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	<i>Page</i>
1. International Council for Caring Communities	2
2. International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment	3
3. International Council of Jewish Women	5
4. International Council on Management of Population Programmes	6
5. International Development Enterprises (India)	8
6. International Federation for Home Economics	9
7. International Federation of Building and Wood Workers	11
8. International Federation of Journalists	12
9. International Holistic Tourism Education Centre	14
10. International Initiative for Peace	15
11. International Institute for the Development of Citizenship	16
12. International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences	17
13. International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples	19
14. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	20
15. Iranian Elite Research Center	22



1. International Council for Caring Communities

Special, 2001

Introduction

The International Council for Caring Communities responds to the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly ageing global population.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Council is to help communities worldwide address the social, economic and cultural impact of the “age of longevity” and plan for a better quality of life. It identifies successful strategies and solutions and encourages their adaptation in both developing and developed countries. Mainstreaming ageing issues, especially within the areas of the environment and information and communications technologies, is the centrepiece of the Council’s global dialogue. It serves not only as a leader and catalyst but also as a bridge joining universities, government agencies, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies and programmes to promote “a society for all generations”. Its activities include conferences during the sessions of the Commission for Social Development, opportunities for public and private partnerships and international student design competitions.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Events were organized annually during the sessions of the Commission for Social Development in partnership with the United Nations Programme on Human Settlements (UN-Habitat). In support of the work of the Economic and Social Council, the Council issued the “Music as a global resource compendium” in 2011, featuring 105 projects from 55 countries as solutions for social and economic issues. The compendium provided music for sustainable communities, trauma survivors, physical and mental health, lifelong learning and peacebuilding. The Council acts as a bridge between research and practice. Since 1994, over 7,500 students from schools of architecture and design in more than 35 countries have participated in the Council’s “Integrated communities: a society for all ages” design competitions, focusing on the inclusion of older persons into society. The unique jury, composed of architects and gerontologists, has selected winners from over 20 countries. Exhibitions were held at the sixth World Urban Forum, held in Naples, Italy, in 2012 and at United Nations Headquarters.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Council attended the following United Nations meetings: **2009**: forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development (New York); intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York); fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York); eighth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (New York); seventeenth session of

the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York); eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York); **2010**: fifth session of the World Urban Forum (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); **2011**: ninth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (New York); forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development (New York); fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York); nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York); tenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York); **2012**: fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development (New York); eleventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York); sixth session of the World Urban Forum (Naples, Italy).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council, in close cooperation with UN-Habitat, holds an annual conference for permanent missions to the United Nations focused on issues concerning older persons and the Millennium Development Goals. Interactive working lunches are held on three issue areas, with the results disseminated to permanent missions.

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

In support of the work of the Economic and Social Council, the NGO addressed such topics as music as a tool for implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, information and communications technologies, and the impact of the digital era on ageing. In addition to the “Music as a global resource compendium” (hard copy and CD), the NGO published “International student design competition: retrospective 1994-2005” in 2010; held high-level working sessions on the subjects “Urban futures ... South meets North” (2010 and 2011, in support of World Habitat Day) and “Connecting the generations: youth and older persons as city changers”; and organized a conference and a concert on the theme “Prosperity of cities ... South meets North”, with the winners of the 2012 student competition, during the annual session of the Commission on Social Development.

Additional information

Representatives of the Council also attended the First International Healthcare Forum in 2010 and the International Guangzhou Forum: Harmony in an Urban Context in 2012; both events were held in Beijing.

2. International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment

Special, 1989

Introduction

Founded in 1952, the International Council for Education of People with Visual Impairment is an organization of individuals and agencies concerned with the formal and non-formal educational needs of children with visual impairment throughout the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the Council are to ensure access and full participation in education for all children and youth with visual impairment by 2015; to promote and assist in building local capacity to develop curriculum, provide training, and identify and provide equipment and materials to children and youth with visual impairment and their parents, teachers and others in their communities; to collaborate with and make use of networks to ensure that substantially more children and youth with visual impairment receive quality and comprehensive education; and to ensure that the initiatives of the Council are based upon current evidence of best practice.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Education for All Children with Visual Impairment is a global campaign and programme to ensure that all girls and boys with blindness or low vision enjoy the right to education. The campaign, which was started in 2006, addresses three key Millennium Development Goals: achieving universal primary education; promoting gender equality; and developing global partnerships for development. The campaign works within the framework of the general and special education systems of countries and is focusing attention on creating awareness and demand for the education of children with visual impairment. Provision of appropriate support in educational settings and creation of alternative settings to reach out to the un-reached are key aspects of the campaign.

The campaign is being implemented in 13 focus countries: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay and Viet Nam; preparations for implementing the campaign are under way in Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia and Palestine. The data from 12 of the countries (Fiji was not included) revealed that as of 2012, 49,662 additional children with visual impairment had been enrolled in schools and 29,416 teachers and parents had been trained in various subjects.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

In support of Millennium Development Goal 2, the Council implemented a higher education initiative in Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam in an effort to improve and expand access to higher education for students with visual impairment. The initiative focused on three critical areas: (a) expanding use of assistive technology to improve access to curricula materials; (b) creating more welcoming university environments for all disabled students through programmes of awareness and training for faculty and non-disabled students; and (c) working with

universities and ministries of education to create policies that expand the number of inclusive universities in the four countries. The initiative led to a dramatic increase in the university enrolment of blind and visually impaired students in the four countries from 214 to over 900. Drop-out rates decreased and the general satisfaction of the students improved markedly.

3. International Council of Jewish Women

Special, 1969

Introduction

Founded in 1912, the International Council of Jewish Women is a non-partisan, volunteer organization representing 43 women's organizations working for social justice and a better life for all on six continents. Membership is over 1 million. The Council provides a voice for women worldwide and has a platform of issues that concern them, their families and society. The Council has permanent representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council thinks globally and acts locally. It champions issues such as equal rights for women, children, the elderly and the disadvantaged. It promotes female leadership and empowerment, opposes domestic violence, works to halt human trafficking, encourages interfaith and intercultural dialogues, fights anti-Semitism and racism, raises awareness of health and environmental issues and supports education for all.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Council worked to promote the work of the United Nations and to create awareness, advocacy and action. Reports from all United Nations events its representatives attend and United Nations directives are shared electronically and posted on its website. Updates on the United Nations were part of the agenda of the biannual meetings of the Executive Committee. The Council's affiliates organized events, round tables and discussions around the issues of women, migration, water, and fighting discrimination, racism and xenophobia. Information about United Nations international days and observances was distributed, along with brochures on United Nations concerns. The Council has supported, written and signed onto declarations, for example the petition drafted by the United Nations Development Fund for Women in support of Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) (June 2010). Women members of the Council have assumed leadership roles on many NGO committees and are dedicated to making their goals a reality.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Council attended the following events: weekly briefings of the Department of Public Information for NGOs (New York, 2009-2012); Durban Review Conference (Geneva, 2009); fifteenth session of the

Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Copenhagen, 2009); Annual Conference of the Department of Public Information for NGOs (Mexico City, 2009); fifty-third through fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2009-2012); United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012); fifty-third session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Geneva, 2012); nineteenth session of the International Bioethics Committee of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (Paris, 2012); nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, 2012); commemoration of the International Day of Older Persons (New York, 2010); high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (New York, 2011); thirty-sixth session of the UNESCO General Conference (Paris, 2011).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council is accredited to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in New York and Geneva and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and is also associated with the Department of Public Information. It participated actively in New York, Vienna and Paris on joint programmatic commissions and NGO committees and working groups, including those on human rights, sustainable development, the status of women, trafficking in persons, international bioethics and the situation of girls. In addition, the Council maintains official relations with UNESCO. At each session of the Commission on the Status of Women during the reporting period, it organized workshops focusing on the priority theme, in partnership with other NGOs.

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

Affiliates of the Council undertake community initiatives that encourage action on environmental concerns and promote women's health. The affiliated organizations are encouraged to develop projects independently and in conjunction with like-minded agencies in order to carry out the overall goals of the United Nations.

4. International Council on Management of Population Programmes

Special, 1985

Introduction

The International Council on Management of Population Programmes is an international NGO committed to pursuing its mission of achieving excellence in management of population programmes in order to make them more effective, efficient and equitable, leading to improvement in the quality of life of people. Building on 40 years of experience, the Council continues to work towards identifying key pertinent concerns and issues related to population and development, bearing in mind the outcome of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, and with a focus on the Millennium Development Goals. It assists in improving management by utilizing three programme strategies: strengthening leadership and management capacity; developing comprehensive capacity-building and good practices; and acting as a

catalyst for policy dialogues, advocacy and networking. The Council is a registered society in Malaysia and has 501 (c) (3) charity status with the United States Internal Revenue Service. It currently has 55 members, consisting of heads of national and large NGO populations, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS programmes and large management-related institutions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council's mission is to achieve excellence in the management of quality population programmes at the country, regional and international levels. As the nature of population programmes has varied over time and from country to country, the Council's strategies have consequently shifted in accordance with country-specific needs. However, following the 1994 International Conference, the Council anchored its population programmes in reproductive health programmes and strengthening population-sustainable development linkages.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since 2009, the Council has undertaken a number of activities to increase support from Governments, development partners and civil societies to prioritize family planning programmes and increase investments in family planning, in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. These activities include advocacy with parliamentarians and elected leaders as well as dialogues among policymakers and programme planners to revitalize family planning programmes as part of the development agenda. The Council addresses issues pertaining to reproductive health commodity security through capacity-development workshops and guidelines. The Council continues to strengthen the linkages between sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS through a number of activities to expand the benefits of linkages at programme and service-delivery levels.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Council participated in the Global Civil Society Stakeholder Meeting organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Istanbul in 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the International Council on Management of Population Programmes participated in the following activities: (a) project in collaboration with UNFPA to address family planning in Asia and the Pacific (2010-2012); (b) project in collaboration with UNFPA to strengthen the national response to maternal health issues in India (2011); (c) project in collaboration with UNAIDS to strengthen the leadership of civil society organizations in South Asia (2010-2011); (d) project in collaboration with the World Bank on the linkages between sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia and Uganda (2010-2012); (e) symposium organized in collaboration with UNAIDS and the World Health Organization (WHO) on linkages between sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS (2009).

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

The Council contributed to the Millennium Development Goals by: strengthening capacities at the levels of health ministries and local government councils to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity, especially by improving the access of poor and excluded communities to services (Goal 5 A); undertaking initiatives to revitalize family planning by strengthening knowledge among parliamentarians, elected leaders, civil society organization leaders as well as programme leaders within Government and NGOs (Goal 5 B); strengthening the response for HIV prevention through initiatives that link HIV/AIDS and reproductive health programmes and services (Goal 6).

5. International Development Enterprises (India)**Special, 2005****Introduction**

International Development Enterprises (India) works in 15 states in India. Over the years, the organization has reached out to over 1.3 million smallholder farm families, impacting more than 7 million people. Making small-plot agriculture more remunerative, thereby reducing poverty, hunger and deprivation, remains the organization's guiding philosophy. Its technology is designed to cost one fifth that of its competitors, scaled down to fit plots of .10 hectare, and is able to generate sales at an unsubsidized market price. Characteristics of the technologies include: low cost; high return on investment for farmers (within one planting season); divisibility; infinite expandability; and easy and inexpensive maintenance; it is also manually powered, replacing capital by labour.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's goal is to have 5 million smallholder farm families adopt the Krishak Bandhu (Farmers' Friend) brand of technologies and to be able to increase their net annual income by US\$ 400 by increasing their crop production through rational use of irrigation water. It promoted small-plot, low-cost microirrigation technologies that can harvest three crops per year, instead of just one monsoon-fed crop. Working in 15 of the poorest states in India, the organization promoted technologies that have helped over 1 million smallholder farm households grow two additional crops per year, increasing their collective incomes by over \$1 billion.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Using the technologies promoted by International Development Enterprises (India), the user farmers are able to build food security and generate additional income, which is in turn put to multiple uses. Through its work the organization is empowering the poorest farmers to fight poverty. This is in harmony with the work and programmes of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the NGO partnered with the following United Nations bodies/specialized agencies: (a) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which worked with the organization in selected districts of Orissa, India, to promote and implement small-plot low-cost irrigation technologies and productivity-enhancing farm input systems. The organization also provided technical and capacity-building support to IFAD in the implementation of the programme in Madagascar and Nicaragua; (b) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which partnered with the organization to implement a project supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to undertake an agricultural water management analysis.

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

Under Goal 1, 1.3 million smallholder farm families living on under \$2 a day have benefited from the use of the technologies promoted by the organization. Their net additional income of \$1 billion allowed them to emerge from income poverty and have access to better health and nutrition. The employment generated for landless farmers totalled 646 million workdays. Under Goal 7, carbon emissions were reduced by 2.5 million tons of CO₂ equivalent, electricity use was reduced by 870 million kilowatt hours, fossil fuel use decreased by 670 million litres and water use declined by 5 billion cubic metres.

6. International Federation for Home Economics**Special, 1981****Introduction**

The International Federation for Home Economics is the only worldwide organization concerned with home economics and consumer studies. It was founded in 1908 to serve as a platform for international exchange within the field of home economics. Over 1,000 individuals and 100 organizations in more than 50 countries all over the world belong to the Federation. All members are invited to participate in the Federation's various committees. The Federation is represented in Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and the Pacific.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the Federation are:

- (a) To provide opportunities for global networking among professionals;
- (b) To promote home economics in the everyday lives of individuals and families;
- (c) To promote continuing education in home economics;

(d) To provide opportunities through practice, research and sharing among professionals that lead to improving the quality of everyday life for individuals, families and households worldwide.

Its objectives are:

(a) To utilize the United Nations platform more intensively to enhance awareness of the need for an improved quality of life for families and individuals and to urge Governments to act accordingly;

(b) To use education, consulting and extension activities to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the International Federation for Home Economics organized an annual symposium related to the Millennium Development Goals. In cooperation with FAO, the Council of the International Federation held a special session on food security in 2010. The Federation organized a workshop at the 2011 Annual Department of Public Information NGO Conference, held in Bonn. A round table related to the Millennium Development Goals was held at the Federation's World Congress in 2012. Keynote speeches at the World Congress discussed major aspects of the United Nations and its agencies, funds and programmes; speakers included a representative from the UNESCO office in Bangkok.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the International Federation participated in the annual sessions of the FAO Committee on World Food Security and in the World Summit on Food Security in 2009. It also attended the Annual Department of Public Information NGO Conferences in Melbourne, Australia (2010) and Bonn (2011).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In July 2010, the Federation organized a meeting in Ireland on the topic "Challenges for food security", in cooperation with FAO. In 2011, the Federation participated in the focal group preparing the Annual Department of Public Information NGO Conference in Bonn. The Federation made an oral statement at the third session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing in August 2012.

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

In 2010, the Federation conducted a symposium on Goal 2. In 2011, the Federation published a brochure stating its position on the Millennium Development Goals and conducted a postcard campaign on "Education for sustainable development".

Additional information

There is no additional information.

7. International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

Special, 1997

Introduction

The International Federation of Building and Wood Workers is the leading global union federation of building, construction, wood and forestry and allied unions and groups. The organization represents 335 free and democratic trade unions with 12 million members in 130 countries. It has a presence in Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Thailand.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are to promote and defend human and workers' rights and improve working conditions by using organizing, negotiations, campaigns and development projects to achieve sustainable development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation implemented gender programmes by organizing women's committees, enrolling women, conducting awareness campaigns and training workshops, setting up networks to empower women, and tackling HIV/AIDS by negotiating clauses in collective agreements.

The Federation set up youth networks, training and festivals for young trade unionists in Germany (2010 and 2012) and chaired the Council of Global Unions Working Group on Migration. The Federation has set up 19 schools for child labourers in India and educated their parents to understand that gradual unionization of workers will compensate for the revenue lost when their child stops working; 12,000 children are now in those schools. A national agreement was signed with the All India Bricks and Tiles Manufacturers Federation, which represents 35,000 brick kilns and 7 million workers in India. A collective bargaining agreement benefits 100,000 workers, who received wages at 16.5 per cent above government rates in all four of the union organizing districts in Punjab. The same is now being done in Nepal and Bangladesh.

In the area of climate change and sustainable construction and forestry, the Federation organizes wood and forestry workers in multinational companies to secure decent working conditions. It participates in developing certification systems and in advocating for a policy framework for labour standards. It also lobbies for global ratification of International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, in particular the Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Convention, 1949 (No. 94), with particular reference to the situation in national companies in the wood industry.

The Federation promotes green and decent jobs and the acquisition of skills. It is involved in green initiatives because they will improve working conditions. It organizes training programmes targeting new skill requirements and also lobbies for standards, in particular control mechanisms.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Federation participated in the following United Nations meetings: ninth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (New York, 2010); United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012); fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Copenhagen, 2009); seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Durban, South Africa, 2011), where it lobbied to ensure that concrete action would be taken to reduce inequalities and create decent jobs; Global Child Labour Conference (The Hague, May 2010), where it presented its perspectives within the broader theme of tripartite action at the session on social dialogue for effective responses.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation developed policy positions, including as contributions to the outcome documents adopted at Rio de Janeiro; lobbied for stable, quality jobs to combat unemployment and job insecurity; and contributed to Millennium Development Goals 1 and 7, especially for the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger and to ensure environmental sustainability. At the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Federation developed coordinated strategies in relation to international governance of migration. It works with ILO to promote green and decent jobs within the United Nations Environment Programme Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative.

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

The organization observed World AIDS Day each year on 1 December (Millennium Development Goal 6) and International Women's Day on 8 March (Goal 3).

8. International Federation of Journalists**Special, 1953****Introduction**

The International Federation of Journalists is the world's largest organization of journalists. First established in 1926, it was relaunched in 1946 and again, in its present form, in 1952. Today the Federation represents around 600,000 members in more than 100 countries. It promotes international action to defend press freedom and social justice through strong, free and independent trade unions of journalists. The Federation has its headquarters in Brussels and regional offices in Caracas, Dakar and Sydney, Australia. The regional offices coordinate and support union activities in their part of the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main work of the Federation and its member unions are: (a) to foster international solidarity by linking journalists' unions in different countries in order to strengthen organizing within global media companies and promote editorial

independence and quality journalism; (b) to campaign vigorously for journalists' rights and to seek recognition for minimum international standards of professional and social rights; (c) to campaign for pluralism through limits on media ownership and the defence of public service values in broadcasting and all forms of media, including the Internet; (d) to demand that journalists' rights of authorship are protected in a new media environment; these rights have become central to demands for decent standards of pay and professional rights; and (e) to demand decent employment conditions in media for all, including the growing army of freelance workers as well as employed staff and new media players.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Over the last four years, the Federation has campaigned globally so that the rights and freedoms of journalists are enforced locally. In particular, it has focused on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, with some degree of success. In 2009, the Federation launched a campaign in Mexico City to protect journalists in Latin America under the slogan "Protect the messenger to get the message across". This campaign underscored the safety crisis which has marked Mexico, where organized crime and drug violence created a deadly mix for journalists.

In Africa, the Federation and its African affiliate, the Federation of African Journalists, waged a campaign for the safety of journalists that led in 2011 to the adoption, for the first time in African history, of a resolution on the protection of the safety of journalists by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. This achievement, attained with strong support from trade union movements and the press freedom community, was a milestone and has considerably boosted the efforts of the African Federation towards a safer press environment. In the Middle East, the Federation filed a joint amicus brief with the Appeal Court of Iraq in the case of the *Guardian* newspaper, which was being sued for defamation. In the Asia-Pacific Region, the Federation spearheaded a campaign to secure justice for over 30 journalists who were murdered in Maguindanao Province, the Philippines. This attack on media professionals led the International Freedom of Expression Exchange, of which the Federation is a founding member, to proclaim the International Day against Impunity.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Federation attended sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva as follows: tenth session (2009), where it made a statement during the discussion on counter-terrorism; thirteenth session (2010), where it made a statement; nineteenth session (2012); and twentieth session (2012), where it made a statement during the discussion on summary executions.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation contributed to the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity from the drafting stage to the official launch. The Federation also contributed a report on the safety of journalists to be presented to the twenty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council by the Special

Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

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

The Federation has adopted a gender mainstreaming agenda to ensure that concerns affecting women journalists are addressed by women and men alike, thereby guaranteeing genuine gender equality in the workplace. It has also campaigned, together with all the Global Unions Federations, for decent working conditions for all workers.

9. International Holistic Tourism Education Centre

Special, 2005

Introduction

The International Holistic Tourism Education Centre is dedicated to developing global sustainability education programmes that educate young people by advocating “a culture of peace through tourism”. The Centre supports such programmes in classrooms, schools and communities in many locations worldwide, assisting educators in conflict resolution and reducing vandalism. Equally committed to environmental sustainability, the Centre stimulates eco-restoration plans and programmes by supporting heritage sites, marine environments and walking trails. Through persistent leadership and encouragement, the Centre has developed a worldwide network of associates linked by websites and electronic messaging and nurtured with locally prepared resources where possible. It is registered in Ontario, Canada, and with the Charities Branch in Ottawa.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Centre is to foster a culture of peace through tourism, using concepts that promote holistic tourism education and peace and sustainability education. Its objectives are: to operate a resource centre for holistic tourism education with a focus on contributions from educators around the world; to collect, research, analyse and develop materials that foster healthy and non-violent communities through holistic tourism education; and to train educators in holistic tourism education fostering a culture of peace through tourism. The courses are based on the application of scientific research.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Centre worked on the Committee for the United Nations International Day of Peace. It is also a member of the Educational Alliance for Sustainable Ontario, which gives input to UNESCO and the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Centre attended the following United Nations events: fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Copenhagen, 2009); commemoration of the International Day of Peace (New York, 2011); United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

In support of the Millennium Development Goals, the Federation held online workshops for teachers and participated in teleconferences on the topics of climate change, water, biodiversity, peace education and forests. On World Water Day the Centre supported the “Capital to capital by canoe 2012” trip from Ottawa to Washington, D.C.

10. International Initiative for Peace

Special, 2009

Introduction

International Initiative for Peace is an independent NGO registered in 2006 to promote democratic institutions, justice, equality, and education and training on the prevention, management and resolution of international conflicts.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of the organization are to take practical steps to promote the peaceful resolution of disputes, ensure mutual understanding, and facilitate national and international integration as a necessary condition for development in the resolution of conflicts.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2011).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

11. International Institute for the Development of Citizenship

Special, 2009

Introduction

The International Institute for the Development of Citizenship is a Brazilian organization founded in 1998 that promotes international cooperation, human rights and sustainable development in Brazil and worldwide. In all its projects it encourages the participation of children, adolescents and young people in discussions and in implementing the commitments of the Millennium Development Goals. It promotes, supports and disseminates practices of youth leadership, volunteerism and citizen participation, while respecting the self-determination of people.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Institute has been working for the last 15 years. Its mission is to promote sustainable human development and competency to create social technologies, transfer knowledge and share experiences with Governments, companies, the non-profit sector, universities and national and international networks in the development of democracy. It provides technical input to the programmes and projects it undertakes with local partners and international entities in pursuance of the Millennium Development Goals.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Institute attended the following United Nations events in New York: **2010**: forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development; informal, interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society and private sector; **2011**: forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development; High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding; fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; second intersessional meeting of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; **2012**: fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development; fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women; first round of informal negotiations on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; third intersessional meeting of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute has cooperated with the United Nations by undertaking joint sponsorship with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) of operational projects in relation to international volunteering, the Millennium Development Goals and child protection.

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

The Institute worked with universities to promote volunteerism. These projects strengthened the capacity of individuals (university students and people of recipient communities) to benefit from local sustainable development.

12. International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences

Special, 1989

Introduction

The International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences is an Italian not-for-profit foundation dedicated to education, training and research in the fields of international and comparative criminal justice and human rights. Throughout its history, the Institute has organized over 510 conferences, training and educational seminars and meetings of experts attended by 37,278 jurists from 165 countries, including over 5,000 academics from 518 universities. These activities have resulted in 146 published volumes of scholarly and scientific research, as well as conference proceedings relating to international criminal justice, comparative criminal law, human rights and country-specific issues of criminal law and procedure.

Aims and purposes of the organization

For 40 years, the Institute has been a major contributor to the development of more effective criminal justice systems worldwide, and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and the rule of law.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The activities conducted by the organization mainly supported the maintenance of peace, the achievement of good governance and the promotion of human rights, with particular reference to post-conflict justice and rule of law issues. The "Post-conflict justice and Islamic principles" project, conducted since 2009, aims at producing a concept paper on contemporary post-conflict justice issues under Islamic law. The "Fighting impunity and promoting international justice" project, conducted from 2007 to 2009, was developed to promote integrated approaches to post-conflict justice and to link domestic strategies to the evolving role of the International Criminal Court, enhancing accountability and reducing impunity for international crimes. In 2011, under a capacity-building project for the judiciary in

Iraq, 10 judges were trained on anti-terrorism. An additional training programme focused on crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. In 2012, under a project called "Protecting human rights in North Africa", a database was established of reports of Governments, media, NGOs and other public sources regarding the conflict in Libya in order to supplement the work of the International Commission of Inquiry on Libya. Also in 2012, under a technical assistance programme, 101 judges, prosecutors and police officers in Bahrain were trained on the international protection of human rights and the enhancement of their investigatory and prosecutorial capabilities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Institute attended the following United Nations events: **2009**: international workshop on criminal justice education for the rule of law (Madrid), in preparation for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; eighteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna); **2010**: Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Salvador, Brazil), where it co-organized a workshop on international criminal justice education for the rule of law and an ancillary meeting on the principal challenges posed by the globalization of criminal justice; the Institute also submitted three written statements to the Congress ([A/CONF.213/NGO/2](#), [A/CONF.213/NGO/3](#) and [A/CONF.213/NGO/10](#)); nineteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna); Expert Group Meeting on the Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Terrorism organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (Vienna); UNODC Expert Group Meeting on Training Platforms and Methodologies for Counter-Terrorism Legal Practitioners (Vienna); **2011**: second UNODC Expert Group Meeting on the Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Terrorism (Bogota); twentieth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna); **2012**: twenty-first session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization supported the UNODC Country Office in Afghanistan by organizing a workshop, "Finalizing the draft criminal procedure code" (Vienna, 2009). The "Provincial justice initiative", conducted from 2004 to 2010 with the support of UNODC, trained a total of 970 justice-sector actors in 19 Afghan provinces on criminal justice topics. In 2010 the Institute conducted a training of Afghan female penitentiary staff using materials provided by UNODC. In cooperation with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, the organization hosted a workshop in 2010 on the best practices in supporting victims of acts of terrorism. In 2010, a seminar on criminal law and sharia was held for 25 UNODC officers. From 2011 to 2012, a training course in international and comparative criminal justice for judges in Iraq, in collaboration with UNDP, addressed criminal justice and human rights, with a specific focus on financial crimes and corruption.

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

The organization did not carry out any specific activity in support of the Millennium Development Goals because they do not fall within its mission.

13. International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples

Special, 1953

Introduction

The International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples is a federation of organizations and people who work to promote understanding, dialogue and cooperation between races, peoples and cultural and ethnic groups, in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

At the international level, the Movement is active in advocacy and lobbying in international bodies, for example through the statements it delivers at meetings and conferences on matters related to its objectives and priorities. The Movement organizes international meetings and training seminars in line with its goals and collaborates with a number of NGO networks with a view to joint action — one of these being the Conference of Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, of which it is a member. At the local level, its members work to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, fight against all forms of exclusion and racism, and defend the rights of the most vulnerable (in particular, women, children, indigenous peoples and minorities) in the fields of development, health and education.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Each year, within the framework of the Commission on the Status of Women, our organization, alongside other members of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in New York, runs a programme for girls and young women from different countries. They are given the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the work of the Commission in situ, and to develop strategies for the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions adopted by the Commission in their own countries. Our organization assists members and partners to utilize United Nations mechanisms on the ground, mainly in the area of human rights. Via our bulletin and our website, we inform our members and associates of the activities of the United Nations in various fields, including human rights, rights of women and girls, rights of indigenous peoples, racial discrimination, the environment and the fight against poverty. In September 2011, our organization addressed a communication to the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, bodies of the Human Rights Council.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the period covered by this report, our organization attended the following meetings organized by the United Nations, either in Geneva or New York: **2009**: the tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Human Rights Council, and we were among the NGOs that submitted a statement on peace and racism ([A/HRC/10/NGO/113](#)) and on peace and migration ([A/HRC/11/NGO/29](#)); the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women; the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; the sixth session of the Universal Periodic Review; the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; **2010**: the thirteenth and fifteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council and we were among the NGOs that submitted a statement on peace and international solidarity ([A/HRC/15/NGO/70](#)); ninth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women; eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; **2011**: sixteenth and eighteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council; fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, and we were among the NGOs that submitted a statement on the rights of girls ([E/CN.6/2011/NGO/60](#)); tenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; nineteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; **2012**: nineteenth and twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council; fourteenth session of the Universal Periodic Review; fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, and we were among the NGOs that submitted a statement on the rights of girls ([E/CN.6/2012/NGO/33](#)); eleventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

In the context of Goal 2 of the Millennium Development Goals, members of our organization in Cambodia launched a preschool programme in 2000. Its aim is twofold: to help children from deprived backgrounds living in remote places, the majority of whom are Vietnamese, better integrate into the Cambodian educational system; and to give them, and Khmer children, the opportunity to live peacefully together. This programme continues to build, and there are now almost as many girls as boys participating. Training is given to the teachers. Since its inception, other NGOs have benefited from the teacher training provided by members of our organization and have opened a number of schools in different villages. Members in India, inspired by our model, have established a similar programme. It also provides teacher training based on the model developed in Cambodia.

14. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Special, 1981

Introduction

The International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination is an independent, non-governmental, international organization

dedicated to upholding and promoting the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which was adopted by the General Assembly in 1963.

Aims and purposes of the organization

As an international human rights organization, its philosophy and activities are grounded in the principle of equality in dignity and rights for peoples and individuals and, as a practical measure towards this end, calls for the return to the rule of international law. In its work, the organization pays special attention to those ideologies and policies which, in pursuance of established rules of international law and international conventions, are determined by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs to be forms of racism and racial discrimination.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the NGO organized many side events at the United Nations Office at Geneva on issues relating to Palestine and the Middle East. These included: an interactive dialogue between NGOs and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 at the fourteenth session of the Human Rights Council; “The effects of using depleted uranium and prohibited weapons in the Middle East” at the fifteenth session of the Council; “Human rights in Iraq” at the seventh session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review; “Human rights in Arab countries: the situation in Yemen, Iraq and Syria” at the eighteenth session of the Council; and “Human rights in Palestine: the plight of Palestinian refugees” at the twentieth session of the Council. The organization also provided information to United Nations treaty bodies, special procedures, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization attended the following United Nations meetings in Geneva: United Nations International Meetings on the Question of Palestine (2009 and 2012), annual commemorations of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People; tenth through twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council (2009-2012) and sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review; fifth through eighth sessions of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee; Human Rights Council Social Forum (2009-2012); second through fifth sessions of the Forum on Minority Issues; Durban Review Conference (2009); fifty-eighth session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2011); fiftieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (2011); eightieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2012); second session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to consider an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies (2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization actively engaged with the Middle East and North Africa section of OHCHR. It continued to be engaged in joint activities with OHCHR in relation to the draft declaration on the right to peace, and organized briefings, panels, round tables, seminars, workshops and side events at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

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

No activities were specified.

15. Iranian Elite Research Center

Special, 2005

Introduction

The main objective of the organization is the promotion of sustainable development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of the organization are:

- (a) To promote research activities in the field of sustainable development;
- (b) To create databases of NGOs and for NGOs;
- (c) To conduct research on the existing social problems and challenges in the country;
- (d) To offer consultancy during the planning processes of governmental bodies;
- (e) To implement research projects and plans with non-governmental and governmental bodies that can be useful for the social development of the country;
- (f) To develop and promote relations among youth, students and people aiming to improve the quality of life.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization attended the following United Nations meetings: tenth, eleventh, twelfth, sixteenth, eighteenth, nineteenth and twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, 2009-2012); fifth and ninth sessions of the universal periodic review (Geneva, 2009 and 2010); Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change (Copenhagen, 2009); United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The organization conducted the following activities in support of the Millennium Development Goals in the northern part of the Islamic Republic of Iran: for Goal 3, the organization offered training in carpet weaving to rural women in order to create self-employment for 200 persons from 20 villages; for Goal 2, the organization equipped school libraries in 50 villages; for Goal 6, the organization conducted house-to-house medical exams; for Goal 7, the organization planted seedlings in damaged forests on National Tree Planting Day and raised awareness on conservation.
