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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights was established as an NGO in 1984 and listed in the register of charities in England and Wales in 1992. Its first, formalized work in Kashmir dates back to May 1987 when a paper entitled “The abuse of power in Indian-controlled Jammu and Kashmir” was presented at an international conference on victims and the criminal justice system held at the Inter-University Center, Dubrovnik, former Yugoslavia.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council was the first NGO to launch relief and medical assistance for refugees in Kashmir in December 1990, and set up a centre for victims of torture and rape in 1991. It launched relief work in December 2001 in the Baramulla district of Indian-controlled Kashmir. Support and assistance are provided to non-Kashmiris as well. The NGO is guided by common humanitarian concerns. It works to advance the belief that the effects of war are immediate, but those of peace are far-reaching. The NGO plays a lead role in enhancing understanding of the jurisprudence of the Kashmir case. It has successfully argued petitions for constitutional writs in the superior courts of Pakistan-administered Kashmir. In addition to its work for the protection and promotion of human rights, the work programme of the NGO addressed the political, social, medical and humanitarian needs of the people living on both sides of the ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir supervised by the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The NGO contributed nine written statements to the Economic and Social Council under resolution 1996/31. Those statements focused on the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural, including the right to development. Situations that require the Council’s attention were also covered in those statements.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The NGO participated in all the sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva during the reporting period. It co-sponsored and participated in various parallel activities during those sessions, including the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the International Criminal Court.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Liaison has been maintained with UNMOGIP at its respective stations. It is part of the organization’s work to enhance the peace constituency on either side of the supervised ceasefire line in Kashmir. Similar liaison and cooperation is maintained with all the United Nations offices in Geneva.

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

The NGO focused on gender equality and empowering women and on reducing extreme poverty and hunger.

2. Justice for Girls Outreach Society

Special, 2009

Introduction

The mandate of the Justice for Girls Outreach Society is to promote the health and well-being of low-income and homeless teenage girls in British Columbia, Canada. It works to promote social justice and an end to violence, poverty and racism in the lives of marginalized girls.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its work for social justice is based on the feminist belief that young women in poverty are experts in their own experience. It stands beside young women and provides them with support and resources so that they can act on their own behalf to create personal and social change. It provides outreach and assistance to girls/young women who live in poverty and are victims of male violence. It works to ensure that criminalized girls have access to justice and that their human rights are upheld in youth prisons across Canada.

Significant changes in the organization

The Society's funding comes predominantly from foundations and donations.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Society promotes the human rights of girl children in British Columbia, mainly in relation to poverty, violence against girls and criminalization of girls.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Society attended the following United Nations meetings: sixty-first session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, at which the Committee reviewed the periodic reports of Canada (Geneva, 2012); Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2011 and 2012); Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Geneva, 2010); Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, where it made a statement with Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada entitled "Missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls in British Columbia and Canada"; and universal periodic review (Geneva, 2009 and 2011). In 2012, the Society participated in a group submission to the Human Rights Council on the occasion of the second universal periodic review of Canada.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

During the reporting period, the Society undertook the following activities in support of the Millennium Development Goals: goal 1: provided support and advocacy to teenage girls living in poverty relating to homelessness, violence, criminalization and human rights matters; goal 3: partnered with Human Rights Watch in 2012 to investigate ongoing and serious human rights violations committed against indigenous girls. Following the investigation, Human Rights Watch published a report, *Those Who Take Us Away*; goal 7: the disproportionate impact of climate change on girls from indigenous and/or poor families is a key focus of the Society's work. In 2012, the Society made a submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child that focused largely on Canada's record of failure on climate change and the impact on children, domestically and globally.

3. Latin American and Caribbean Continental Organization of Students**Special, 1997****Introduction**

The Latin American and Caribbean Continental Organization of Students represents 36 student federations in the region, including secondary, university and postgraduate student movement organizations from 23 countries in the Americas, with more than 100 million members. As a student union platform it has had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1997 and has consultative status with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The organization continues to provide a joint platform for the Latin American student movement fighting for the rights of young people and students.

Aims and purposes of the organization

As a regional democratic student organization, the NGO seeks to promote and develop solidarity with American and Caribbean students in their fight against fascism, imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and social injustice. It aims to defend the autonomy of universities and the freedom and plurality of public education, and to fight for the eradication of illiteracy, the democratization of education and student welfare. It also fights to strengthen links between student movements and the working class, peasants, and indigenous and democratic sectors of civil society in order to fight against neoliberal policies, drug trafficking, violence, debt, and economic and social crisis. It strengthens and develops solidarity and mutual aid among Latin American and Caribbean students and those of other continents, fights ruthless exploitation and promotes environmentally healthy and self-sustaining development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization focuses its activities on the struggles of students in Latin America by helping them obtain a public, free and quality education, with free and universal access and a higher education characterized by autonomy and co-government. It also helps to organize meetings, events and international forums to achieve this goal.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization participated in the following meetings of the United Nations system: UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education (Paris, 2009); Eighth Summit of Rectors of Public Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean, sponsored by the Instituto Internacional para la Educación Superior en América Latina y el Caribe (International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean), an agency of UNESCO (Quito, 2009); contributed to the first cycle of the universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, 2009); Fourth Meeting of University Networks and Councils of Rectors in Latin America and the Caribbean, sponsored by the Instituto (Buenos Aires, 2010); seventh UNESCO Youth Forum (Paris, October 2011); meeting convened by the Instituto to discuss the regional academic mobility plan for Latin American higher education (Havana, 2012); contributed to the second cycle of the universal periodic review (Geneva, 2012) and to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated with the Instituto to draw up plans for Latin American higher education (2009-2012).

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

The organization undertook the following initiatives to support and promote the Millennium Development Goals: organized rallies of over 500,000 students across the continent in support of the principles reflected in the Millennium Development Goals on education (2011); organized a continent-wide campaign, "Education is not a commodity", with more than 10,000 students and teachers to protest the commercialization of education and promote the achievement of free and universal access (2011); and organized a continent-wide campaign on Education for All to defend the principle of free, public, quality education, with more than 10,000 students and teachers participating (2012).

4. Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees

Special, 1985

Introduction

The Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees works in 12 countries in Latin America and has member associations in Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay and Uruguay. The Federation maintains its headquarters in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and was recognized as a federation in Caracas in 1985. Its objectives are: (a) to rescue victims of forced disappearance alive from clandestine detention centres and restore the children of parents subjected to forced disappearance to their families of origin; (b) to demand the investigation of all cases of forced disappearance and the trial and punishment of those responsible for those crimes; and (c) to promote national and international legal norms which, classifying forced disappearance as a crime against humanity, constitute methods of obtaining justice and preventing forced disappearances.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Federation is a human rights NGO which brings together 19 associations of families of the *desaparecidos*, or disappeared people, in Latin America and the Caribbean from 13 countries. Its central concern is with the phenomenon of forced disappearance in Latin America and around the world.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation's main contribution to the work of the United Nations has been through the Human Rights Council. It is well known and respected for its work on forced disappearances, representing the perspective of the families of the *desaparecidos*.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation is working to achieve global ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance by working through the embassies and foreign ministries of countries that have not yet ratified the Convention. It also pursues a global letter-writing campaign.

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

The Federation believes that it is impossible to separate the issue of enforced disappearance from that of human rights and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, since development is based on democratic governance, the rule

of law, respect for human rights, peace and security, which is the focus of the Federation's work.

5. Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada

Special, 2005

Introduction

Lawyers' Rights Watch Canada is a committee of lawyers dedicated to promoting the rule of law and human rights internationally by protecting human rights defenders and advocacy rights and by engaging in research and education relating to the rule of law and advocacy rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission has been and remains: (a) to campaign for human rights defenders whose rights, safety and/or independence are threatened because of their human rights advocacy; (b) to produce legal analyses of national and international laws and standards relevant to advocacy rights and the rule of law; (c) to work in cooperation with other NGOs; and (d) to engage in human rights education and training and in law reform in areas related to the rule of law and advocacy rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed to the work of the United Nations by promoting universal implementation and enforcement of international human rights laws and standards and the rule of law. To promote respect and understanding for human rights and the rule of law, the organization conducted advocacy, education and research and worked in cooperation with other human rights organizations. Its work included in-country investigations; trial monitoring; letters, reports and amicus briefs; legal research; and free classroom and online education. It provided written and oral statements to the Human Rights Council and organized and attended side events in Geneva; submitted reports to treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and special procedures of the Council and attended their meetings.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the work of the Human Rights Council by attending its sessions, providing written statements and oral interventions, organizing and attending side events, meeting with United Nations officials and State representatives, participating in the universal periodic review process and attending meetings. Its representatives attended each of the sessions of the Council (tenth through twenty-first) in Geneva during the reporting period and the eleventh special session on Sri Lanka. It submitted, jointly where indicated, the following written statements to the Council: "The need for an absolute and non-derogable right to independent courts" ([A/HRC/11/NGO/46](#)); "Concerns about the

independence of the judiciary and legal profession in Cambodia” (A/HRC/12/NGO/40); a report on Omar Khadr (A/HRC/13/NGO/121); “Myanmar: the absence of minimum conditions for elections” (A/HRC/14/NGO/40); “Statement on behalf of Judge Baltasar Garzón and judicial independence” (A/HRC/14/NGO/57); a statement on the protection of human rights defenders in Mexico (A/HRC/15/NGO/65); “Judges and the rule of law: the prosecution of Judge Garzón in Spain” (A/HRC/16/46 and A/HRC/16/108); “Obligation to investigate the prosecution of Judge Baltasar Garzón (A/HRC/19/NGO/95); and “Situation of Omar Khadr in Guantánamo Bay Prison” (A/HRC/19/NGO/109). The organization made 20 oral interventions, often jointly with other NGOs, on prevention and punishment of attacks on human rights defenders, education, accountability, independence of lawyers and judges, advocacy rights and other issues of concern. It co-hosted three side events in Geneva titled “Attacks on lawyers, judges and human rights defenders: the urgent need for protective measures” (2010); “The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance: Now what? The problem of continuing impunity” (2011) and “Combating impunity: the role of judges and lawyers” (2011). Two formal communications for consideration and action were made jointly in 2010 and 2011, respectively, by the organization and other NGOs to the United Nations special procedures mandate holders concerned with judicial independence, torture, extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearance and arbitrary detention. It reported to OHCHR for the universal periodic review of Canada and attended the universal periodic review of Sri Lanka. In October 2009 the organization attended the OHCHR round table on special procedures and the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly. It also attended the eleventh session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization cooperated with the Human Rights Committee, the Committee against Torture and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination by promoting awareness and understanding of their interpretations of treaty obligations and by providing reports. It submitted joint reports to these committees on Turkey, Sri Lanka and Canada, and attended sessions of the Committee against Torture and the Human Rights Committee. Its advocacy, research and education contributed to better understanding and recognition of the human rights standards monitored by these bodies.

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

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals of eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality and ensuring environmental sustainability through education and research about related rights issues and advocacy for human rights defenders at risk owing to their work on these issues.

6. League of Women Voters of the United States

Special, 1997

Introduction

The League of Women Voters of the United States, established in 1920, operates in the United States of America at the state and local levels through more than 800 Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The League mission as a non-partisan political organization is to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

Significant changes in the organization

Through consensus building, the League adopts positions that are used to guide advocacy and education efforts. Included are specific policies promoting the United Nations position on peace, social and economic well-being, human rights, democracy, environmental sustainability and women's full participation in civil and political life.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The League contributed to the work of the United Nations by: (a) educating the Government of the United States and the public concerning the benefits of the United Nations by promoting conferences, projects and achievements; organizing private meetings between United States Senators and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children; and participating as a member of a coalition to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child; (b) organizing two side events at the commemoration of the International Day of the Girl Child and at the Commission on the Status of Women on preventing exploitation of girls/children; (c) chairing the 2012 International Day of Older Persons conference; (d) hosting parallel events promoting women in politics at the Commission on the Status of Women; and (e) chairing the NGO Working Group on Girls Committee to Prevent Violence against Girls.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the League participated in the following: forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions of the Commission for Social Development; third session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing; sixty-third and sixty-fourth Annual Department of Public Information/NGO Conference; seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development; the Commission on the Status of Women; meetings on arms control, prevention of violence, women's economic and political participation, autism, sustainability and older persons; special sessions of the General Assembly; meetings organized by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). In addition, conferences

were webcast, including tweeting from all the conferences and meetings attended by the League's representatives.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In hosting parallel and side events, the League worked closely with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-Women and the Permanent Missions of Brazil and the United States to the United Nations. It submitted papers in 2010, 2011 and 2012 on poverty eradication for women and girls and on UN-Women, and actively served on non-governmental coalitions for the Commission on the Status of Women, the Working Group on Girls, the Department of Public Information, the Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons, the Committee on Ageing, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Association of the United States of America.

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

Achieving gender equality and empowering women is a central tenet of the League. It promotes these issues through education, advocating for laws such as the Violence against Women Act, active participation in the political process through training of candidates, organizing debates, and working with the judiciary to promote active participation by all citizens in electoral matters.

7. Learning for a Sustainable Future

Special, 1997

Introduction

Learning for a Sustainable Future is a Canadian charitable organization founded in 1991 to promote, through education, the knowledge, skills, values, perspectives and practices essential to a sustainable future.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works with businesses, governments, school boards, universities, communities, educators and youth across Canada. It acts as a connector, a resource and a facilitator for change. Its innovative programmes and strategic partnerships are reshaping education policy and transforming educational methods, helping students learn to address the increasingly difficult economic, social and environmental challenges of the twenty-first century.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

When the United Nations declared the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), the organization was well positioned to serve as a Canadian partner for the delivery of Canada's response to the Decade. It implements education for sustainable development in four strategic areas: (a) advancing

education policy, standards and good practice; (b) reorienting teaching and learning; (c) fostering sustainable communities; and (d) supporting joint initiatives, networks and champions. It also completed the survey to provide input to the interim and final reports on the Decade.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the meeting of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) (Bonn, 2009) and was invited to present its work at the meeting of the Steering Committee to be held in March 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization participated in annual general meetings of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, where it hosted side meetings to address the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. It also coordinated a discussion with ECE Member States regarding the definition of “education for sustainable development”.

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

The organization supports goal 7 by working to integrate the principles of sustainable development into Canadian education policies and programmes through the development of a model curriculum addressing the themes identified by the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. It observes United Nations days such as World Water Day, World Food Day and International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer.

8. Mata Amritanandamayi Math

Special, 2005

Introduction

Mata Amritanandamayi Math is an India-based humanitarian organization, carrying out charitable projects throughout India in the areas of disaster relief, health care, housing, feeding the hungry, care homes for children, environmental preservation, education, empowering women and public health. It also manages Embracing the World, a global network of charitable projects inspired by the organization’s founder and chairperson, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization focuses on helping to meet five basic needs — food, shelter, education, health care and livelihood — wherever and whenever possible.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2009, for the West Bengal Cyclone Relief project the organization inaugurated a care home for 108 children in Nairobi and provided scholarships to benefit 41,000 children affected by AIDS. In 2010, the organization provided 100,000 women with equal economic opportunity through the Amrita self-reliance

education and employment programme. In 2011, the organization launched a public health initiative to restore India's natural beauty and help prevent communicable diseases by providing public toilets and conducting community clean-up drives throughout India. A vocational training centre and a clean water project for slum dwellers in Kenya were launched. In 2012, the organization provided lifetime financial aid for 59,000 widows and disabled persons. It also inaugurated a vocational training tailoring centre for women.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization increased its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals by carrying out significant activities for each of the goals.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Women's Empowerment project, funded in part by the United Nations Democracy Fund and carried out by the organization's Amrita University, trained over 2,000 women in one year in the Indian States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu at 18 permanent centres and one mobile vocational education unit.

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

In support of goal 1, the organization fed 10 million people each year throughout India and 100,000 internationally, and provided lifetime financial aid to 59,000 widows, disabled persons and others living below the poverty line. For goal 2, it provided 41,000 scholarships to children of families living below the poverty line. For goal 3, it helped more than 100,000 women to start their own home-based businesses. In support of goals 4, 5 and 6, through the Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences at Kochi, Kerala, the organization has provided free care to more than 2.6 million patients since 1998. For goal 7, it undertook environmental initiatives including the planting of more than 1 million trees worldwide.

9. Mauritius Council of Social Service

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Mauritius Council of Social Service was founded in November 1965. The Council was incorporated under act 55 of 1970 voted by Parliament, thus providing a legal framework for the Council.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Council promotes voluntary/charitable activities and community and social development in Mauritius, the advancement of social education, the furtherance of health and the relief of poverty, distress and sickness.

Significant changes in the organization

The 1970 act is currently being reviewed and the following amendments are being carried out: (a) change of name; (b) change in the organization's objectives; (c) change in the membership profile; (d) change in the number of members of the Executive Committee from 25 to 19, including 5 co-opted members instead of 3; (e) the Council will appoint an Honorary President and one Vice-President; (f) elections will be held every two years instead of every year; (g) the term of office bearers will be two years instead of one; and (h) the number of days for preparing the General Meeting will be increased.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Council works in the following areas: development of small island development; the Millennium Development Goals; the post-2015 development agenda; poverty alleviation; human rights; good governance; and capacity-building of NGOs.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council cooperated with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Global Environment Facility.

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

No activities were specified.

10. Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association**Special, 2005****Introduction**

The Mbororo Social and Cultural Development Association is an organization working to promote the development of the indigenous Mbororo peoples in Cameroon. It is active mainly in eight regions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The goal of the Association is to unify the nomadic Mbororo cattle-herders of Cameroon, to defend their rights as an indigenous people and to advocate sustainable management of their pastures and of their environment.

Significant changes in the organization

The Association revised its statutes and rules of procedure in 2009. In the same year, a General Assembly was held during which new executive heads were elected in accordance with the rules of the organization. The Association celebrated its twentieth anniversary in December 2012.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association has taken the following initiatives to support the development activities of the United Nations: (a) training seminars on the rights of indigenous peoples; (b) a broadcast on national public radio designed to inform the public about the rights of indigenous peoples in Cameroon; (c) socioeconomic capacity-building for the Mbororo. Over 7,000 people participated in literacy programmes. They acquired business management skills in order to manage microcredit as efficiently as possible. Young people received school scholarships and vocational training. In addition, 25 primary schools throughout the country were given teaching materials and school kits; (d) legal aid and civic assistance were provided in order to restore the rights of the Mbororo. In this connection, over 800 Mbororo learned about the human rights violations affecting indigenous peoples and approximately 4,500 Mbororo cattle farmers were educated about sustainable management of agropastoral conflicts; (e) advocacy to persuade the Government to listen to the concerns of the Mbororo about employment, animal husbandry and education of young people, inter alia. This led to a Parliament-Government dialogue on indigenous issues. A pastoral code was also drafted by the Government and is awaiting adoption by Parliament.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association has participated actively in:

- the universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council in Geneva, where the Vice- President of Cameroon gave a presentation on the problems facing the Mbororo;
- the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in New York;
- the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Montreal, Canada); the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Banjul).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association has worked with United Nations bodies in the following areas:

- Work with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on issues relating to the promotion of human and indigenous rights;
- Regular participation in cooperation with other United Nations agencies (namely UNESCO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)) in the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People.

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

The Association supports the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in the following areas: school attendance by Mbororo children of poor parents; efforts to combat HIV/AIDS through publicity campaigns and screening; advocacy to persuade the Government to establish health centres in the remote areas where the Mbororo live; and Mbororo capacity-building for environmental protection and, above all, for sound pastoralism respecting environmental standards.

11. Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development is a non-profit federation of Mediterranean NGOs for development and the environment acting as a technical and political platform for the presentation of views of and interventions by NGOs.

Aims and purposes of the organization

In cooperation with Governments, international organizations and other socioeconomic partners, the organization plays an active role in the protection of the environment, the cultural heritage and the promotion of sustainable development of the countries in the Mediterranean region.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization organized an official side event at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 on challenges and opportunities for a Mediterranean green growth.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization has close ties to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Coordinating Unit of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan for the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention). The organization contributed to its meetings and to its regional activity centres through interventions, presentations and working documents in 2009 (Greece and Malta), in 2011 (Turkey, Greece and Albania), as well as at the following meetings: sixteenth (Morocco, 2009) and seventeenth (France, 2012) Ordinary Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; thirteenth (Egypt, 2009) and fourteenth (Montenegro, 2011) meetings of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development; fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (Denmark, 2009); sixth Biennial International Waters Conference (Croatia, 2011); Intergovernmental Conference on Environmental Education for Sustainable Development (Georgia, 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

UNESCO and the organization published *Education for Sustainable Development in Biosphere Reserves and other Designated Areas: A Resource Book for Educators in South-Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean* addressed to trainers; officers of reserves, protected areas, environment centres, nature parks and eco-museums; and NGOs, among others, in Europe.

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

At all regional and national meetings it attends, the organization, directly and through its member organizations, reminds and alerts the Governments and other stakeholders of the region that the targets adopted in Johannesburg and Rio de Janeiro urgently require concerted and coordinated action. Furthermore, for Millennium Development Goal 2, the organization participates in expert groups (on, inter alia, indicators and competences) for the implementation and monitoring of the ECE Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development. For goal 7, the organization acts as the coordinator of the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability, a Johannesburg type II partnership initiative, which facilitates a network of over 3,000 educators and NGOs working on environmental protection and sustainable development. The organization is also an active proponent of the United Nations Decade for Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2015) and has jointly developed the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development, inspired by the ECE Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to encourage countries of the Mediterranean to develop and incorporate education for sustainable development into all relevant subjects of their formal educational systems, as well as in non-formal and informal educational systems.

12. MINBYUN: Lawyers for a Democratic Society**Special, 2001****Introduction**

MINBYUN: Lawyers for a Democratic Society is an independent NGO based in the Republic of Korea seeking to improve democracy and promote social justice. It consists of 881 lawyers and has eight branches in the country.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The activities of the organization range from general litigation for victims of human rights violations to awareness-building projects such as organizing conferences/seminars and issuing publications.

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

In 2009, the organization sent urgent appeal letters concerning specific human rights violations to the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing. It also attended the tenth session of the Human Rights Council (2009), where it made an oral statement on the right to housing in the context of an Incident in Yongsan, Republic of Korea, in which an evicted protester died, and

hosted a side event with the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development; the thirteenth session of the Council (2010); and the seventeenth session (2011), where it participated in an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and held a parallel event. It also attended the fourteenth session of the universal periodic review (2012). The organization further attended the forty-third session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2009) and the eighty-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2012).

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.

13. MiRA Resource Center for Black Immigrant and Refugee Women

Special, 2001

Introduction

The MiRA Centre for Black Immigrant and Refugee Women is a national resource centre addressing issues concerning black, immigrant, refugee and other ethnic minority women in Norway. There is a general perception in Norway that its legal and social systems are neutral and do not discriminate on the grounds of ethnicity, ability or sexual orientation. The Centre has been struggling for over 20 years to make the authorities as well as the politicians aware of the fact that women with ethnic minority backgrounds do face multi-dimensional discrimination and that their situation has to be seen in relation to the intersection of various forms of oppression and discrimination. United Nations bodies have been essential in supporting this struggle and as a result there has been a fundamental shift in the official Norwegian policies, which are now taking into consideration the intersection of various form of discrimination.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Center is to promote equality for minority women in all spheres of Norwegian society. It works to increase awareness about specific challenges that face black, immigrant and refugee women. Its aim is to increase the participation of minority women in all spheres of life and help find solutions for the challenges minorities face in Norway. The Centre is a bridge-building organization that offers support through competence-based and advocacy activities. It helps young girls and women who are victims of violence or other discriminatory practices. It aims to empower ethnic minority women to realize their full potential in education, working life, and political and social life. Its aim is to combat gender and racial discrimination so that women with minority backgrounds can become better equipped to master the challenges they meet in both the private and public spheres. It works to destroy stereotypes and promote minority women as an important resource.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In 2011 the Centre made a presentation at the examination by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women of Norway's eighth periodic report. Together with other NGOs in Norway, it prepared a shadow report to supplement and comment on Norway's report on its implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

In 2010 the Centre worked with other NGOs to prepare a shadow report for the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for its examination of Norway's nineteenth and twentieth periodic reports.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Centre attended the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York during the reporting period.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The Centre contributed to the Millennium Development Goals by focusing on empowerment and educational activities.

14. Narcotics Anonymous World Services

Special, 1997

Introduction

Founded in 1953, Narcotics Anonymous World Services is a global NGO based on a mutual-support approach to recovery from addiction to all drugs. It holds more than 61,800 meetings in at least 129 countries and six continents around the world. Narcotics Anonymous World Services is the central coordinating body for the activities of Narcotics Anonymous worldwide and the publisher of Narcotics Anonymous literature. It has a primary office in Los Angeles, California, United States of America, and branch offices in: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada; Brussels; Tehran; and Bangalore, India.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization interacts with individuals and organizations to help addicts find recovery and to ensure that accurate information about its programme is available. It seeks to develop cooperative relationships that benefit both itself and partner organizations. To maintain its focus on recovery from addiction, it does not affiliate with or endorse any other organization or programme, nor does it express opinions on issues outside its own scope of activity.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Direct interaction in United Nations meetings or events is limited. However, the organization has been very active in outreach and development activities around the world during this reporting period. The development excursions allow its representatives (both staff and members of its World Board) to directly interact with local Narcotics Anonymous communities with a focus on the specific developmental needs of those communities. Additionally, in many emerging communities, it participates in government interface to assist development efforts for Narcotics Anonymous to help addicts in those communities. During the reporting period it travelled extensively to help communities in Latin America, the Middle East and Asia.

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

The organization's governmental interfaces around the world aid in humanitarian efforts by offering drug addicts an opportunity to become drug free and to lead responsible and productive lives, thereby contributing, indirectly but positively, to several Millennium Development Goals.

15. National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials**Special, 2005****Introduction**

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials is a professional membership organization comprised of approximately 23,000 housing and community development agencies and officials throughout the United States, administering affordable housing and community development programmes at the local level.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association makes available resources for its members and others who provide decent, safe, affordable housing, and for viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low and moderate income.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association's International Committee collects and disseminates information on housing and community development in other countries. The committee identifies innovative programmes, development techniques and management systems that may be usable in the United States. The committee also shares information on United States programmes with its overseas counterparts. It currently has memorandums of understanding with the South Africa Housing Foundation, the Canadian Housing and Renewal Foundation, the International Urban Development Association and the State of Israel Ministry of Construction and Housing to facilitate participation in conferences and international forums, promote dialogue and study exchanges.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association attended the annual sessions of the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management every year during the reporting period; and the UN-Habitat World Urban Forum in 2010 and 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The activities of the Association and examples of specific activities undertaken by its members in support the following Millennium Development Goals are described below:

Goal 1: Association members own or administer 674,000 units of public housing (a vast majority of the housing inventory in the United States), 1,724,000 units of tenant-based "section 8" housing for low-income households and 285,500 units of other Government-assisted housing. Additionally, its members provide housing for more than 7.9 million low-income people. Its members bring more than \$1.5 billion in federal funding to their communities to support local housing and community development projects and initiatives.

Goal 2: the organization assisted 3,000 children under five in Akron (Ohio) Metropolitan Housing Authority housing to prepare them for kindergarten and beyond, thus helping to break the cycle of poverty.

Goal 3: the Oakland (California) Housing Authority, in partnership with the Alameda County Sheriff's Office, provided support to formerly incarcerated women through the Maximizing Opportunities for Mothers to Succeed programme. The programme is designed to help newly released mothers stay out of jail and reunite families by providing customized case management, group counselling services, and safe and affordable housing. Since the programme's inception, 73 per cent of the graduates have stayed out of jail, which is 3 per cent higher than the national average.

Goal 4: Phoenix House, administered by the Longview Housing Authority in the State of Washington, received the organization's Award of Excellence in 2010.

Goal 6: many of the organization's members administer the federally funded Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programme and provided both affordable housing opportunities, access to health care and case management for households living with HIV/AIDS.

Goal 7: the organization has promoted environmental best practices among members, such as Red Oak Park in Boulder, Colorado, to provide affordable housing for working families.

Goal 8: the organization's International Committee has a broad and expanding set of international relationships aimed at collecting and disseminating information on best practices for housing and community development, domestically and through international partnerships and exchanges.
