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1. CARE International

General, 1991

Introduction

CARE International is one of the world's leading humanitarian organizations, fighting global poverty for more than 65 years. CARE International is an independent, non-political, non-religious federation comprised of 12 members in Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. In 2010, its programmes improved the lives of nearly 57 million people in 72 countries. Its emergency response and recovery projects reached more than 4.5 million people in 37 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

CARE International facilitates lasting improvements in the poorest communities in the world by strengthening capacity for self-help, providing economic opportunity, delivering relief in emergencies, influencing policy decisions at all levels and addressing discrimination in all its forms. Women and girls are at the heart of its community-based work on maternal and child health, basic education, the prevention of HIV/AIDS, access to economic opportunity and adaptation to climate change.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

CARE International has its secretariat in Geneva, representational offices to the United Nations in New York and to the European Union in Brussels and field-based programmes in some 72 countries. Senior officials and staff held regular annual meetings with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Fund, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)), to name a few.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In spring 2008, CARE International co-hosted and participated in several United Nations high-level events relating to the global food crisis. At the United Nations Climate Change Summit in September 2009, the Secretary-General of CARE International participated in the Climate Change Leadership Forum, and met with the Under-Secretaries-General for Humanitarian Affairs and for Safety and Security. In 2009, CARE International co-authored a report with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on the impact of climate change on population displacement and emergencies. During the session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2008, CARE International co-hosted an event with the Governments of Finland and the United Republic of Tanzania on innovations in financing for girls' education; it held two side events with the Governments of Germany and the Netherlands on HIV/AIDS, in 2009; and it participated in a UNIFEM-sponsored workshop on women and peace and security to develop indicators for monitoring progress at national level, in 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Examples of numerous formal and informal relationships with most major United Nations agencies, funds and programmes include: (a) a new memorandum of understanding with WFP (September 2007) to strengthen the Logistics Cluster in humanitarian emergencies; (b) a letter of understanding with UNFPA (September 2009) on the implementation of UNFPA-funded annual workplans; (c) project cooperation agreements with UNICEF for the rapid response team project (July 2010) of the global cluster on water, sanitation and health; and (d) participating membership in the United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee Principals and working groups on security and climate change.

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

Nearly all of the work of CARE International strove to achieve one or more of the Millennium Development Goals, and CARE also served as a founding member of the Secretary-General's Millennium Development Goals Advisory Group for the global strategic initiative, "Every woman, every child". In 2010, CARE International programmes reached almost 19 million women, men and children in 25 countries with information and services to improve maternal health (Goal 5). The following are additional activities in 2010. Goal 1: some 217 projects in 40 countries improved food security for more than 6.5 million people, over half of whom are women. Goal 1: 330 projects in 43 countries helped to reduce poverty for more than 19.5 million people. Goal 2: 164 projects in 37 countries provided more than 11.5 million people with improved access to school and better quality education. Goal 3: 288 programmes in 39 countries reached almost 21 million people, including over 5.5 million men, with information and tools to promote gender equality and empower women to realize their rights.

2. Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos "Capaj"

Special, 1999

Introduction

Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos "Capaj" is a non-governmental organization founded by Indian jurists on 8 December 1993. It brings together lawyers from organizations and communities in South America for the purpose of defending the rights of indigenous Andean native people, and promoting self-sustained development of indigenous peoples in the Andean region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main objectives of the organization are to promote respect for the fundamental rights of indigenous peoples; promote self-sustaining development through participation in regional forums; implement projects to support the development of indigenous peoples on the basis of the exercise of their democratic rights and their productive capacity; and promote international peace and security.

Significant changes in the organization

Capaj submitted to the Human Rights Committee a case of a violation of article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Capaj participated in the process for the appointment of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. It also contributed to the Human Rights Council process on the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2007-2010 — The organization participated in the sixth to the ninth sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

2008-2011 — The organization participated in meetings of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

2009-2010 — The organization participated in the sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is an ad hoc observer to the IGC/WIPO Intergovernmental Committee of the World Intellectual Property Organization, which is developing a draft international standard to protect traditional knowledge, cultural expressions and genetic resources.

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

Goal 1: Capaj took the initiative of safeguarding the high Andean aquatic ecosystems and water sources for indigenous communities living in the border of Peru, Chile and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Goal 7: Capaj protected wetlands in the Andes, restoring the ecological balance that ensured the continuity of production water in the header high Andean mountains of Peru, Chile and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Additional information

Capaj lawyers have contributed to international jurisprudence that leads, under the doctrine of juridical pluralism, to new and fairer relationships between indigenous peoples and States.

3. General Federation of Jordanian Women

Special, 1999

Introduction

The General Federation of Jordanian Women was established in 1981 as a national non-governmental organization of women's associations and societies to enhance the political, economic and social status of women in Jordan. In 1999, Princess Basma was asked to become the Honorary President of the General Federation of

Jordanian Women. The membership includes 180 women's organizations that are registered at the Ministry of Social Development, with 18,000 women members. It has headquarters in each of the 12 governorates and offers educational opportunities and guidance in family welfare and health. It also advocates for legislative reform that favours women and gender equality and initiates income-generating activities.

The Federation has been a member of the Jordanian National Commission for Women since its establishment, in addition to its membership in NGO Coordinating Committee of the National Commission.

The Federation offers training programmes for women in various trades to help improve their social, health and economic standards. Among the Federation's many achievements are soft loan projects that are offered to women through women's charitable organizations; these loans have also helped to benefit women through job creation. The Federation focuses its work to enhance the position of women in society mainly by supporting women's rights, increasing their political and their socioeconomic status and changing the societal perception of the role of women.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Gender equity. The Federation is keenly aware of the importance of gender equity. It aims to advance the status of women by ensuring equity and equality among both sexes in all walks of life, with the assistance and involvement of the various local and international organizations.

Political and legal empowerment. The Federation has adopted projects that are aimed at encouraging and empowering women to get involved in political parties, the electoral system, the foundation and manifestation of democracy, human and political rights in general and for women in particular, quotas, gender equality, the role of Jordanian parliament in democracy and political development, leadership skills and decision-making, communication skills and so on.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation participated in the advocacy campaign organized by Jordanian Coalition for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

4. Global Fund for Women

Special, 1995

Introduction

The Global Fund for Women is a non-profit, grant-making organization located in the United States. It invests in women's groups serving the most marginalized women and girls in 174 countries in five programme regions: Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Oceania, Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and sub-Saharan Africa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Global Fund is to advance women's human rights by mobilizing resources and making grants that support and strengthen women's groups around the world.

Significant changes in the organization

In August 2011, Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro joined the Global Fund as the new President and Chief Executive Officer. The Global Fund also expanded its reach from 172 countries to 174.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The investment of the Global Fund in women-led organizations around the world has contributed directly to the work of the United Nations, namely in the areas of gender equality, poverty reduction, health, employment, education, human rights, the environment, sustainable development, finance and governance. It give grants to organizations that are working to build peace and end gender-based violence, increase access to education, advance health and sexual and reproductive rights, expand civic and political participation, ensure economic and environmental justice and foster philanthropy for social change.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Since 2000, the Global Fund has sent representatives, sponsored grantees to attend and organized sessions in parallel NGO forums during the sessions of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Committee on the Status of Women. It has also taken part in international conferences relating to health and reproductive rights, women's rights, environment and sustainable development. The Global Fund has also sent representatives and sponsored grantees to attend the NGO forums associated with the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the follow-up to the international conferences on population and development and on women.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Global Fund supported grantees to engage with the planning and passing of the International Labour Organization Convention concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers, 2011. Similarly, the Global Fund has supported grantee participation in meetings leading up to and during the sessions to develop the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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

The Global Fund worked on the achievement of Goal 3, promote gender equality and empower women, which is its core mission. In 2011 alone, it invested \$7.6 million in 461 groups in 106 countries. Since 1987, it has invested over \$100 million in women-led initiatives to promote gender equality. The following are some examples of the impact of the Global Fund in 2011:

(a) In Uruguay, the tireless work for reproductive justice by *Mujer y Salud Uruguay* and *Mujer Ahora* resulted in the Uruguayan Senate voting to decriminalize

first-trimester abortion. President Jose Mujica has said that he will sign the bill into law, and when he does, Uruguay will become one of only four countries in Latin America and the Caribbean where a woman can legally obtain an abortion without restriction during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy;

(b) Association démocratique des femmes du Maroc and La ligue démocratique pour les droits des femmes, of Morocco, led successful public-awareness and advocacy efforts to secure women's equality in the national Constitution. Two articles added to the Constitution now guarantee women equal social, economic, political, environmental and civil rights;

(c) Some 11 Global Fund grantee partners, including World March of Women and Urgent Action Fund-Africa, successfully pressured the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to convict and sentence nine military personnel to 20 years in prison for acts of mass rape and crimes against humanity.

5. Institute for Cognitive Science Studies

Special, 2003

Introduction

The impact of cognitive science on the promotion of well-being of human societies and on the interaction among individuals within a given society is highly important to all.

The Institute for Cognitive Science Studies is one of the few academic/research institutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran devoted to teaching and conducting research in this field. The Institute was founded as a study group in 1997 and has gradually expanded its scope to admit doctoral-level students in the area of cognitive neuroscience. The Institute also launched its master's degree programme in the field of cognitive psychology, in February 2008.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Institute pursues the following major objectives:

- Discovery of important, unknown facts about key issues in cognitive science
- Understanding unresolved issues in cognitive science
- Identifying means of employing achievements in cognitive science. The Institute aims at significantly increasing its share of producing new findings, theories and scientific models by 2015.

The facilities of the Institute, including its laboratories and the specialized library, and its flagship quarterly publication "Advances in cognitive science" are instrumental in achieving the above-mentioned aims. Internationally, the Institute uses its cooperative agreements with other institutions, such as the University of Florida and University of Zurich, to promote its academic objectives. The agreements with these universities provide for the exchange of experiences, scientific findings, faculty and students, and for performing joint research and educational projects.

Significant changes in the organization

For the purpose of creating a dynamic environment, in 2009 a group of scientists and university professors held frequent and successive joint meetings in order to develop a blueprint for the future activities and orientation of the Institute. This strategic document has provided a modern vision for the Institute and its objectives as a whole in the preparation of a 10-year plan of action.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute is actively involved in organizing and/or co-sponsoring numerous local workshops and international conferences relating to cognitive science in line with the advancement of the development agenda of the Council. The Fourth International Conference of Cognitive Science (10-12 May 2011) was the most recent such conference. The Institute has also continuously been engaged in the dissemination of data and public awareness with the collaboration of United Nations institutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the areas of physical and mental health, children and social development and so on.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Unfortunately, owing to budgetary limitations and the fact that almost all of the qualified and professional staff of the Institute are fully occupied with their academic activities, its members have been unable to attend United Nations forums.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute has established close cooperation with many United Nations entities such as UNFPA, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and others, and with their regional offices in Tehran. Currently, the Institute has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Iranian National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Tehran for establishment of a Chair-programme at the Institute. In addition, the Institute has conducted joint research projects in the Islamic Republic of Iran, such as the project on the impact of war on the psychological health of Afghan and Iraqi children, a research agreement with UNHCR.

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

Although the nature of its activities is highly technical and educational, the Institute believes that throughout all its endeavours, the noble objectives of the Millennium Development Goals have constantly been addressed and promoted.

6. Jamaican Association on Mental Retardation

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Jamaican Association on Intellectual Disabilities, formerly the Jamaican Association on Mental Retardation, celebrates 57 years of advocating and creating

opportunities for persons with intellectual disabilities. The Association is a non-profit organization providing educational and support services for persons with intellectual disabilities and their families with a geographic reach in 13 of the 14 parishes in Jamaica. It is an active member of the global community on intellectual disability. As a signatory to the Montreal Declaration on Intellectual Disabilities, the organization, in common with other international organizations across the world, changed its name in keeping with this agreement.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In 2011, the organization commenced the development of the plan to provide strategic direction to the organization. This strategic plan is now in its final stage and covers the period 2012-2020. The mission of the organization is to provide services that will positively transform the lives of all persons with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. Its vision is to be the national unifying organization in creating communities where such person are empowered and fully integrated.

Significant changes in the organization

In May 2009, the name the Jamaican Association on Mental Retardation was changed to the Jamaican Association on Intellectual Disabilities. A structured campaign was implemented to educate stakeholders, culminating at the organization's annual general meeting and parents' conference in 2010. In September 2010, the Executive Director, Grace Verona Duncan, who had served the organization for more than 20 years, and under whose leadership the consultative status was obtained, died.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization submitted a statement to the 2012 annual ministerial review on employment and decent work.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization worked with the following agencies targeting the varying needs of persons with disabilities:

The European Commission/UNFPA/Government of Jamaica Joint Programme in Sexual and Reproductive Health, geared at building awareness of sexual and reproductive health issues and rights among adolescents with disabilities.

In 2008-2009, the organization partnered with the Jamaica United Commission for UNESCO to implement a speech and language continuation training programme for senior teachers. More than 120 intervention programmes were developed and implemented among children with significant challenges.

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

The Association through its advocacy coordinated inter-agency projects benefiting the community of persons with disabilities, such as the Development Therapies for Children with Special Needs, with the support of the Environmental Foundation of

Jamaica in 2009. Some 152 parents and 100 staff members with 45 students received direct interventions.

7. Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs

Special, 1991

Introduction

The Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs addresses the root problems of arms control and disarmament, focusing mainly on areas of nuclear risk.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Pugwash Conferences bring together influential scientists, scholars and public figures concerned with reducing the danger of armed conflict and seeking cooperative solutions for global problems, meeting in private as individuals, rather than as representatives of Governments or institutions, to explore alternative approaches to arms control and tension reduction with candour, continuity and flexibility.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The work of Pugwash Conferences on dialogue, conflict resolution and reducing nuclear risk contribute concretely to United Nations concerns on reducing armed conflict through peaceful means, non-proliferation, reducing the dangers related to chemical and biological weapons, and human security. In the reporting period, 56 workshops were organized on the topics relating to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the review conferences of the parties to the chemical weapons and the biological weapons conventions, climate change, conflict resolution in the Middle East and beyond, among others. Pugwash also held three large conferences which stressed regional participation and regional issues, as well as the involvement of young participants, who organized their own separate but connected conference.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Pugwash held expert consultations on the status of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and its entry into force, in New York, 12 October 2009. The Director of the Pugwash Geneva Office, as well as members of the Pugwash Chemical and Biological Weapons Steering Committee, participated directly in the preparations for the seventh session of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Pugwash is involved mainly with work relating to the review conferences of the parties to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and weapons conventions. Its limited staff does not allow for participation in other activities of the Council.

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

The activities of the organization focus on issues relating to nuclear risk, disarmament and arms control. Any reduction of arms means greater human security and more money to be addressed to social issues of poverty, hunger, education and improvement in the condition of women.

8. Stree Mukti Sanghatana

Special, 1999

Introduction

Stree Mukti Sanghatana follows an integrated approach towards all local, national and international issues and policies relating to women.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Most of the activities of the organization have been an integral part of its work of some 35 years, and have constantly expanded in numbers, geographical area and consciousness-raising.
- The organization participated as an observer in the sixteenth South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Summit, held in Bhutan in April 2010.
- The organization has extensively worked to create awareness about women's rights and has made conscious efforts to promote girls' education and to integrate the issue of illiterate, downtrodden and backward caste/backward class women in the aims and objectives of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Stree Mukti Sanghatana has significantly contributed to the activities, conventions and objectives of the United Nations, as follows:

- The preparation of an alternate report for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, with the National Alliance of Women (India).
- Participation in the tenth and eleventh plans of the Government of India for the promotion of gender.
- The President and other members participated at the fifty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 25 February to 7 March 2008.
- Representatives participated at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 1 to 12 March 2010.
- The President and representatives participated in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change processes and took part in side events at the climate change conferences.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Cooperation with UNICEF on the training of police personnel in Maharashtra (men and women trainees) in legal awareness and attitudes towards women, and the preparation of training materials on laws related to women.
- Cooperation with UNFPA as a resource organization for a training programme for police personnel in Maharashtra.

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

Goal 1: The organization is working with some 3,000 urban waste pickers in four cities in India through self-help groups.

Goal 2: The organization conducts an education promotion programme for 5,000 children of waste pickers, especially girls, which has resulted in the abolition of child labour.

Goal 3: The organization is part of the women's movement in India. The activities of the organization are mainly directed towards the equality and development of women, such as family counselling centres for distressed women, a campaign for marriage registration, a campaign against child selection, campaigns for the improvement of the laws relating to domestic violence, sexual harassment in the workplace, and so on.

Goal 4: The organization has provided access to the children of waste pickers to health care by opening a dispensary for them.

Goal 5: The organization conducts annual health check-up camps and health-awareness camps for 3,000 waste picker women and their daughters.

Goal 6: The organization conducts annual camps for adolescent sensitization for 20,000 boys and girls, with sessions on sexuality, adolescence, stress management, vocational guidance and vices.

Goal 7: The approach adopted by the organization in Parisar Vikas was found to be most sustainable as it imparts the beneficiaries — waste pickers and other poor women — with knowledge and skills, advocates for their rights and helps them to get organized. It improves the lives of women and their children, improves recycling methods, saves fuel, produces compost and protects the environment.

Goal 8: The organization partners with various international organizations such as Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing, the Clinton Global Initiative, the Mary Robinson Foundation, the Global Alliance against Incinerators, Women Playwrights International, Ashoka International, Maharashtra Foundation and others.