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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad

Special, 2007

Introduction

American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad

Aims and purposes of the organization

The work of the organization is focused primarily on the development, implementation and growth of sustainable low-cost diabetes educational programmes for vulnerable children and youth living with type 1 diabetes in Latin America.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no changes during the reporting period.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Through the empowerment of young people living with diabetes to work with and educate other young people with the same disease, the organization has found improved health outcomes for children and youth when compared to alternative interventions in resource poor settings, in particular with regard to psychosocial outcomes. Diabetes education activities include programmes and workshops for at-risk youth with type 1 diabetes in: 2007: Ecuador (100), Bermuda (15) 2008: Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (45), Belize (25), Ecuador (100), Bermuda (20) 2009: Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (80), Dominican Republic (90), Ecuador (100), Bermuda (20) 2010: Ecuador (100) and Bermuda (20). Direct support has been provided to 715 children with type 1 diabetes and indirect support, including family members and health-care professionals, to 850 persons.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2011, representatives of the organization actively participated in the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, an event that directly influenced its constituents. Working with the Non-Communicable Disease Alliance, the organization nominated speakers from civil society organizations in local diabetes communities in developing countries for the event.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Since the organization is a small, volunteer-based organization, with only two full-time staff members, it has been unable to participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies as actively as it had intended. However, since the above-mentioned High-level Meeting was the first of its kind for the non-communicable disease community the organization made it a priority to attend.

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

The work of the organization contributes to the following Millennium Development Goals in Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Dominican Republic and Ecuador:

Child health (Target 4.A): reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate. Without diabetes education and access to supplies, children with diabetes can suffer severe complications, including kidney failure, blindness and even death. The organization, through its diabetes education programmes, in conjunction with its local partners, is contributing to the reduction of child mortality.

End poverty and hunger (Target 1.C): halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Appropriate management of diabetes is expensive, particularly in developing countries where many people do not have sufficient savings to afford hospital visits and medication. Through the provision of diabetes education programmes and donations of in kind supplies, the organization is able to help ensure that local resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible to help control the condition, thus preventing families from being pushed further into poverty and hunger as a result of a chronic disease.

Global partnership (Target 8.E): in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries. The organization has relationships with multiple pharmaceutical companies producing insulin and other medical supplies. The companies provide in kind supplies enabling the organization and its local partners to provide essential diabetes education and care to children living with diabetes in developing countries. World Diabetes Day recognized by the United Nations is celebrated on 14 November every year in conjunction with our local partners. Newsletters and social media activities raise awareness and advocate for the cause.

2. Armenian Assembly of America

Special, 1999

Introduction

The Armenian Assembly of America is a non-governmental, non-partisan, non-profit national membership organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in Boston, Los Angeles, New York, and Yerevan. The Assembly provides opportunities for the participation of Armenian-Americans in the American democratic process; conducts research, education and advocacy for the universal affirmation of the Armenian genocide; supports the strengthening of relations between the United States of America and Armenia, based on a shared vision for democracy, rule of law, open markets, regional security and unfettered commerce; promotes civil society initiatives in Armenia, encouraging free-market oriented, sustainable and responsible development; and works with other non-partisan advocacy entities and individuals in pursuit of shared goals.

Aims and purposes of the organization

To sustain and strengthen the organization as the community's pre-eminent non-partisan advocate representing Armenian-American interests to the American public and the policymaking community. To provide more opportunities for the active participation of all Armenian-Americans in the American democratic process at the federal, state and local levels. To be ever mindful of the pluralistic character of the Armenian-American community, the worth of its institutions and organizations and the obligations of the Armenian-American community to the United States and its democratic institutions. To expand the organization's pioneering research, education and advocacy campaigns for universal affirmation of the Armenian genocide and to secure diaspora-wide consensus for the Government of Armenia to deal with the consequences of this crime against humanity. To promote public and private civil society initiatives within Armenia and Karabakh while maintaining the organization's policy of non-interference in their internal affairs. To encourage free-market oriented, sustainable and responsible development within Armenia and Karabakh. To secure more effective collaboration among Armenian-American organizations and to establish results-oriented working relationships with non-partisan advocacy entities and relevant individuals worldwide.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no changes during the reporting period.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Hosted reception with the United Nations Resident Coordinator/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in Armenia, Boston, April 2011.

Organized a forum on volunteerism in Armenia, co-sponsored by Birthright Armenia and Fordham University, New York, April 2011.

Organized a round-table discussion on "Housing-raising overseas: Armenia", November 2010.

Participated in the seventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, New York, April 2007.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Twenty-third General Assembly of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, December 2007, Geneva
- Sixtieth annual United Nations Department of Public Information/NGO Conference, September 2007, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Acted as treasurer and member-at-large of the Committee on Human Settlements of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations
- Participated in the work of the Human Rights Council.

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

The Assembly contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in Armenia and the South Caucasus by advocating to the following goals: development of a global partnership for development; United States humanitarian and development assistance to Armenia; special assistance for rural infrastructure development under the United States Millennium Challenge Account; implementation of Armenia's poverty reduction and rural development programmes; equitable regional development and integration in the South Caucasus, including access to regional infrastructure and open trade; channelling diaspora experience and expertise to help Armenia address its development needs and challenges; and peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Additional information

The Assembly is a member of several American and international coalitions of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) committed to peace and security, development and human rights, as well as to the fight against the denial of genocide and other crimes against humanity. Its activities include advocacy, community activism, academic, educational and media programmes, rallies and regular testimonies at relevant hearings before various bodies of the United States Congress.

3. Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust

Special, 2007

Introduction and contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust is a non-partisan, educational institute which aims to understand, explore and evaluate contemporary mechanisms for protecting human rights and the rule of law in view of the lessons of the Holocaust and its aftermath. Its purpose is to promote tolerance through educational programmes and activities. Institute staff attend, participate in and report on United Nations meetings, liaise with United Nations delegates and other NGOs involved in United Nations events in both New York and Geneva. The Institute provides opportunities for students to visit the United Nations Headquarters in New York City and to learn first-hand about its activities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

United Nations meetings and conferences attended over the reporting period include: the fall sessions of the General Assembly and its committees, particularly the Third Committee; the sessions of the Human Rights Council, the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women; and the meetings of various United Nations treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child (fifty-sixth session) and the second session of the Open-ended Working Group on an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the Institute organized the following conferences and events, including United Nations staff and/or experts:

January 2011: lecture entitled “Combating terrorism and the United Nations”, with a guest speaker from the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate.

November 2008: event marking the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights entitled “Genocide, refugees and the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights”, including the participation of a Special Policy Adviser at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

December 2007: celebration of Human Rights Day, featuring Ambassador Raymond Wolfe, Permanent Representative of Jamaica and Chair of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, and Martin Ejidike, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Additional information

Activities undertaken in support of internationally agreed human rights goals include:

Holocaust education: during the reporting period, the Institute continued to provide a unique, globally accessible and free comprehensive reference guide for online Holocaust resources. The information provided includes a wide range of key links to online Holocaust education and research tools for teachers and students including libraries and virtual libraries, video and audio archives, scholarly websites, and bibliographies.

Events: during the reporting period, the Institute organized conferences and events, including: May 2011 — a panel discussion marking Holocaust Remembrance Day, co-sponsored with 3GNY (an organization for the grandchildren of Holocaust survivors), the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists and One Heart Global (an organization dedicated to healing the victims of terror and their families around the world); April 2010 — co-sponsored event marking Holocaust Remembrance Day with an art exhibit by a grandchild of two Auschwitz survivors; April 2009 — event commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, which included Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel and Father Patrick Desbois; March 2009 — event entitled “Stories of survival and hope” featuring David Gewirtzman, a Holocaust survivor, and Jacqueline Murekatete, a Rwandan Genocide survivor.

Internships: during the reporting period, the Institute offered internship and research assistant opportunities in New York City for students interested in attending and participating in United Nations activities.

4. International Council of Women

General, 1947

Introduction

The mission of the International Council of Women is to unite national councils of women from all parts of the world for action to improve the status of women and the well-being of society. The Council is the uniting body for national councils of women worldwide, advocating global action for international peace and justice, capacity-building for women as decision makers, human rights for all people, sustainable development and the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals related to the Beijing Platform for Action.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council empowers women through projects and programmes that help women to help themselves, via education and practical applications, in areas including: literacy skills, nutrition and food safety; combating HIV/AIDS; ensuring clean water and sanitation; developing income-generating projects; building efficient stoves and rice mills; promoting sustainable development; and training women in leadership and decision-making.

The Council promotes:

- Equal rights and responsibilities for women and men
- Peace and understanding through international cooperation, negotiation and reconciliation
- The fuller integration of women as decision makers in peacemaking and peacebuilding
- Human rights for all people
- The elimination of all forms of discrimination
- Sustainable development and communication and networking worldwide.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Council has delivered oral statements at the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and has submitted written statements to the fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission. In 2008, in the context of the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights, the Council supported a monthly series of dialogues on human rights, organized by OHCHR in New York. In support of the Declaration of Human Rights, the Council actively participated in the work of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, inter alia, on human rights, ageing and sustainable development.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Council attended the conference organized by the Department of Public Information in Melbourne, Australia. The Council maintains a strong presence at the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York and

co-sponsors approximately five to eight side events every year. At the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, the Mission of the Republic of Korea sponsored a side event on women's education, organized by representatives of the International Council and the National Council of Women of the Republic of Korea, on girls' right to education, including science and technology. The Council also: co-sponsors one or more NGO parallel events annually at the Commission on the Status of Women; responded to the call issued at the eighteenth session of the Commission in Sustainable Development for input from major groups for the report to the Secretary-General on mining by obtaining information from NGOs in Peru and India. It supported the "Seal the deal" sign-on campaign, organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and formed an ad hoc committee to investigate an appropriate way to respond/contribute to the campaign's call to plant one billion trees.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council currently co-chairs the Subcommittee on Sustainable Development of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (2009-present). The Council co-sponsored seven workshops in 2009-2011: two on mental health; one on human rights violations; two on human trafficking; and two on women and sustainability. The Council worked to convene talks on recycling and climate change and issued statements in Copenhagen and Cancun. The Council has representatives in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Rome and has been affiliated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The Council participated in the Conference on Human Rights, marking the sixtieth anniversary of the Declaration on Human Rights, which was organized by the Department of Public Information and UNESCO in 2008. In September 2010, the Council participated in the panel discussion entitled "Mental health and development: integrating mental health into all development efforts, including the Millennium Development Goals", which was organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and WHO. During the reporting period the Council worked primarily with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

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

The mission of the Council and the Millennium Development Goals are intertwined. The national councils of the International Council of Women have undertaken many projects and workshops worldwide to promote equal access to education for the girl child, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math, addressing HIV/AIDS prevention, as well as to highlight the lack of equal access to education girls face internationally. The Council supports the Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign (Millennium Development Goals 2 and 3). Current proposals include that of El Consejo Nacional de Mujeres de Guatemala to educate mothers in preventative measures against malnutrition, including the preparation of meals using locally available soy protein supplements (Millennium Development Goals 1, 4 and 5). In 2008 the Council carried out work in the areas of poverty; and water and the girl child. The National Council of Women in the United States, with its affiliated councils, built over 50 water wells in the Ashanti region of Ghana between 2006 and 2011. The National Council in Germany organized an

international conference on human trafficking across Europe. The National Council in Austria, in 2008, engaged in a programme to address violence within the family. In Asia, the National Council in Indonesia established a women's crisis centre. National councils also address racism in every area of concern, especially in the media. In August 2010, the Council issued a report on "Mental health and development: integrating mental health into all development efforts, including the Millennium Development Goals".

Additional information

Links to newsletters and website: <http://www.icw-cif.org>.

5. International Driving Tests Committee

Special, 1983

Introduction

The International Driving Tests Committee is part of the International Commission for Driver Testing, a body which is active in the fields of road safety and driver testing. The members of the Commission include driver-testing authorities from 36 countries worldwide. The Commission aims to play a leading role in enhancing road safety and to encourage the development of high-level, common standards for driving licences throughout its member countries. Since 1993, the Commission has been a leading project partner of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport, issuing "best practice" recommendations for driving qualifications for the European Union and beyond and participating in numerous research studies and projects.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is to improve driving standards, contribute to road traffic education, improve road safety, protect the environment and facilitate the mobility of road freight and passenger transport, both private and commercial. To attain its objectives, it organizes and implements the following activities:

- Organizes and promotes cooperation and exchanges between its members
- Collects, analyses and makes available to its members information and documents concerning driving licence examinations and road education
- Carries out, manages or participates in relevant studies and research concerning driver education, examinations and examiners
- Promotes the introduction and maintenance of arrangements for assuring driving competence that support international recognition and security of driving licences
- Participates in international projects, actions and other events
- Promotes the creation and application of quality assurance systems in the area of driving examinations and aspects related to the education and road safety associated with those examinations

- Develops special cooperation with international organizations and regional economic integration organizations, in particular the institutions of the European Union.

Significant changes in the organization

The revised strategy of the organization for the period 2012-2016 was presented at its forty-third General Assembly in Malta in May 2011. The goals for the period 2006-2016 are: to improve the reliability and validity of driving tests; to be the main platform for the exchange and provision of information for driver-testing experts and related decision-making bodies; to remain a non-profit and economically independent organization; and to be the most important expert partner of the European Union in this field. In 2010 the United Nations adopted a resolution on road safety.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization would like to contribute more to the implementation of United Nations programmes if not for the following problems, which are ongoing: information about international meetings and conferences is limited and reaches the organization too late.

6. International Service for Human Rights

Special, 1991

Aims and purposes of the organization

The International Service for Human Rights aims to bridge the gap between human rights defenders and the international and regional human rights systems. The organization works to increase the capacity of human rights defenders to effectively engage with these systems and advocates for the improvement of the systems themselves.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Monitoring, publication and analytical review: during the reporting period the organization provided coverage and analysis of numerous United Nations meetings, including those of: the Human Rights Council; the Third Committee of the General Assembly; the Security Council; the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council; numerous treaty bodies; sessions of the Universal Periodic Review; the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; and the Peacebuilding Commission. During the same period the organization published the *Human Rights Monitor* (annually from 2007 to 2009), the “New York Monitor”, the “Treaty Body Monitor”, and the *Human Rights Monitor Quarterly* (2010), as well as reports on and guides to the Peacebuilding Commission and the *Simple Guide to the UN Treaty Bodies*.

Training: the organization provided training in Geneva to some 200 participants from around the world. The courses covered topics including the United Nations human rights system, treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review, and were held in parallel to relevant United Nations meetings. The organization also conducted in-country training sessions on the United Nations human rights system, chiefly in West and Central Africa, as well as in the Asia-Pacific, Latin America and

Middle East regions. Workshops were also held to prepare civil society organizations for visits by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on human rights defenders.

Advocacy: the organization was involved in advocacy initiatives aimed at improving the effectiveness of human rights mechanisms from 2007 to 2010. In New York, it worked with other NGOs to advocate for a transparent selection process during the recruitment of the new United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including by coordinating joint NGO meetings with the Office of the Secretary-General.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization made 18 statements and 13 joint statements from the fourth to the fifteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council and held seven parallel events at the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly (see full list at www.ishr.ch/statements). In New York, the organization held parallel events at the sixty-second, sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions of the General Assembly, together with the mission of Norway, featuring the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on human rights defenders.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In coordination with OHCHR and others, the organization held training sessions for members of the National Commission of Human Rights of Togo (2008); a workshop in Togo to strengthen collaboration between the national human rights institution and participants in training programmes (2009); a seminar to prepare participants for the universal periodic review of Togo (2010); and training, in the Pacific region, on the United Nations human rights system (2010). The organization received scholarships from UNDP in 2007 for two participants to attend its advanced Geneva training course. Scholarships from UNDP, Togo, were received for two participants to attend the French-language advanced Geneva training course (2008 and 2009). Funding was received (2010) from OHCHR for the organization's evaluation of its training courses.

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

In 2010, in New York, the organization worked with other NGOs to facilitate effective access and participation in the United Nations High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, including meeting with the Head of the United Nations task team to facilitate the summit.

7. Japan Civil Liberties Union

Special, 2003

Introduction and contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Japan Civil Liberties Union established a study group in 2009 to research the system of communications by individuals from a civil society point of view, with the aim of making the system more accessible to the public. The group examines the

international conventions, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, court cases in Japan and the United States. In addition, a member of the Union attended an international NGO seminar on the topic in Malaysia. The Union has also participated in periodical consultations on international human rights. These consultations, which involved NGOs as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, provided a platform for sharing their activities and views.

There are many other activities of JCLU which are not directly related to the work of the United Nations. The Union frequently issues advice, memoranda and opinions on specific human rights cases related to activities of the national and local governments, the Diet and the courts of Japan. In addition, the Union leads various campaigns for new domestic legislation and ratification of international human rights treaties by the Japanese Government, including a broad range of human rights issues involving the freedom of religion and information, post-war compensation, environmental pollution, refugees and serious criminal cases. The Union has organized a series of committees for freedom of expression, the human rights of foreigners, corporate activity and human rights, human rights for mentally disabled people, information disclosure and the protection of individual information and health care and human rights.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In July and August 2009, representatives of the Union attended the forty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. A member of the Union has been a member of the Committee.

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

As mentioned above, the Union is deeply involved in the issue of gender equality, which is one of the Millennium Development Goals. The organization has not, however, participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies as most members of the Union have their own jobs and thus have difficulty finding the time to participate in the work of the Council. Nevertheless, the activities of the Council and of its subsidiary bodies are important to the Union, which hopes to be able to participate in its meetings in the future. The Union studies and researches relevant themes in its sessions in order to mainstream the Millennium Development Goals into its activities.

8. Muslim World League

General, 1979

Introduction

The Muslim World League is an international Islamic NGO.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the League include: the provision of educational, social, sanitary and religious services to poor Muslim and non-Muslim communities; the provision of support to the dialogue on civilizations; contributing to world peace; and the

enhancement of moral aspects of life. The means for achieving these aims include financing relevant service projects; providing relevant literature; the organization of conferences, symposia, seminars and training courses; the conduct of enlightenment programmes; and the dispatch of delegations to combat terrorism in the name of Islam.

Significant changes in the organization

The Constituent Council of the League created four affiliate organizations during the reporting period: an international organization for the introduction and support of the Prophet Muhammad; an international organization for human development; an international organization for physicians across continents; and an international Islamic organization for lawyers.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Main activities in support of the Council's agenda cover the organization of the following events during the reporting period:

2008: the International Islamic Conference on Dialogue, Saudi Arabia; and the World Conference on Dialogue, Madrid.

2009: the conference on contemporary media: between freedom of expression and religion sacrilege; the conference on education and its development in West Africa; the forum on Islam and peaceful coexistence; and the conference on the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques (King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia) for dialogue and its impact on promoting human values.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2007: representatives attended the "World Day for Childhood Poetry" in Brussels; the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) on emerging social issues, Bangkok.

2008: representatives attended the session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Bali, Indonesia; sixty-fourth session of ESCAP, Bangkok; summit of religious leaders for peace and the Conference of the Group of Eight, Hokkaido, Japan; Geneva conference for interfaith cooperation and the protection of human rights and dignity; International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People; first Forum for the Alliance of Civilizations, Madrid.

2009: representatives attended the UNESCO international day of reflection on the role of religions in promoting interreligious dialogue, Paris; the sixty-fifth session of ESCAP, Bangkok; the International Conference of Non-governmental Organizations, London; the meeting for promoting the initiative of setting up a mechanism of dialogue between religious communities and UNESCO, July, Moscow; the preliminary meeting, Africa region, for the twelfth United Nations Conference on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, September, Nairobi; third meeting of United Nations Member States on corruption, drugs and crime, November, Doha; fifth Conference of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions, December, Melbourne, Australia; international conference on human rights, May, Seoul.

2010: representatives attended the sixty-sixth session of ESCAP, May, Incheon, Republic of Korea; nineteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, May, Vienna; fourth conference of international human rights organizations to combat racism and childhood crimes, August, Anaheim, United States; general conference of the international organization for man's welfare, August, Dakar; and the fourth international conference to combat racism and childhood crimes, August, Dakar.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Although the organization did not carry out any specific projects with the United Nations in one of its specialized agencies, it is making arrangements with WHO on the implementation of an AIDS programme in Africa.

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

The organization did not take specific initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals but rather focused on dialogue efforts and education. However, long processes impeded the implementation of a proposed cultural project with UNESCO. The organization intends to implement income-generating projects for poor families, including digging wells in countries in Africa, in 2011.

9. National Association of Community Legal Centres

Special, 2003

Introduction

The National Association of Community Legal Centres is the umbrella organization representing community legal centres in Australia. It is a federated structure. Its members are state and territory associations. Together, these organizations represent around 185 community legal centres nationally.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Community legal centres are independent, not-for-profit community-based organizations providing free legal advice, information and education to local client communities. Service delivery includes an integrated mix of information and advice provision, casework, court representation, outreach work, community development education, capacity-building, law reform, policy work and systemic advocacy. The objective of the organization is to assist disadvantaged and marginalized people in the Australian community to obtain access to legal services by: supporting and assisting community legal centres to provide these services; providing a national forum for community legal centres; developing and coordinating national community legal centres policy; advancing the interests of community legal centres within Australia.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association has coordinated NGO shadow reports to promote balanced reviews of Australia by United Nations treaty body committees and as part of the Universal Periodic Review process. The Association has endorsed the provision of inputs by member organizations on the review of NGO involvement in the Committee on the

Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Council. The organization also promotes the use of the United Nations human rights system (in particular the treaty bodies, the Universal Periodic Review and the special mechanisms of the Human Rights Council) as complementary to the domestic human rights advocacy of the community legal sector.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization made a statement condemning the detention and torture of Sekai Holland by the Government of Zimbabwe at the fourth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in 2007; the organization also contributed to: the NGO report on Australia's compliance with the Convention against Torture (2007); the NGO report on the review of Australia by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (April 2008); the NGO report on Australia's review by the Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (2008); the NGO report related to the review of Australia by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2010); the NGO report on the Universal Periodic Review of Australia (2010); the shadow report of the Steering Committee on the review of Australia by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2011). Since 2007, the Association has attended numerous United Nations meetings, including: the eighth session of the ad hoc committee on a United Nations Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities; the ESCAP workshop on regional follow-up to the seventh session and preparation for the eighth session of the ad hoc committee on a United Nations Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities; the fourth, fifth, fourteenth and fifteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva; the review of Australia by the Committee against Torture (2007); the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2009); and the review of Australia by the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York (2010).

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

The organization, through its membership on the Australian task force on the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, contributes to: shadow reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as well as reports on economic, social and cultural rights, which provide Australian civil society with evidence-based advocacy documents on the status of such rights that are relevant to development in Australia. The organization also contributes to advocacy and research-based reports to promote: the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to equal development; the right to adequate housing; the adoption by Australia of a poverty reduction strategy; social inclusion in Australia through provision of legal assistance services to the most vulnerable and marginalized individuals and communities.

10. New Human Rights

Special, 1995

Introduction

New Human Rights is a non-governmental organization based in Buenos Aires, which is committed to the promotion of human rights and humanitarian law. The organization is also established in France. Branches of the organization are being established in Yaounde, Rome and Lebanon although they have not yet been granted status of affiliates with the United Nations since they have not yet met United Nations requirements. There have been no substantial changes to the organization since its previous report.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is financially independent. It does not accept Government contributions or subsidies in order to keep its political independence.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization disseminates information about the work of the United Nations with regard to human rights and humanitarian law through round tables, seminars and conferences as well as through its bulletins and information posted on its web page. It has organized seminars in connection with the following United Nations Conventions and related topics:

- Convention on the Rights of the Child, Buenos Aires, July 2007
- Martial law, March 2008
- The work of the Human Rights Committee, Buenos Aires, December 2008
- The treatment of detainees in detention centres, Cordoba, July 2009
- The right to dignified housing
- The right to development, Buenos Aires, October 2010.

The organization has published the Universal Declaration on Indigenous Rights in its bulletin; prepared a position paper on the resolution of the Human Rights Council on human rights violations in Uzbekistan; and reported on the Council's examination of human rights situations in various countries.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization's representative in Geneva has participated and attended the main meetings of United Nations treaty bodies in Geneva, including those of the Human Rights Council and its committees.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has supported the teaching of human rights at the University of Buenos Aires.

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

The organization has published and disseminated information on:

- The need to fight poverty and to promote a healthy environment, as well as activities against the death penalty.
- The observation of Human Rights Day each year on 10 December.
- The granting of the literary prize for human rights on 10 December each year.
- The posting, following the initiative of the branch of the organization in Paris, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in all schools in France, as approved by President Nicholas Sarkozy, on 29 November 2010.
- The right of asylum in Switzerland.
- The granting of funds to the Human Rights Council.
- The agreement of the Security Council with the Government of Lebanon on the creation of an international court to prosecute a terrorist attack.
- Condemnation to the death penalty in Iraq.
- The campaign against the practice of stoning in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Additional information

The organization keeps a specialized library on human rights which is open to research students. The organization also maintains a permanent liaison with: the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C.; Amnesty International in London; the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva; and 35 NGOs working in the field of human rights worldwide. Members of the organization in Argentina and France have written and published books and reports on human rights.

11. New Japan Women's Association

Special, 2003

Introduction and contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Between 2007 and 2010, the Association focused on the two major global review processes: the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, as well as the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the consideration of the country reports submitted by the Government of Japan by the Human Rights Council (Universal Periodic Review) in 2008 and by the forty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2009. The organization took part in all of the above processes, providing inputs, monitoring the meetings and providing information on the outcomes through its publications and website. The organization also supported the gender equality architecture reform campaign, including the global efforts by NGOs, which made a great contribution to

the establishment of UN-Women. In 2010, the organization commemorated the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period the organization submitted written statements to the fifty-first through fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. A representative of the organization attended the fifty-fourth session. In 2008, the organization submitted information on the human rights situation in Japan to the second session of the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council, in Geneva. In 2009, a representative attended the forty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in New York, at which the Committee considered the 6th periodic report of Japan on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Relevant information is available from the Committee's website (<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/cedaws44.htm>). A representative of the organization attended the fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (December 2009, Copenhagen), as a member of the Japan Network for Earth Environment and the Prevention of Pollution. In 2010, three representatives participated as members of the delegation of the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo) at the meetings and side events organized by NGOs before and during the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (May 2010, New York). On 4 May a representative of Gensuikyo submitted 6,901,307 signatures to the Conference, 1.5 million of which had been collected by members of the organization from all over Japan, in support of the petition calling for the start of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

As a supporting member of the Japan national committee for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the organization assists in the work of that body.

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

The organization supports the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals primarily by educating its members and the general public through its regular publications and its website. In 2009 and 2010, as the Government reviewed the basic plan for a gender-equal society, the organization worked to make sure that the development agenda and the international instruments and recommendations received from United Nations entities were fully incorporated into the plan. The organization gives particular importance to raising awareness about the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as a tool to ensure that all individuals can live in a more peaceful, equitable and sustainable society. The organization continues to be part of the global effort to achieve the shared goal of a “nuclear-weapon-free world”.

12. World Federation of Democratic Youth

General, 1947

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As a democratic and progressive youth organization, the Federation has established bonds with over 150 organizations in more than 100 countries from the five continents of the world, spreading the ideals of peace, mutual understanding and mutual respect. The work of the organization is mainly focused on raising the awareness of youth worldwide about major issues and how, through collective and tolerant action, they can be solved, drawing attention to the role played by the United Nations at international level. Its activities, as described below, and its participation in the work of the United Nations bodies are its main contribution to the work of the Organization.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, representatives of the organization attended: the fifth and sixth UNESCO Youth Forums (Paris, October 2007, November 2009); the forty-eighth session of the International Conference on Education (Geneva, November 2008); International Conference of NGOs that maintain official relations with UNESCO (Paris, December 2007); the forty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development (2008); the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2008); and the World Youth Conference (Mexico, 2010). The organization has taken part in the activities of the Women's International Democratic Federation within the framework of the United Nations week dedicated to the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has continued its cooperation with UNESCO and maintained communication with the Youth Section of the Secretariat on information about activities broadcast through "News Flash". It has also contributed to the development of the International Year of Youth through the seventeenth World Festival of Youth and Students (see below).

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

During the reporting period the organization has developed awareness-raising activities among youth on the following topics related to the Millennium Development Goals: access to education; access to decent jobs; peace and conflict resolution; refugee rights; democratic and civil rights and liberties; and environmental protection. The most significant activity was the seventeenth World Festival of Youth and Students, held in South Africa in December 2010, on the theme: "We will defeat imperialism, for a world of peace, solidarity and social transformation". The Festival was attended by over 15,000 young people.

13. World Jewish Congress

Special, 1947

Introduction

The World Jewish Congress, the largest umbrella organization for Jewish communities around the world, with 92 member communities, was founded in 1936 with the goal of preserving human rights and fighting racism, bigotry, anti-Semitism and xenophobia, as well as to act as the diplomatic wing of the Jewish people. The headquarters of the organization are in New York City, with offices in Geneva, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Paris, Moscow and Jerusalem. During the period under review, the organization continued to be concerned with an alarming rise in anti-Semitism, racism and intolerance in many areas of the world, particularly in South America, Europe and the Middle East.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization considers its links with the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies to be extremely important. It has maintained its connections to the Council and its information channels, as well as with the Human Rights Council and its Advisory Committee. The organization also follows the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, in which the organization was actively involved; and the Committee against Torture. The Congress supports the work of UNHRC and has maintained a close liaison with the United Nations Office at Geneva on matters pertaining to women's rights, the rights of ethnic and religious minorities and those of refugees. The Congress participates in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and is in regular contact with representatives of United Nations missions and representatives of the United Nations Secretariat on many issues. Representatives of the organization regularly participate in the Women's International Forum.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In addition to its close cooperation with the United Nations Office at Geneva and UNHRC on the issue of rights for women and religious minorities, the organization participated in the World Conference against Racism in Geneva in April 2009. Representatives of the organization participated in the Universal Periodic Review process of the Human Rights Council and presented a report on human rights abuses on 15 February 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Congress follows closely the reports of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the nuclear arms race and a representative routinely attends meetings of UNESCO in Paris. During the period under review, representatives attended all the sessions of the Human Rights Council; numerous side events dealing with racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia; and the last four sessions of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Representatives of the Congress attended the Durban Review Conference that took place in the United Nations Office at Geneva in 2009. During the period under review, representatives of the Congress were in contact with the relevant

officials of the United Nations, including the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and their staff. Representatives participated in many meetings during the 2010 International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures and the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World.

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

The Congress is deeply committed to the issue of climate change. Representatives support scientific accomplishments in water reclamation in the Middle East in order to alleviate the water shortage in that region. To aid in these goals, representatives attended the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The organization is also deeply committed to advancing the status of women across the globe. Representatives initiated mentoring programmes for poverty-stricken women and women at risk by opening centres in the Middle East catering to women from Muslim, Christian and Jewish communities. Representatives support UN-Women and promote the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, attending all the sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women during the period under review. Representatives have attended all the United Nations World AIDS Day events.

Additional information

The Congress plays a leading role among NGOs of the different religious groups, regularly hosting meetings with United Nations representatives, ambassadors and other officials on issues pertaining to Middle East peace, the effectiveness of the United Nations, human rights, women's rights and the prevention of racism, intolerance and xenophobia. The Congress believes in furthering the work of the United Nations and NGOs interested in increasing peace and security and preventing racism and discrimination around the world.

14. World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry

Special, 2007

Introduction

The World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry is an international organization with headquarters in Denmark.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is to be a global forum and voice of users and survivors of psychiatry, to promote their rights and interests. The aims of the organization are to: advocate for the advancement of human rights of users and survivors of psychiatry; provide international representation and consultation to influence matters that affect users and survivors; encourage the development of national user/survivor organizations in each country; facilitate effective information exchange among user/survivor organizations around the world; and develop

networking opportunities for individual users and survivors of psychiatry throughout the world.

Significant changes in the organization

No significant change is reported for the reporting period.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In 2007, the organization initiated the legal capacity task force of the International Disability Alliance forum on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which, in 2008, issued “Principles for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, article 12” and supported the issuance of a legal opinion on article 12. Also in 2008 the Network produced an “Implementation manual for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”, to support the application of the principles of the Convention to the rights of users and survivors of psychiatry. Through its newsletter and e-mail list the Network promotes the value of engaging with United Nations human rights mechanisms and treaties, in particular the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. During the reporting period, co-chairs, board members and other representatives of the Network have been invited as international experts to Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain and the United States of America.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Network has participated in the following United Nations meetings during the reporting period: Human Rights Council, sixth session (2007); high-level intergovernmental meeting on the midpoint review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons (Bangkok, 2007); forty-sixth session of the Commission on Social Development (2008); the celebration of the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008); the first, second and third sessions of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008-2010); WNUSP submitted a paper entitled “supported versus substituted decision-making” and submitted recommendations. In 2010, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities day of general discussion on “Accessibility”, the Network submitted a paper and made a statement on the topic of accessibility from the perspective of users and survivors of psychiatry.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2007, the Network made a presentation at the expert seminar, entitled “Freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and persons with disabilities”, organized by OHCHR, on the subject “Non-consensual psychiatric intervention and psychiatric detention as a form of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment”. WNUSP provided information to the World Health Organization (WHO) for its *World Report on Disability and Rehabilitation*. In 2008, 2009 and 2010, members submitted urgent appeals and letters to the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The Network also contributed materials for the website of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs for the launch of the WHO report on mental health and development in 2010.

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

Goal 1: Although the Network lacks the staff and financial means to directly address Goal 1, some member organizations undertake projects for economic self-sufficiency of their disabled members.

Goal 3: Representatives take part in the International Network of Women With Disabilities.

Goal 8: The organization supports its members in struggling for full inclusion in all development activities, and for development that is in line with human rights standards, particularly the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Members engage in bilateral cooperation, including partnerships between members in Ireland and Uganda, and between members in the Netherlands and Rwanda.

15. World Young Women's Christian Association

Special, 1947

Introduction

The World Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) is a global network of women leading social and economic change in 125 countries worldwide. It advocates for peace, justice, human rights and the environment, and has been at the forefront of raising the status of women for over a century. It reaches 25 million women and girls through work in 22,000 communities. It is a volunteer membership movement inspired by Christian principles and a commitment to women's full and equal participation in society. It is inclusive of women from many faiths, backgrounds and cultures.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of the World YWCA is a fully inclusive world where justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women's leadership. Its purpose is to develop the leadership and collective power of women and girls around the world to achieve justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment.

Significant changes in the organization

The Constitution of the World YWCA was amended in 2007.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The World YWCA contributes to advance the work of the United Nations through work on the following priorities: human rights of women and children; sustainable development (including women's economic justice and the environment); women's health and HIV and AIDS; and world peace with justice.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the World YWCA attended the following meetings during the reporting period:

2007: fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women; the organization presented the following statement on “World YWCA urges members of the Commission on the Status of Women to protect the girl child from HIV and AIDS”.

2008: fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women; the organization presented the following statement on “World YWCA calls for increased resources for women’s rights, security and empowerment in the context of HIV and AIDS”; Panel with UNIFEM on “Innovative approaches to financing gender equality and women’s empowerment: Creative partnerships with diverse organizations”; Regional forum on strengthening partnerships with faith-based organizations in addressing the International Conference on Population and Development, Kuala Lumpur; 8th session of the Human Rights Council.

2009: fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women; the organization presented the following statement on “Beyond shelter: An interactive discussion on strategies to prevent violence against women”; international conference on United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, Reykjavik.

2010: round-table seminar “Redefining justice: Hidden realities of violence against women in Nepal”; fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, at which the organization presented a statement on “Strengthening community capacity for peacebuilding — YWCAs implementing United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) in the Sudan, Sri Lanka and Palestine”; United Nations private sector forum on the Millennium Development Goals; the ten-year commemoration of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has: memorandums of understanding with the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Population Fund and the Economic Commission for Africa; joint programme with UNDP on HIV and AIDS; observers on the Board of UNAIDS; members in Global Coalition on Women and AIDS; and members on the WHO programme coordination committee on reproductive health. World YWCA also participates in the UN-Women “Say No to Violence” campaign and capacity-building activities for women in the Caribbean.

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

Special focus on: Goal 3, on women leadership and access to education for women and girls (in 51 countries); Goals 4 and 5, on sexual and reproductive health and rights through access to information for young women (in 48 countries); and Goal 6, on HIV through prevention, care and support programmes (in 70 countries).

Additional information

The General Secretary participates in the WHO Commission of Information and Accountability for Women’s and Children’s Health.