief NGO, Atlas Logistique, following a long-standing collaboration. Handicap International now has an Emergency Response Department to provide a multidisciplinary humanitarian response for refugees, displaced persons or disaster victims, and offers specialized care for trauma victims and people with disabilities;

- Two new sections of Handicap International have been established in Canada (2003) and in the United States of America (2006) alongside the pre-existing sections in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. As of December 2006, Handicap International was present in 60 countries.

## **II. Contribution of Handicap International to the work of the United Nations**

### **i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its agencies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings**

#### **• *Participation in the process of elaborating the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities***

- Handicap International has been actively involved in the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, also called the Ad Hoc Committee: (New York: 29 July to 9 August 2002; 16 to 27 June 2003; 5 to 16 January 2004; 24 May to 4 June 2004; 23 August to 3 September 2004; 24 January to 4 February 2005; 1 to 12 August 2005; 1 January to 3 February 2006; 14 to 25 August 2005; and 5 December 2006);
- Handicap International has led the working group on articles 32 and 11 of the Convention and has been actively involved in discussions on article 28: a group representing civil society was established within the framework of the eight sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee held in New York, between 2002 and 2006 (see dates given above). This group is the International Disability Caucus (IDC). Sub-groups have been established within this group to focus on each article of the Convention. Handicap International has been heavily involved in the work on articles 32, 11 and 28. These working groups have mainly worked through e-mail exchanges in the intervals between sessions of the Ad Hoc Committee, and IDC met during periods of Ad Hoc Committee sessions in order to establish a unified position for civil society on each of the aforementioned articles;
- Handicap International has participated in or organized regional conferences to promote the Convention in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA): (27 to 29 October 2004 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, for the West Africa region; 15 to 17 June 2005 in Casablanca, Morocco, for the Maghreb region; and 21 to 23 March 2006 in Belgrade, Serbia, for the Eastern Europe region). Handicap International has been heavily involved through its programmes and the impact on countries has been all the greater for this.

#### **• *Participation in the process of implementing the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention on Landmines)***

- A founder member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), Handicap International has contributed actively to events



organized under the Ottawa process. For example, Handicap International has participated in annual meetings of the States party to the Ottawa Convention on Landmines and in all the intersessional meetings of experts and regional meetings, both as a specialized NGO and as a member of the official ICBL delegation: (2003: 15 to 19 September in Bangkok, Thailand; 2004: 28 to 29 January in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; 9 to 13 February in Geneva, Switzerland; 3 to 4 March in Nairobi, Kenya; 8 to 12 March in Geneva; 15 to 16 April in Dushanbe, Tajikistan; 21 June in Geneva; 29 November to 3 December in Nairobi; 2005: 13 to 17 June in Geneva; 19 to 22 September in Geneva; 28 November to 2 December in Zagreb, Croatia; 2006: 8 to 12 May in Geneva; and 18 to 22 September in Geneva);

- From 2004 to 2006, as part of its campaign against cluster bombs, Handicap International took part in the Third Review Conference of the 1980 Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW); it has participated in and spoken at meetings of States party to the CCW as well as expert group meetings: (Geneva: 8 to 12 March 2004; 5 to 16 July 2004; 8 to 17 November 2004; 29 November to 3 December 2004; 7 to 11 March 2005; 2 to 12 August 2005; 14 to 25 November 2005; 6 to 10 March 2006; 19 to 23 June 2006; 28 August to 8 September 2006; and 7 to 17 November 2006); and has organized events to raise awareness about cluster bombs.

## **ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or headquarters**

Handicap International is conducting 240 development, humanitarian aid and anti-mine projects in the field. As part of their activities, Handicap International field teams are regularly engaged in coordination or cooperation work with United Nations agencies, including those within the purview of the Economic and Social Council (such as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Labour Organization (ILO)), according to the countries and the nature of the programmes being conducted. During the course of 2005 and 2006, consultations and collaboration were initiated in specific areas with other agencies: the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). In 2005, Handicap International initiated a significant scaling up of its methodological, organizational and operational contributions to the United Nations agencies dealing with humanitarian aid and coordinating efforts related to United Nations reform (OCHA (management cluster)); UNHCR (protection cluster); and the World Food Programme (logistics cluster). International Handicap inputs include theoretical modelling of emergency assistance to disabled and vulnerable people and involvement in organizing operational capacities in crisis situations. Handicap International participates in the formal and informal technical working groups established by these bodies.

In association with WHO, Handicap International, via the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), was involved in the preparations for the International Consultation to Review Community-Based Rehabilitation, held

in Helsinki, Finland in 2003, and in the elaboration of the 2004 joint position paper on community-based rehabilitation. Furthermore, Handicap International, alongside WHO, is a member of the Global Alliance for the Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis. Handicap International representatives have also participated in the following conferences: (the 58th Annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference, held from 7 to 9 September 2005 in New York; a WHO workshop for NGOs, held on 23 February 2006 in Geneva; the 59th Annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference, held from 6 to 8 September 2006 in New York; and the UNHCR annual consultation with NGOs, held from 26 to 28 September 2006 in Geneva.

**iii. Initiatives undertaken by Handicap International to implement the Millennium Development Goals**

Handicap International contributes to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals through its actions on the ground aimed at integrating the disability dimension into the Millennium Development Goals:

*Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger:* Handicap International has set up projects for the economic inclusion of disabled people. These projects are helping to reduce extreme poverty;

*Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education:* Handicap International develops inclusive education projects for disabled children;

*Goals 4, 5 and 6: Reduce child mortality, improve maternal health and combat diseases:* Handicap International works to provide disabled people with access to health care, thereby contributing to the implementation of these Goals.

At the advocacy level: Handicap International is active in the French branch of the Global Call Against Poverty (GCAP), an advocacy body for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Handicap International was also present at the non-governmental organization side event of the United Nations General Assembly, held from 7 to 9 September 2005, and participated in the preparation of a report entitled “2005: plus d’excuses” (“2005: no more excuses”). The report contains recommendations from French civil society organizations for the achievement of the Goals.

## **4. International Association of Charities**

**(Special; 2003)**

### **I. The International Association of Charities-Association Internationale Des Charités (Aic) — Vision and New Orientation**

1) AIC is the first laywomen’s organization in the world, founded in 1617 by Vincent de Paul for the purpose of fighting poverty and its causes and giving women an acknowledged role in the church and society. While the aims of the organization remain the same, its methods have been adapted to the needs of today, and to different regions and cultures. The AIC is the umbrella organization of 250,000 women, volunteers organized in national associations and groups in formation in 52 countries, 11 of them in industrialized and 42 in developing countries. Its members

are working in their own communities and are committed to the fight against all forms of poverty, as well as the promotion of sustainable development.

2) New associations accepted in 2005: AIC-Viet Nam, Mozambique, Cuba, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Ghana. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Belarus and Chad new groups are collaborating with AIC. They promote actions of solidarity within AIC: At the end of 2006 more than 20 partnerships between member associations existed.

3) Intervening for Gender Equality: In 2005 AIC delegates decided to focus its work on the fight against female poverty, reinforce their fight against violence against women, study the interdependency of female poverty, cultural heritage and customs and strengthen political action on all levels by fostering the application of existing laws, lobbying for legislation in order to create or change existing laws in favour of vulnerable groups (Peru, Spain, Belgium, Madagascar, United Kingdom), and by reinforcing existing activities in support of global principles.

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

AIC's contribution to the work of the United Nations and its bodies and agencies is based on authentic grass-root experiences of its volunteers from 52 countries.

### **1) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council**

#### **A) In New York AIC collaborates in the following Committees:**

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Committee on Social Development.

**Subcommittee on the Eradication of Poverty:** AIC has participated in the World Poverty Day activities at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

#### **B) AIC participated in the following conferences**

*8-10 September 2004, New York, 57th Annual Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGO Conference:* Interactive workshop on "Children and the Millennium Development Goals: Eradicating Extreme Poverty and Hunger" presented by AIC Madagascar.

*7-9 September 2005, New York, 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference:* Interactive Workshop on: "Voices for Peace: Violence against Women — a Violation of Human Rights and Dignity" Violence and poverty at the example of the slums of La Lata presented by AIC Dominican Republic.

*27 February-10 March 2006, New York, 50th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women:* "Enhanced participation of women in development and equal part of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels". Participation and collaboration in NGO-statements.

#### **C) Participation in the work of the Human Rights Council, Geneva:**

*14-16 September 2006, Geneva:* Participation in the preparatory seminar for the 2nd session of the Human Rights Council and in training seminars provided by the Catholic NGO Center in Geneva.

**D) Participation in Internet Conferences and contributions via Internet:**

*15 April 2005:* Written contribution to the Report of the Secretary General “In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all” presented in September 2005

*6-7 September 2005 New York:* Galvanizing action to combat violence against Women. Consultative workshop concerning the Secretary General’s in depth study on all forms of violence against women. Participation in the workshop and written contribution to the follow-up online-discussion.

*18 July 2006, Geneva:* Civil Society Forum organized by United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS).

*14 August to 8 September 2006* Online discussion on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child, organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. AIC contribution sent on 17 August 2006.

*12 September 2006:* Collaboration in the folder Migration — the Human Face and Global Policy on presented to the participants in the United Nations Summit on Migration

**2) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field**

**A) *AIC ongoing cooperation with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) operational status:*** Participation in Commissions on Eradication of poverty, Education to sustainable development in an urban environment, Human rights, Dialogue between cultures towards peace and in the working group “Education for all”.

Participation in the sessions of the UNESCO General Conference, consultation with the Chief Executive Officer regarding the preparation of the UNESCO midterm strategy and contribution of information in support of the goals of UNESCO such as the toolkit “Violence against Women”.

*14-16 December 2005:* International Conference of NGO organized by the Committee of Liaison of the UNESCO on “Elimination of Poverty: Education and Micro-Finance for Sustainable Development”: Presentation of an AIC project from the Philippines.

*28 December 2006 Patronage and financial support of the UNESCO* by the UNESCO Program, 2006-2007 for AIC International Assembly on “Women and Poverty-Diversity of Cultures”

**B) *Cooperation with United Nations bodies in the field:*** AIC national associations collaborate with United Nations bodies on local level. To facilitate this AIC provides training, information and access to modern means of communication to its membership in developing countries.

**C) *Obstacles to more intense participation in international activities:*** Scarce funds, few representative staff (all volunteers) and difficulty to obtain visa make attendance at international meetings difficult.

### III. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

In 2002 AIC started an information campaign on the MDG, to sensitize its members on the importance of the MDG. Till the end of 2006 this has lead to:

- AIC national association's participation in Country level monitoring
- Participation in government programs in order to achieve the MDG (AIC Madagascar participation in governmental nutrition programs, Puerto Rico participation in governmental education programs to prevent violence against women);
- Creation and follow up of innovative projects corresponding to the MDG in all countries and regions where AIC is represented:

In detail AIC member associations reported on 16,337 projects in 52 countries:

*Promoting women:* 1530 projects exclusively aimed at women; e.g.: Ghana — Mampong, Obom and Anomabu: Training workshops in batik making and hairdressing

*Education and training:* 426 projects especially for women and girls excluded from formal education; e.g. Madagascar — Ihosy: Alphabetization and professional training for 80 adult women

*Revenue-generating:* 395 projects: Creation of productive initiatives, generating income and employment, and training beneficiaries to manage their own resources, e.g. Republic of the Congo, Mikondo: *Training of widows in techniques of appropriate technology to make and sell soap*

*Food and nutrition:* 343 projects, support and fight against conditions of extreme poverty: e.g. *Dominican Republic-Santo Domingo Casita Infante Margarita Naseau — daytime shelter for undernourished children and hygiene and nutrition workshops for their mothers*

*Health care:* 815 projects, providing medicine and necessary therapies, e.g. Viet Nam, Dalat: *Education and rehabilitation centre for deaf-mute children*

*The elderly:* 1758 projects: immaterial need and material want, medical care, food, financial e.g. Colombia — Mocoa: *Creation of a breeding farm in order to promote the autonomy of the elderly*

*Migrants:* 177 projects, practical and legal problems e.g. Switzerland, Geneva: Advocacy for illegal migrants

*Social integration:* 598 projects, development, education and employment e.g. Ukraine, Kharkiv: *Social rehabilitation and training centre for children and adolescents.*

*Community development:* 2350 projects to improve the quality of life of marginalized communities by adapting a global approach e.g. *Dominican Republic — Santo Domingo Rehabilitation of community life for families of La Lata hit by hurricane George (1998): houses, school and community centres.*

*Care and support centres:* 560 projects, aimed at people in permanent or temporary difficulties e.g. Peru — Pampa De Ocas: *Soup kitchen and basic health*

*care centre for families, Mozambique-Chowke and Machel: Support to orphans and children abandoned because of AIDS*

*Support and local community services: 7385 projects: self-help and empowerment and prevention e.g. Madagascar, Manakara: Legal registration for children and adult, a Roof First and AIC mutual health insurance project.*

#### **IV. Activities in support of global principles**

- 1) AIC Collaboration with the Council of Europe (official participatory status): Presidency of the International non-governmental organization-grouping on “Extreme poverty and social cohesion”. 10-13 November 2005, Messina Workshop on human rights and contribution to the final declaration in the Forum on Migration;
- 2) Fight against violence towards women
  - A) Participation in the European Council International Campaign to fight violence against women.
  - B) AIC award to support initiatives, projects and campaigns contributing to the fight against violence affecting women — every two years on the 25th of November.
- 3) Female poverty and culture: Survey on its member association’s experiences concerning the correlation between culture and female poverty: 19 reports from Latina America, the United States of America, Asia, Africa and Europe from 820 projects with more than 30.000 beneficiaries.

### **5. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (Special; 2003)**

**Aims and Purpose** The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) was established in Geneva in September 1996 to contribute to a better understanding of development and environment concerns in the context of international trade. As an independent non-profit and non-governmental organization, ICTSD engages a broad range of actors in ongoing dialogue about trade and sustainable development. With a wide network of governmental, non-governmental and inter-governmental partners, ICTSD plays a unique systemic role as a provider of original, non-partisan reporting and facilitation services at the intersection of international trade and sustainable development.

**Mission:** By empowering stakeholders in trade policy through information, networking, dialogue, well-targeted research, and capacity building, to influence the international trade system such that it advances the goal of sustainable development.

ICTSD facilitates interaction between policy-makers and those outside the system to help trade policy become more supportive of sustainable development. By helping parties increase capacity and become better informed about each other, ICTSD builds bridges between groups with seemingly disparate agendas. It seeks to enable these actors to discover the many places where their interests and priorities coincide, for ultimately sustainable development is their common objective.

ICTSD has grown both in size and in scope. At the outset, ICTSD employed a small staff of four; today, ICTSD regularly employs a staff of about thirty professionals and interns with expertise in law, economics, management and sustainable development. While it has remained committed to the basic principles articulated by its founders, ICTSD has evolved into a dynamic, internationally respected provider of news and analysis of issues in trade and sustainable development.

### **Participation in Economic and Social Council and United Nations activities**

Through its Executive Director, the Centre participates in the “United Nations Millennium Project’s Task Force on Trade”. As a member of Task Force 9 on Open, Rule-Based Trading Systems, ICTSD through its Chief Executive contributed to the publication “Trade for Development” which presents the framework necessary to correct this imbalance and give developing countries greater economic growth potential and a more effective capacity to defeat poverty. ICTSD also leads the Trade and Development Symposium, an informal consortium of international organizations, research institutes and Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) active around major trade and development events, and has served as a principal convener of the Global Biodiversity Forum (GBF) on Trade.

### **Cooperation with United Nations Bodies**

ICTSD has observer Status at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Codex Alimentarius Commission and at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). It is also accredited to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Since July 2005, ICTSD is an accredited member of the Governing Council of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). ICTSD attends the conferences and meetings of these United Nations bodies and holds over 30 expert meetings and side events with United Nations bodies every year. Below is a sample of meetings that ICTSD covered and will continue to do so. The meetings are explained in detail below:

- Conference of the Parties (COP-8), Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 8) held from 20 to 31 March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil.
- Meeting of the Parties (MOP-3), Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. 13-17 March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil.
- World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference, held from 13 to 18 December 2005 in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China.
- MOP-2, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, May-June 2005, Montreal, Canada
- 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC3), from 17 to 25 November 2004 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Commission on Sustainable Development, 12th Session (CSD-12), from 14 to 30 April 2004 at United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- MOP-1, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 27 February 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- COP-7, Convention on Biological Diversity, from 9 to 20 February 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

ICTSD implemented the Capacity Building Project on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and Sustainable Development for Trade and Sustainable Development with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The main goals of the project were to improve understanding of the development implications of the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement and to strengthen the analytical and negotiating capacity of developing countries so that they are better able to participate in IPR-related negotiations in an informed fashion in furtherance of their sustainable development objectives.

In cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), ICTSD held a dialogue in Punta Arenas, Costa Rica from 10 to 12 May 2006 on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Sustainable Development.

*Expert meeting with UNEP* in Geneva, Switzerland, 11 May 2006 on development and sustainability in the WTO fishery subsidies negotiations: issues and alternatives organized with UNEP.

*Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-8)*, 28 March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil, ICTSD and the United Nations University (UNU) had a meeting on disclosure requirements in patent applications as a tool against misappropriation or obstacle to innovation.

*Side-event to MOP-2 to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*, Montreal, Canada, 31 May 2005 on whether there is space for domestic public policies in the Cartagena Protocol and multilateral trade rules.

Dialogue at the WTO Public Symposium in Geneva, Switzerland, 21 April 2005 on incorporating the CBD Principles in the TRIPS Agreement on the road to Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China.

*National Dialogue organized with UNCTAD* in Cairo, Egypt on 29 June 2005 to address current trends in intellectual property policy and public health.

*Event at UNFCCC COP-10*, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 14 December 2004 on trade implications for Kyoto implementation and how to make it work

*UNCTAD XI conference* in Sao Paulo, 17 June 2004, ICTSD and UNAIDS organized a session addressing challenges for development in intellectual property rights regime.

Expert meeting with UNCTAD-UNDP Global Programme in Chavannes-de-Bogis, Switzerland, 6 and 7 May 2003 to Make Special and Differential Treatment More Effective And Responsive To Development Needs.

Cooperation between ICTSD and United Nations bodies includes bringing out joint publications on trade and development.

At the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, ICTSD organized The Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium (HKTDS), which took place on 13-17 December 2005 and emerged as the only serious alternative forum during the Ministerial Conference. The HKTDS was a central part of ICTSD's strategy to empower stakeholders through facilitating



the generation of innovative thinking and analysis on pressing issues in the trade and sustainable development policy domain. It brought together acclaimed academics, policy researchers, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) with expertise and knowledge in development-related issues, consumer groups, the private sector, and parliamentarians, to speak on panels to stimulate discussions. Speakers at the TDS include Pascal Lamy, WTO Director General and Supachai Panitchpakdi, Secretary General of UNCTAD.

### **Evolution of ICTSD**

From its early days as a small, tightly focused resource centre to its current status as a highly efficient information provider and facilitator, ICTSD has evolved to meet the needs of the international trade and sustainable development communities. ICTSD has been a presence at each of the World Trade Organization's Ministerial Conferences, where it has provided support services for its affiliates and the general public. The 5th Ministerial Conference was held in Cancún, Mexico from 10 to 14 September 2003. The main task was to take stock of progress in negotiations and other work under the Doha Development Agenda. The 6th Ministerial Conference was held in Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, 13-18 December 2005 to reach an agreement on the Doha trade negotiations. In general, ministerial conferences are the WTO's highest decision-making body, meeting at least once every two years and providing political direction for the organization. At this Ministerial Conferences, ICTSD produced daily briefings in four languages, providing immediate information about the progress and sustainable development implications of the negotiations.

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