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1. African Services Committee

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

African Services Committee works in health, housing, law and human rights and education among African diaspora immigrants in New York City. Its work has long been complemented by policy work for the health and human rights of African immigrants and Africans on the African continent.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the organization is to assist immigrants, refugees and asylees from across the African diaspora. Its programmes address the needs of newcomers affected by war, persecution, poverty and global health inequalities. It provides health, housing, legal, education and social services to 10,000 people each year. The organization has taken its work from Harlem, New York, to the frontlines of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic and now operates three HIV clinics in Ethiopia.

B. Significant changes in the organization

In 2002, the organization registered as an international NGO working in Ethiopia with the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the intention of implementing HIV prevention and care programmes in various regions of Ethiopia.

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

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Staff of the organization have acted as unpaid board members of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) (2002-2005) and as advisers/committee members of the Global Fund working group on Global Fund-United Nations relationships (2008-2009) and at high-level meetings of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna (2009).

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Representatives of the organization have participated in the following: UNAIDS meetings held in New York (2006, 2007, 2008), informal interactive civil society hearings in New York on international migration (2006), World Health Organization executive board meetings in Geneva (2009), innovative financing meetings, including the launch of the Millennium Foundation "Massive Good" (2008, 2009), United Nations Population Fund meetings in Addis Ababa (2008), and the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2009).

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 4. Developed programmes in Ethiopia and the United States of America that supported the health of children through nutrition.

Goal 5. Integrated reproductive health in all of its HIV prevention and care programmes in Ethiopia and the United States.

Goal 6. HIV prevention, care and support programmes in the United States and Africa. During the past four years, African Services Committee programmes in New York and Ethiopia have impacted over 100,000 people at risk of contracting or living with HIV/AIDS.

D. Activities in support of global principles

African Services Committee is the leading African organization providing social services to African and Caribbean immigrants in the United States and has now added programmes in Africa. It has also been promoting grass-roots diplomacy among African immigrant organizations by providing them with social networking cooperation and partnership-building. African Services Committee continues to be in an excellent position to support United Nations efforts in the field of sustainable development.

2. Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University

General, 1998

I. Introduction

Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University is an organization headquartered in Mt. Abu, Rajasthan, India, and was founded in 1936. It builds spiritual partnerships in which there is harmony between the sexes based on trust and respect. Since 2005, its membership has increased sevenfold to a total of 108 new countries. The organization is engaged in three activities: building human capacity by offering individual and group courses, lectures and training programmes; raising public awareness to educate, empower and promote learning and literacy; and cooperating with other organizations in related social and humanitarian fields.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2007, the organization began a process of reviewing the needs of the Brahma Kumaris worldwide to assure these were met with the expansion of the organization and the growing complexity of the times. In 2008, the Management Committee of the organization adopted a Charter that describes and documents its international organizational structure, procedures and operating methods and sets out its governance mechanisms and the relationship of its centres worldwide.

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

The organization promotes awareness of the purpose and principles of the United Nations. Its contributions are in the areas of the Millennium Development Goals and international decades and days. It contributed to the high-level dialogue on interreligious and intercultural understanding and cooperation for peace, convened by the General Assembly, on 4 and 5 October 2007, and to the commemoration of World Environment Day on 5 June 2009. The organization is co-chair of the Values Caucus and has collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme. It is also a member of many NGO networks.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Representatives of the organization participated in the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women from 2006 to 2009, the twenty-second session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, held from 30 March to 3 April 2009 in Nairobi and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference, held from 7 to 18 December 2009 in Copenhagen.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has submitted statements on various occasions for annual conferences of the Department of Public Information, for the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, for the World Food Organization, and for the World Food Programme.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. The organization has held 285 quality-of-life campaigns in India, reaching 33 million people in 109,000 villages, resulting in 2.5 million people pledging a life free from substance abuse.

Goal 3. In 108 countries, the majority of Brahma Kumaris centres are administered by women. A high priority was placed on leadership skills, resulting in enhanced decision-making and communication skills.

Goals 4 and 5. In India, the organization, with the Global Hospital and Research Centre, contributed to the Rural School Health Care Programme, supported by Children's Hope India (United States). It also adopted 10 village schools, which 2,200 children have attended, and has been involved in other related activities.

Goal 7. Since 1993, the organization has spearheaded the installation and use of solar energy in rural communities.

3. Building and Social Housing Foundation

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Building and Social Housing Foundation is an independent housing research organization that promotes sustainable development and innovation in housing. It is based in the United Kingdom.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization argues for decent housing for everyone. Its objectives are to carry out and publish research into all aspects of residential housing. It has a small team of paid staff and works with a range of organizations throughout the world. The organization is financially independent, deriving its income from its own land, property and investments. It works to help give people access to decent housing by identifying innovative housing policy and practice, promoting these ideas and examples, and supporting the exchange and transfer of good practices. The organization works in the United Kingdom and internationally with a range of organizations.

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

The organization has contributed case studies on good housing practices to the Civil Society Network web portal of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat on an ongoing basis since 2008. It has cooperated with the United Nations Development Programme, providing input into the development of a South-South human development stock exchange. In July 2009, the organization gave a presentation on lessons learned on the occasion of the Economic and Social Council Innovation Fair. It also provided financial support to the United Nations to attend international week-long knowledge transfer visits.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in meetings at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs conferences on the role of infrastructure in metropolitan development (13 May 2009) and on sustainable urbanization in the information age (23 and 24 April 2008). It also attended the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) meeting entitled “Sustainable Cities: Urban Design” on 17 October 2006.

The organization has participated in a number of events across the world to mark UN-Habitat World Habitat Day such as in Washington D.C. (2009), Lusaka (2008), The Hague and Monterrey, Mexico (2007), Naples, Italy, and Kazan, Russian Federation (2006); and World Urban Forum IV, held in Nanjing, China (2008); and World Urban Forum III, held in Vancouver, Canada (2006).

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The work of the organization has had an impact on a range of Millennium Development Goals over the past four years, in particular those that address slum settlements, water and sanitation, the reduction of carbon emissions and sustainable development. It has carried out a series of research projects relating to **Goal 7**. These include working to influence the policy of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to encourage sustainable development, and planting 37,000 trees on land that it owns in the United Kingdom to reduce carbon emissions and increase biodiversity. The organization has also supported projects in the global South to provide safe drinking water and sanitation. The organization's World Habitat Award has been given to projects in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), India, Kenya and Pakistan. The organization also identified test practices to improve living conditions in slums.

4. Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen, the German national association of senior citizens organizations, was founded in 1989 as an umbrella organization for 100 nationwide senior citizens associations, which together represent around 13 million German senior citizens.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization represents the interests of the older generation and provides a competent forum for initiatives by and for senior citizens. Its Executive Committee, national office and specialized committees coordinate matters of common interest and actively promote them in the political arena. The organization aims at promoting the independence of senior citizens and securing their needs, to allow them to play an active role in society and create a more positive public image of old age.

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

The organization was commissioned by the German Ministry for Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, and was involved in completing a national plan of action on ageing for Germany, in response to the United Nations Second International Plan of Action on Ageing (Madrid, 2002) and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Regional Implementation Strategy (Berlin, 2002). In October 2007, the national plan of action on ageing was passed by the Government of Germany with the subtitle “Challenges and opportunities of ageing societies”. The plan contained not only the positions of the Federal Government and the Federal States but also of organized civil society, the statements of which were coordinated by the organization. The organization also participated in preparations for the 2007 ECE Conference on Ageing, held in Geneva on 12 and 13 July 2007, and the preparatory meeting of the NGO forum to the ECE Conference, held in Madrid on 13 June 2007. Representatives of the organization also attended the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in León, Spain, from 6 to 8 November 2007. In ECE “Policy brief on ageing No. 3” (November 2009), the organization is rendered prominently for its engagement for the interests of senior citizens as consumers.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization has attended several United Nations conferences at Headquarters, including the forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions of the Commission for Social Development, and the 2008 and 2009 American Association of Retired Persons-United Nations briefing series on global ageing.

The organization has also participated in such conferences as the eighth Global Conference on Ageing held in Copenhagen in 2006; a conference on the protection of senior citizens against elder abuse, organized by the European Commission in 2008; the ninth Global Conference on Ageing and Expo Ageing & Design held in Montréal, Canada, in 2008; and the World Health Summit, held in Berlin in October 2009.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

At the eighth German Senior Citizens Days held from 16 to 18 May 2006 in Cologne, Germany, the organization hosted an international conference on “poverty of older persons”. The participants of the conference spoke of the need for closer networking between United Nations and European Union processes. The organization is also involved in two annual national awareness-raising meetings, scheduled each year on 29 April, European Day of Solidarity and Cooperation between Generations, and 1 October, International Day of Older Persons.

5. Child Care Consortium

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Child Care Consortium is a non-for-profit institution that aims to promote peace and tolerance through research and literary work in United Nations languages. A copy of the founders' "Peace manifesto" was submitted on 7 March 2003 to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Non-Governmental Organizations Branch.

Significant changes in the organization

On 29 September 2003, trust deed of the organization was amended to change the corpus fund from 10,000 to 5,000 rupees. An electronic copy was forwarded to the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch in New York. The trustees met on 22 December 2003 and resolved the issue of honorary trustee retirement.

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

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The majority of the work and action of the organization is to spread the message of its "Peace manifesto" on peace and tolerance to people around the world. The organization has participated in public discussions on child adoption, child abuse and children's mental health. It circulates posters, booklets and study materials on child abuse, gender equality, etc., from the International Labour Organization and the Geneva-based Women's World Summit Foundation. It also reads, writes, and collects library information that works towards the Millennium Development Goals, and has submitted statements at various United Nations NGO meetings. The organization participated in the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 26 February to 9 March 2007 at Headquarters.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Activities included conducting research on gender equality and empowerment of women.

Activities in support of global principles

The organization was unable to participate fully in the work of the Economic and Social Council and attend major international meetings due to scarcity of funds, as it does not accept donations, subscriptions, sponsorships or gifts. The organization is fully dependent on grants from the Government of India and the United Nations.

6. China Education Association for International Exchange

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Founded in 1981, China Education Association for International Exchange is fully committed to meeting the needs of China's modernization and developing exchanges and cooperation between the educational community of China and those of other parts of the world. The organization develops programmes, including international seminars, educational expos and student/teacher exchanges. It also aims at improving its ability to provide professional services and promoting advocacy. Since 2007, the organization has been accredited for work towards Chinese-foreign cooperation in education.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2008, the organization became associated with the Department of Public Information. In 2009, the organization became the first NGO in China to establish official relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

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

In recent years, the organization has undertaken research on the educational development of China. In 2008, it submitted its report on educational rights in China to the Human Rights Council as part of the universal periodic review on human rights in China conducted by the Council in February 2009. The organization also attended the 182nd session of the Executive Board of UNESCO, held in Paris on 9 and 10 September 2009.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization held events in China to mark UNESCO International Mother Language Day annually during the reporting period. In 2009, it submitted the event report to the UNESCO Beijing Office. The organization participated in the first United Nations NGO Informal Regional Network (UN-NGO-IRENE)/Asia-Pacific Conference, co-sponsored by the Economic and Social Council and the China NGO Network for International Exchanges. This was held in Beijing on 17 March 2006 and symbolized the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Regional Network of UN-NGO-IRENE. The organization was also involved in the seventh Asia-Europe People's Forum, held in Beijing from 13 to 15 October 2008 on social and ecological justice. It also cooperated with two other NGOs from South-East Asia to organize a workshop at the forum on social security in Asia and Europe. The organization attended the sixtieth and sixty-first United Nations Department of Public Information/NGO annual conferences, in 2007 and 2008. At the former, it

presented the development of environmental education in China, and at the latter it distributed the report on the Education for All initiative.

B. Activities in support of global principles

Every year in China since 2001, the organization has organized the China international forum on education, and China education expo, attracting over 3,000 representatives, including nearly 2,500 universities and colleges from abroad. These create important channels to connect the Chinese educational community with other parts of the world in order to promote international education. The organization has also launched a series of leadership training programmes with overseas partners. By 2009, 200 presidents, vice-presidents and administrators of Chinese and overseas universities and vocational education institutions had participated in short-term shadowing training on partner campuses.

7. Federation of National Representations of the Experiment in International Living

Special, 1978

I. Introduction

Experiment in International Living, founded in 1932, was one of the first organizations to engage individuals in intercultural living and learning. Originating in the United States of America, it introduced the home-stay concept to the world by carefully preparing and placing “experimenters” in the homes of host families to study other languages and cultures first-hand. The Federation of National Representations of the Experiment in International Living is a worldwide network of autonomous, not-for-profit, international, intercultural, educational organizations. The organization comprises member organizations in 21 countries. In the period 2006-2009, new memberships were established in three additional countries.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the organization is to help its member organizations provide individuals with intercultural learning experiences that develop their understanding of and respect for people throughout the world. This is accomplished through intercultural educational activities, including home-stay programmes, group travel, study abroad, language training, voluntary community service, work exchange and other cultural immersion programmes. In 2009, members reported over 21,000 international programme participants.

B. Significant changes in the organization

In 2008, the organization’s articles of association were amended to expand its membership categories. The new “sponsored member” category is intended for newly established or emerging organizations, including those in developing countries. It is also now possible for associations or coalitions of organizations in a given country to apply for membership. These changes provide opportunities for smaller, less developed organizations to benefit from membership in the organization and receive administrative and programme support during their formative years.

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

In 2007, Volunteers for International Partnership, a voluntary community service programme was selected as a United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development project and recognized for its worldwide appeal, its focus on sustainable development and on helping former volunteers spread their experience after their return. On 9 March 2009, Experiment in International Living in Ireland marked the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with workshops and activities on human rights. The Experiment in International Living

member organization in Morocco, Thaqafat Association, celebrated the 2008 International Volunteer Day with activities to raise awareness of the importance of volunteerism. In 2008, another member, World Learning, joined the international community in supporting World Day Against Child Labour. World Learning works to remove children from the worst forms of child labour through a project in Ecuador; over 3,000 children were impacted by this programme.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Representatives attended a number of meetings, briefings and events at Headquarters.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and the Chilean Ministry of Education, the organization's member in Chile places English-speaking teaching assistants in public and semi-public schools throughout the country as part of the "English opens doors" initiative.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In general terms, the organization's development education programme raises awareness of the Millennium Development Goals by engaging former participants in network weekends and workshops on related issues. Since 2001, the programme has engaged over 12,000 people. Volunteers for International Partnership provides voluntary service programmes. From 2006, 1,037 volunteers from 12 countries worked in education, social welfare, public health, rural development and the environment through community organizations in member organizations.

Goal 1. The organization's member in Argentina runs a project with rural schools where families have literacy and nutrition problems due to lack of economic resources.

Goal 2. In 2009, World Learning was one of 18 organizations that released a report on accelerating progress towards Education for All initiative. Its community-schools partnership programme aims to improve the education and health of children at primary schools in Ethiopia by focusing on the health, water, sanitation and hygiene services of schools, while meeting the needs of children and ensuring their primary education. The programme targets 1,800 schools in eight regions.

Goal 6. The organization's global awareness programme, launched in 2006, focuses on HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Goal 7. The organization's member in Spain organized the "last call to save the planet" international youth exchange in 2007, with 28 young participants.

Goal 8. The "HIV prevention in large-scale construction sites" programme aims to reduce the transmission of HIV among at-risk populations and to enhance the role of public corporations in HIV prevention. World Learning has also partnered with government agencies in Ethiopia on this issue.

8. General Confederation of Trade Unions

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

General Confederation of Trade Unions is a Moscow-based international trade union organization affiliating national trade union centres from nine countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), namely: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization was founded with the purpose of consolidating the efforts of its affiliated organizations to protect the social and labour rights and interests of workers in the CIS.

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

The organization promoted United Nations principles through its publications and used relevant materials in various trade union seminars and conferences in the CIS. Statements were made in October 2007 on United Nations Day; in December 2008 on the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; in April 2009 on the ninetieth anniversary of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and in November 2009 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. An article on the anniversary of the ILO was also published in the organization's bi-weekly trade union journal. The organization published the complete text of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in issues of its journal in 2007 and 2008. Various articles relating to the activities of the ILO were also published.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Representatives of the organization attended ILO conferences in Geneva and gave presentations at its ninety-fifth to ninety-eighth sessions from 2006 to 2009. The organization also participated in the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development devoted to social integration, held in New York from 4 to 13 February 2009, and the eighth European regional meeting of the ILO held in Lisbon from 9 to 13 February 2009.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization maintained contacts with the United Nations Information Centre in Moscow and the Moscow-based ILO Subregional Office for Eastern Europe and

Central Asia. Copies of all the statements made by the organization concerning the United Nations and its activities were sent to these bodies and, as appropriate, to the ILO in Geneva and United Nations Headquarters in New York. In June 2008 and in November 2009, the organization prepared two surveys: on the labour remuneration situation in CIS countries and the solidarity-based action by trade unions to protect workers' interests, and on the status of the population's health and the organization of the public health system in CIS countries, respectively. Both surveys were submitted to the ILO headquarters in Geneva and its Subregional Office in Moscow for subsequent use in their activities.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In April 2007, the organization's executive committee adopted an appeal to world trade unions in which it supported the United Nations initiatives to add a social dimension to world politics and urged all countries, first and foremost the CIS States, to implement the Millennium Development Goals. As part of the efforts to eradicate poverty, the organization launched a solidarity campaign called "Minimum wages not lower than the subsistence minimum!". Within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals, the organization has also been observing the annual International Day for Decent Work since 2008. It is also active in promoting ILO International Labour Standards and related social development objectives.

9. Incorvuz-XXI

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

The International Coordination Council of Educational Institutions Alumni, Incorvuz-XXI, consolidates all over the world foreign alumni of higher educational establishments of the Russian Federation and the former republics. The organization comprises national alumni associations from 33 countries.

A. Aims of the organization

(a) The organization helps alumni of universities to improve and upgrade their professional training; (b) provides assistance to developing countries by transferring and sharing economic and social knowledge and know-how; (c) promotes NGO activities and networking; and (d) disseminates information about the United Nations system and its activity. The organization promotes humanitarian, scientific and technological networking, particularly in the field of higher education, to assist educational institutions in modernizing and increasing their teaching, technical and scientific facilities and in developing advanced systems of education. The organization promotes the international academic mobility of students and personnel; collects and processes information, and compiles reports on education systems; organizes training courses, conferences, education exhibitions, assistance and consultations on educational issues; evaluates the study courses and diplomas of educational institutions in the Russian Federation and CIS countries for the International Commission on Recognition and Equivalence; performs the practical activities of the UNESCO/Incorvuz Chair and Network for the development of NGOs; participates in preparing and holding national and regional meetings of alumni in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America; and encourages business ties and cooperation with national and regional alumni associations.

B. Significant changes in the organization

Another seven national associations from Armenia, Columbia, Finland, Georgia, Montenegro, and Poland joined Incorvuz-XXI in the period under review.

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

In the field of international exchanges, the organization participated in a selection commission for the enrolment of foreign citizens to study in Russian universities. It was also involved in the distribution of 247 scholarship grants to support national alumni NGOs in developing countries, and distributed 1,486 certificates to participants of international academic exchange programmes to make their Russian studies, diplomas and degrees comply with international standards according to UNESCO Higher education conventions. The organization invited and welcomed 43 delegations comprising 302 foreign specialists for the purpose of exchanging

experiences and advancing studies. It also helped six Russian university delegations comprising 45 experts participate in international scientific and technological exhibitions and fairs. In addition, the organization helped 17 full-year university lecturers and five visiting lecturers take part in international academic exchanges. Members of the organization also attended various conferences, seminars and exhibitions.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is a partner of the University Twinning and Networking/UNESCO Chairs programme and has participated in the Russian Federation UNESCO Chairs Coordinating Committee. It also participated in the thirty-fifth session of UNESCO General Conference, held from 6 to 23 October 2009 in Paris.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization was unable to contribute fully to the implementation of United Nations programmes owing to problems concerning funds and staff numbers.

10. Institut de politique familiale

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Institut de politique familiale is a civil society organization independent of any Government, party or religious affiliation. It was an initiative of a group of people aware of the lack of representation for the family before the public and decision makers, and the need to build synergies between different family organizations both at national and international levels. In 2000, the organization was created to fill these gaps. Its purpose is therefore to raise awareness of the key role of the family among policy/decision makers and the general public, by generating proposals and alternatives, cooperating for social development, and promoting dialogue and network-building between national and international institutions that share our aims. The aim of the organization is for an authentic family policy to be adopted at local, regional, national and international levels. It studies and analyses the family institution and its diverse challenges, threats and opportunities, contributing proposals and alternatives to solve their main difficulties. The organization also supports other family organizations to help them achieve their aims. Its activities include contributing up-to-date analyses and proposals to Governments, parties and political authorities; offering Internet consulting services; and organizing courses, seminars and training sessions to share and disseminate experience and good practices.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

Family awareness. The organization studies and analyses the family institution, contributing proposals and alternatives for its diverse challenges, threats and opportunities.

Family empowerment. The organization impels a greater awareness in society and public authorities on the role of the family, addressing national and local priorities to deal with family issues.

Social protection. The organization promotes the social and cultural development of women, as well as the defence of children and the elderly within families.

Human rights. The organization denounces transgressions against the family and its members.

Partnership for Development. The organization develops cooperation projects with national and international private and public institutions.

B. Significant changes in the organizations

The organization has increased the geographical distribution of its membership in various countries such as France, Italy, Mexico, Norway and Switzerland. It has signed several partnerships with other organizations worldwide that share its aims regarding family policies. Since 2008, the organization has been a registered lobbying group at the European Commission. In 2010, it became a member of the Fundamental Rights Platform of the European Union, in the Family Platform linked to the European Commission.

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

The organization collects data on the family through various surveys and studies, and disseminates the results through the publication of books, brochures and reports. It organizes various courses, seminars and training sessions emphasizing the International Day of Families on 15 May. Particular aspects include topics such as work/life balance, family-supportive workplaces, the role of women, the rights of children and the elderly.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in the United Nations ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly held during the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, from 28 February to 11 March 2005. It also attended the commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at Headquarters on 10 December 2008.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the organization attended conferences on women, peace and security, organized by the United Nations Population Fund and on development capacity for gender equality, organized by the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization focused its work on the importance of the role of women in today's society and the value of maternity. Its reports and activities aim to increase public awareness of the need to improve maternal conditions. The adoption of family policies are in line with the principles of Goals 3, 4 and 5.

11. International Chamber of Commerce

General, 1946

I. Introduction

International Chamber of Commerce is a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. During the 2006-2009 period, the organization continued its long-standing participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies and other agencies of the United Nations. Business, as represented by the organization, has been engaged in the United Nations meetings and conferences that have identified the crucial components of global partnerships for development and their interlinked priorities. Members look to the organization to be the coordinating body for various United Nations processes which extend to non-members and other associations as well. In 2007, national committees (chapters) of the organization were newly established in Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Bulgaria; today, the organization's global purview encompasses 120 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The fundamental mission of the organization is to promote open international trade and investment across frontiers and help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization. The organization has three main activities: rule setting, arbitration and policy. Because its member companies and associations are engaged in international business, it has unrivalled authority in making rules that govern the conduct of business across borders. Although these rules are voluntary, they are observed in thousands of transactions every day and have become part of the fabric of international trade. Business leaders and experts drawn from the membership of the organization establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment policy, and on vital technical and sector-based subjects. These include financial services, information technologies, telecommunications, marketing ethics, the environment, transportation, competition law and intellectual property, among others. The conviction of the organization that trade is a powerful force for peace and prosperity dates from its origins early in the twentieth century.

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

The organization continued to act as a collective voice of global business in the Global Compact. Although not a part of the United Nations formal intergovernmental structure, its personal sponsorship by the Secretary-General places the initiative clearly in the United Nations context. Following the adoption of the Global Compact Governance Framework in 2005, the organization's Secretaries-General were appointed to the Global Compact Board and regularly participated in Board meetings. In 2007, the organization published a policy statement on the role of the United Nations in promoting corporate responsibility in which it presented global business views on the role of the Global Compact and suggestions to improve

its effectiveness. The organization has also strengthened its working relationship with the Global Compact Office in two vital areas under the Global Compact's remit: anti-corruption and environment. From 2006, the organization provided ongoing support to the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. This support has materialized in numerous contributions to convey global business views on the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to map out and define standards of corporate responsibility with regard to human rights. An example of this contribution is the paper prepared by the organization together with the International Organization of Employers and the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on the role of business in weak governance zones. Over the past years, the United Nations Secretary-General and members of his team have been invited regularly to address the organization's working body on corporate responsibility issues. The organization also participated in the multi-stakeholder consultation organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in October 2009 in Geneva. Various commissions of the organization actively engaged in the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). It welcomed UNCITRAL endorsement of its rules, which significantly promotes their worldwide acceptance.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Through its Commission on Environment and Energy, the organization has been engaged in serving as a focal point for business in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and has attended sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The organization prepared major group interventions at a series of intergovernmental preparatory meetings and multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions. As leader of the business delegation with the Business Action for Energy initiative, the organization was part of a temporary project that provided a platform for business input for the two-year cycle of the fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (2006-2007). The organization's commission on e-business, information technology and telecoms was requested by the United Nations and the host countries of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunis in 2005, to coordinate business input to the preparations and at the summit itself. In 2006, the organization created business action to support the information society to raise awareness of the requirements of business as it continues to contribute to the development of the information society. The organization and the members of this initiative have actively engaged in the events, open consultations and preparations for the Internet Governance Forum in Athens in 2006, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, Hyderabad, India, in 2008 and Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009. Since 2006, the initiative has contributed each year to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development. Members of the organization's commission on intellectual property have close working relationships with the World Intellectual Property Organization, attending all its relevant meetings and providing input through submissions, talks or meetings with government delegates in Geneva in various processes. Over the past four years, the organization has been represented at 43 such meetings.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization has consistently been present for and participated in high-level events scheduled by the General Assembly.

C. Activities in support of global principles

The organization took part in engaging the business sector in the financing for development process. Its permanent representative to the United Nations served as chair of the Business Sector Steering Committee, which organized a major pre-conference event (the Second International Business Forum).

12. International Communities for the Renewal of the Earth

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

International Communities for the Renewal of the Earth is based in Cross River, New York. It aims to create local models that might be replicated elsewhere.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The main purpose of the organization is to foster creative conversations on the critical issues of our times, based on a spiritual-ecological perspective. It has attempted to fulfil this purpose by convening, facilitating and designing gatherings with a focus on creative interaction through the application of the skills of dialogue, which it defines as skilled interaction for creative outcomes.

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

Throughout the reporting period, the organization helped organize meetings of the Interfaith Partnership on the Environment along with United Nations Environment Programme. It also developed a nationwide, interfaith training programme for clergy and laity in ecological leadership, and utilized its experience as co-chair of the Interfaith Partnership on the Environment for its teaching.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization participated in a number of NGO briefings, as well as some conferences sponsored by the Council, including on the media and poverty.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

As part of its local focus strategy, the organization assisted with conversations at regional and national levels to foster the process towards true environmental sustainability. In these steps, it consistently sought the expertise and experience of the United Nations, specifically through its NGO network.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. The organization continued its role as co-chair of Solutions for Economic Empowerment with Dignity, a New York-based project on poverty which it originally helped to found, until midyear, when it ceased to serve on the board.

Goal 7. In 2006, the organization initiated an effort to address global warming by engaging citizens in Westchester County, New York. It led an exploration into local

food production as an aspect of environmental sustainability, which led to the founding of a local chapter of the Slow Food Movement, an organization that originated in Italy to foster the production of good, healthy, just and locally grown food. It also assisted in the development of a project on urban food production.
