



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
7 November 2013
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2014 regular session

21-30 January and 7 February 2014

Quadrennial reports for the period 2009-2012 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
1. Green Cross International	2
2. Habitat International Coalition	3
3. Hadassah: Women's Zionist Organization of America	5
4. Haiti Mission	6
5. Help for the Andes Foundation	7
6. Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association	8
7. Human Rights Advocates	9
8. Human Rights Watch	10
9. Human Security Initiative Organization	12
10. ICVolunteers	14
11. Indian Federation of United Nations Associations	15
12. Indigenous World Association	16
13. Initiatives of Change International	17
14. Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development	19
15. Institute for Policy Studies	20



1. Green Cross International

General, 1997

Introduction

Green Cross International, headquartered in Geneva, has a network of national organizations in 30 countries and works globally through its international programmes.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Green Cross International is an independent, non-profit non-governmental organization (NGO) responding to the challenges of security, poverty and environmental degradation by undertaking advocacy and local projects.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Green Cross International supported the drive that led to the adoption of resolutions by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council in 2010 recognizing the right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and advocated for the entry into force of the Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses since its adoption in 1997 by conducting awareness-raising campaigns in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Ghana, Guinea, Italy, Mali, Mauritania, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Senegal and riparian States of the Niger River and Lake Chad basins. Green Cross International co-convened side events at the sixth World Water Forum, held in Marseille, France, in March 2012 and at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, and organized a side event on responsible research for global biosecurity at the 2012 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, held in Geneva. The organization also launched the Climate Change Task Force to stimulate an urgent international response to the threat of climate change; the Secretary-General participated in the Task Force in September 2009.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In October 2009, the founder of Green Cross International, Mikhail Gorbachev, gave a lecture at the United Nations Office at Geneva entitled "Resetting the nuclear disarmament agenda". Green Cross International organized several events at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, including one entitled "Painting or making the economy green", and issued a statement on behalf of the Climate Change Task Force entitled "Action to face the urgent realities of climate change". It participated in the high-level meeting, "Happiness and well-being: defining a new economic paradigm", convened by the Government of Bhutan at United Nations Headquarters on 2 April 2012. In December 2009, Green Cross International organized a side event at the fifteenth

session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Green Cross International contributes to the work of the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other agencies and institutions. It partners with the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme and the secretariat servicing the Convention for the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to promote legal instruments facilitating cooperation and sustainable use of watersheds. At the sixth World Water Forum, Green Cross International signed the charter supporting decentralized solidarity mechanisms for water and sanitation launched by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It organized the biennial Green Star Awards for 2009 and 2011 in conjunction with its partners for this initiative, UNEP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The organization's environmental emergency preparedness programme works with the same partners to improve disaster preparedness.

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

Green Cross International supports sustainable development goals and works to support Millennium Development Goals 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. As of 2010, the organization's flagship water and sanitation project, "Smart water for green schools", provided access to safe drinking water, hygiene and environmental education to over 52,000 people in Argentina, China, Ghana, Kenya and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, reducing waterborne disease, empowering women and promoting access to education for girls. Since 2009, Green Cross International has provided medical, social and economic support to communities in areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster, as well as in South-East Asia and northern Iraq, in support of Millennium Development Goals 1-6. In support of goal 7, Green Cross International promoted environmental sustainability education among some 1 million children in Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka through its environmental diaries project.

2. Habitat International Coalition

Special, 1993

Introduction

Habitat International Coalition is comprised of civil society organizations and individual members in 120 countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Through its international collective of civil society organizations, Habitat International Coalition advocates for the defence, promotion and enforceability of

the human rights of homeless, evicted, displaced, landless and inadequately housed communities, including those under occupation, in urban and rural areas.

Significant changes in the organization

Habitat International Coalition undertook a global evaluation process in 2012 which led to the drafting of a new constitution.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Among other activities, during the reporting period Habitat International Coalition submitted contributions during the process leading up to the Durban Review Conference in 2009; participated in the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Gender Equality Action Plan (2008-2013); participated in the Extraterritorial Obligations Consortium and the International NGO Coalition for an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; developed a methodology for monitoring the right to adequate housing that is in harmony with United Nations basic principles and guidelines; submitted information to the United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict ([A/HRC/12/48](#) and Corr.1) and its follow-up; and promoted the right to water.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Habitat International Coalition participated in the following meetings, among others: Durban Review Conference (Geneva, April 2009); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Near East Regional Consultation on the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land and Other Natural Resources (Rome, October 2009); FAO Forum on Food Security in Protracted Crises (Rome, September 2012); United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, Habitat International Coalition participated in a joint submission to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on China and submitted a parallel report on Israel. In conjunction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Beirut and others, it prepared a review and analysis of the use by civil society organizations of the United Nations human rights mechanisms in 2009.

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

Habitat International Coalition provided inputs to the report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and published *Cities for All: Proposals and Experiences towards the Right to the City* in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese in 2010.

3. Hadassah: Women's Zionist Organization of America

Special, 2001

Introduction

Hadassah: Women's Zionist Organization of America initiates and supports pace-setting health care, education and youth institutions in Israel. As the largest medical and research centre in the Middle East, the Hadassah Medical Organization is the centrepiece of Hadassah's work.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Despite ongoing violence in the region, the Hadassah Medical Organization continues to promote humanitarian values, treating every person who comes through its doors, regardless of race, religion or ethnicity, and tirelessly working to improve Arab-Israeli cooperation. Hadassah is deeply committed to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals across the globe. The Norwegian Nobel Committee nominated Hadassah for the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Hadassah conducted two workshops on sharing best practices to advance global health at the Annual United Nations Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organization Conference in Melbourne, Australia, in August 2010. Given the fact that 30 per cent of Hadassah's child patients are Palestinian, an Arab immunologist working for Hadassah was instrumental in building the only bone marrow registry in the world for Arab donors. The Hadassah Medical Organization has trained health professionals from countries throughout the world, including students preparing a masters degree in public health, at the Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine at Hadassah-Hebrew University. The Organization's health professionals are leaders in disaster management and medical relief missions, most recently serving in Haiti after the earthquake. Hadassah physicians and a nurse set up surgical and intensive care units and a maternity ward, serving 1,111 patients.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Hadassah's United Nations representatives consistently attend meetings, programmes, briefings and events organized by the Department of Public Information; meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women; and informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs. Examples of events in which Hadassah participated include Holocaust Remembrance Day (New York, January 2009); sessions of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, 2009 and 2010); the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society organizations and the private sector convened prior to the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (New York, June 2010); the opening session of the High-level Plenary Meeting (New York, September 2010);

the leadership summit sponsored by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (New York, October 2010).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Hadassah's cooperation with United Nations bodies included attending the forty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (New York, August 2009) and participating at the NGO Commission on the Status of Women Forum Consultation Day (New York, February 2012).

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

Hadassah contributed to the following Millennium Development Goals: goal 2: provided education to new immigrants at the Youth Aliyah villages in Israel for children of dysfunctional families; sponsored "Read Write Now", a national literacy tutoring programme in the United States of America; tutored refugee children from Darfur and renovated a local nursery school with the help of Young Judea volunteers; goal 3: supported economic empowerment programmes for Arab and Jewish Israeli women and provided assistance to children and adult victims of sexual abuse; educated professionals, raised community awareness through the Hadassah Medical Organization Bat Ami Center; goal 4: identified a deadly mutant gene responsible for fatal liver insufficiency in infants and treated them with sulphur in order to save lives; saved the life of a newborn baby with heart blockage by providing a pacemaker and corrected cardiac rhythms in foetuses; goal 5: provided community outreach programmes on preventive health care and helped Palestinians by working to combat maternal and foetal death by training midwives/nurses and providing community education; goal 6: collaborated with Ethiopians for several years to treat HIV/AIDS among children, significantly decreasing their mortality rate; goal 7: the Environmental Health Sciences Programme at Hadassah College Jerusalem combined a science curriculum with instruction on the environment and health, providing students with opportunities to work on environmental projects; goal 8: helped to establish medical infrastructures, care and treatment programmes, education and research in developing countries.

4. Haiti Mission

Special, 2009

Introduction

Haiti Mission is committed to providing basic humanitarian aid to the villages of Numéro Deux and Ravine Saab, which comprise the parish of Our Lady of the Assumption in the diocese of Jérémie, Haiti.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The first and foremost goal is to provide potable water within 500 feet of every family in this area. Other projected activities include initiatives in the fields of education (building schools), improved housing and providing basic material needs.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Mission's activities in Haiti include but are not limited to: (a) drilling water wells (26 as of 2012); (b) constructing a basic elementary and secondary school, including some vocational training, in Ravine Saab for 200 children; (c) establishing a bakery to deliver meals every day to the children in three schools; (d) constructing 15 houses in the project area; (e) building a poultry facility; (f) distributing albendazole, a parasite eradication medication, and multivitamins to local residents several times a year; and (g) purchasing a new drilling rig truck to drill more water wells.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Haiti Mission attended a gathering of NGOs in New York in April 2010 at which the United Nations Special Envoy for Haiti, Bill Clinton, and his Deputy, Dr. Paul Farmer, discussed the pressing needs for Haiti and the role of NGOs in the country.

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

The Mission's activities focused on the development and implementation of programmes to elevate the standard of living of the people of Haiti by drilling water wells and building schools and houses.

5. Help for the Andes Foundation**Special, 2009****Introduction**

The Help for the Andes Foundation works to bring about positive change in the lives of people in various communities of Chile and Peru by expanding educational opportunities, social development, resilience and capacities in the field of medicine. The United Nations campaign to eradicate poverty motivated the organization to take action in support of the Millennium Development Goals and to work for the advancement of women, financing for development, social development and sustainable development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Foundation's mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals and communities by focusing on programmes that strengthen organizations, reinforce communications networks and increase knowledge. The primary objective is to improve the lives of the disadvantaged and alleviate their suffering by improving health, education, living conditions, communication skills, social behaviour and

social adjustment so that they can live fuller lives. There are four main areas of focus: (a) international disaster response; (b) development of capacities in the field of medicine; (c) social and health education; and (d) the “human touch”. These are pursued by organizing workshops and seminars for personnel of local hospitals, orphanages, rural schools, and volunteer and rehabilitation centres.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In a joint effort with government institutions and the Chilean community in Melbourne, Australia, the Help for the Andes Foundation built a multi-site fishing port in the coastal area of San Antonio, Chile, with the aim of contributing to the economic and social development of the fisherfolk and their community.

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

No activities were specified.

6. Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association

Special, 2001

Introduction

Established in 1996, the Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association was the first non-profit organization founded by a group of women professionals and entrepreneurs based in Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of China.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association aims to develop a strong supportive network, create practical and innovative learning and business opportunities for members and the public, and promote high professional standards. It also conducts workshops, seminars, international events and missions to foster relationships with its counterparts on the Mainland and overseas.

Significant changes in the organization

The Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association Charitable Foundation was incorporated in October 2010 to facilitate its charity work.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In March 2012, the Association, together with the Asia-Pacific Economic Corporation Business Advisory Council, organized the Women's Forum reception where, with the participation of NGOs and leading representatives of social enterprises, successful business models of social enterprises in Hong Kong were shared.

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

During the reporting period, the Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association implemented projects that contributed to the work of the United Nations in line with the Millennium Development Goals. These were: (a) providing post-trauma counselling to help the victims of the 2010 earthquake in Qinghai, China, in partnership with the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong; (b) completing the "Building environmental- and energy-wise professionals and small and medium enterprises" project jointly with two local environmental groups to promote environmental awareness and awareness of global climate change in Hong Kong. The project offered training programmes and energy audits of small and medium enterprises with a view to reducing carbon emissions and saving energy; (c) continuing to organize major events to advocate for women's advancement, including profiling outstanding achievements of prominent women leaders and hosting networking seminars in Hong Kong and participating in major events in China and overseas to promote gender equality; (d) responding actively to the Hong Kong government's consultation on policy issues by preparing papers on health-care reform, the Voluntary Health Protection Scheme, competition law, the Air Quality Objectives Review and the minimum wage.

7. Human Rights Advocates

Special, 1985

Introduction

Human Rights Advocates is a non-profit organization established under the laws of California, United States. It was incorporated in 1981 and received consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1985.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The public purposes for which the organization was established include educating and providing information to interested persons about international human rights and the United Nations. Human Rights Advocates participates regularly at meetings of United Nations human rights bodies.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Human Rights Advocates regularly provides reports and written statements to the Human Rights Council and the Commission on the Status of Women as well as the treaty bodies. It submitted a report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on special measures.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Human Rights Advocates has participated every year at meetings of the Human Rights Council and the Commission on the Status of Women. It occasionally attends meetings of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Committee. It has also attended a number of forums, including one held in December 2012 on business and human rights. Human Rights Advocates participated on a panel on the rights of the child held during the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

It has responded to requests for information on a number of issues from both the Human Rights Council and the treaty bodies.

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

It includes references to the Millennium Development Goals when relevant to the reports it submits, such as those on the right to food.

8. Human Rights Watch

Special, 1993

Introduction

Human Rights Watch is dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights around the world. It investigates and exposes human rights violations in 80 countries. The organization stands with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, uphold political freedom, protect those subjected to unlawful conduct during wartime and helps bring offenders to justice. In 2008, Human Rights Watch won the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights in recognition of its outstanding achievements in human rights. It is the largest international human rights organization based in the United States.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The subjects of the organization's thematic programmes include: arms; business and human rights; children's rights; emergencies; health and human rights; international justice; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights; refugees; terrorism and counter-terrorism; and women's rights.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Throughout the reporting period, Human Rights Watch frequently shared its findings and recommendations on various issues with OHCHR, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Secretary-General and his Office, and different departments of the Secretariat in New York, Geneva and field locations. Its representatives attended sessions of the treaty bodies, met and shared reports with United Nations special rapporteurs and independent experts, and submitted written contributions for each of the sessions of the universal periodic review. In June 2010, Human Rights Watch published *Curing the Selectivity Syndrome: The 2011 Review of the Human Rights Council*, which made recommendations for the review of the Council to be undertaken by the General Assembly in 2011. Representatives of the organization attended and presented oral statements at informal consultations of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council (Geneva and New York, October 2010 and June 2011). It advocated on human rights issues at the Security Council in New York, including sharing information through the Arria Formula on issues such as the Lord's Resistance Army (June 2012) and children and armed conflict (July 2012).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Human Rights Watch participated in regular and special sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva during the reporting period. It co-organized various side events during these sessions, including on the rights of migrant domestic workers (March 2010) and access to palliative care (June 2011). It also participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (2009-2012); the first session of the Open-ended Working Group on Strengthening the Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons (April 2011); the third session of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing (August 2012); the third, fourth and fifth annual sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2010-2012); the fiftieth session of the Commission on Social Development (February 2012); the informal thematic debate at the General Assembly on international migration and development (May 2011); the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (September 2011) and the high-level meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels (September 2012). Human Rights Watch co-organized numerous events on the sidelines of the above-mentioned meetings, including on women and girls with disabilities (September 2010), inclusive education for children with disabilities (September 2011), women, peace and security (October 2011), mainstreaming gender and disability into the development agenda (February 2012), violence against children with disabilities (September 2012) and the death penalty (October 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

As discussed above, Human Rights Watch frequently consulted with and contributed to the work of various United Nations bodies and agencies, including

OHCHR, UNHCR, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

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

Human Rights Watch undertook various initiatives during the reporting period to support the United Nations global development agenda, particularly in the areas of health, education, housing and the environment. These initiatives include preparing reports on issues such as access to health care for migrants in South Africa (December 2009); barriers to the prevention and treatment of fistula in Kenya (July 2010); State response to HIV in the United States (March 2011); access to palliative care in Ukraine (May 2011); women's and girls' health and security in Haiti (August 2011); and health repercussions of tanneries in Bangladesh (October 2012).

Human Rights Watch frequently consulted with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Member States on health and human rights issues, including the inclusion of palliative care into the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, the WHO Global Monitoring Framework and the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013-2020; the incorporation of palliative care into activities around universal health coverage; and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

9. Human Security Initiative Organization

Special, 2009

Introduction

The Human Security Initiative Organization aims to promote the concept of and perspectives on human security; prevent the illicit spread and misuse of small arms and light weapons; prohibit the recruitment of child soldiers and promote programmes for their reintegration; combat drug trafficking and use; protect against landmines; protect human rights; and disseminate a culture of peace and conflict resolution.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the Organization are pursued through the following activities: (a) research and maintenance of a database; (b) training; (c) advocacy, policy-setting and agenda formulation; (d) public education campaigns; (e) building the subjective capabilities of the Organization; (f) implementing protection, rehabilitation and development programmes; (g) concluding contracts and managing projects; and (h) compliance monitoring.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Activities carried out in the last four years include: (a) peacebuilding: disarmament education and efforts to limit illicit small arms and light weapons such as the campaign to make Khartoum a weapons- and violence-free zone, 2010-2012; enhancing the role of traditional female singers in the Sudan (*hakamat*) in peacebuilding through training workshops; (b) health: preventing HIV/AIDS and violence against women through a project coordinated within the Sudan AIDS Network (2010); (c) civic education: voter education and an election observation project (2010); encouraging youth participation through a democratic transition project (2011); an electoral reform project (2011); (d) human security: undertaking studies and research on, for example, characteristics of the threats to human security and development in the Sudan (2011) and a case study on the situation of women in camps for internally displaced persons in Khartoum State; establishing the Centre for Human Security Studies (2011).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Human Security Initiative Organization participated as an observer at the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society organizations and the private sector (New York, June 2010) and the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Human Security Initiative Organization cooperated with UNAIDS in 2010 on its campaign to stop violence against women as a means of preventing HIV/AIDS. It worked in partnership with UN-Women in the Sudan in 2011 to implement a project for women in camps for internally displaced persons in Khartoum State to educate young girls and women on gender issues and human rights. From 2010 to 2012, in collaboration with UNDP, it implemented reintegration programmes for former combatants in South Kordofan which supported long-term social reintegration and economic empowerment through income-generating activities and vocational training.

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

Most of the Organization's work to empower women politically, economically and socially to play their role in society falls under Millennium Development Goal 3. The Organization has helped to raise the awareness of women concerning their rights and gender issues, and build the capacity of women by developing skills that will enable them to improve their conditions on their own. Under goal 6, the Organization focuses on HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. It also contributed to the shadow report on the status of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Sudan by acting as a grass-roots representative and community voice, monitoring the implementation of the Goals, identifying obstacles and proposing recommendations for accelerating progress towards their achievement in the Sudan.

10. ICVolunteers

Special, 2005

Introduction

ICVolunteers is an international non-profit organization specializing in communications. Based in Geneva, ICVolunteers has been an international federation since 2005 and has offices and representatives in several other countries, including South Africa, Brazil, Spain, France, Mali and Senegal. On 30 March 2013, the ICVolunteers network comprised 14,214 enlisted volunteers, from 180 countries and speaking 175 languages. Since 2009, approximately 120,000 hours have been contributed on a voluntary basis to social and humanitarian projects.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aim is recruiting, training and coordinating volunteers for non-profit projects (conference support, cybervolunteering and language services), whether for its own programmes or in the context of support that it offers to partner entities. ICVolunteers envisions building a better world by sharing knowledge and learning through volunteer work. Its mission is to create development and commitment opportunities at the personal and professional levels through volunteerism and to support partners in the execution of social and education programmes through field operations and networking.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the period 2009-2012, our NGO organized activities in support of global principles. It participated in world days, including International Mother Language Day, 21 February; the International Day of Peace, 21 September; and International Volunteer Day, 5 December.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

From 2009 to 2012, ICVolunteers participated in the annual follow-up forums of the World Summit on the Information Society led by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva. In 2011 and 2012, ICVolunteers projects were recognized by ITU for their excellence.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

1. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: support via the ICV interpreters network to organize training on indigenous populations and minorities (2011, 2012).
2. World Health Organization: assistance in organizing the Geneva Health Forum.
3. ITU: ITU participation in a symposium on information and communication technologies for Africa organized by ICVolunteers in 2012.

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

ICVolunteers has additionally undertaken specific activities to promote the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. They are as follows: the E-TIC project (information and communication technologies), which provides better information to herders and farmers in the West Africa subregion (Senegal and Mali) (Goal 1); the promotion of gender issues: the Ethical Fashion Initiative — the work entails documenting this project, organizing communication activities and training in information and communication technologies (Ghana) (Goal 2); working with young people from public and private schools to raise awareness about the environment and sustainable development questions. This involves launching green maps for development and organizing a world photo campaign on the theme of sustainable development, citizenship and volunteerism (Goal 7).

11. Indian Federation of United Nations Associations

Special, 2005

Introduction

The Indian Federation of United Nations Associations was formed as a non-governmental, voluntary, non-profit organization to promote international peace and understanding as envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations and to further the activities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. The Federation was launched in 1960 and inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The objectives of the Federation are, inter alia: to coordinate the activities of United Nations Associations and cooperate where appropriate with other similar bodies working to further the objectives of the United Nations in India; to affiliate with the World Federation of United Nations Associations and work within that framework; and to educate public opinion about 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

The Federation's contributions include the organization of the following events: Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of United Nations Associations (New Delhi, March 2009); World Environment Day celebration (Shimla, India, 5 June 2009); thirty-ninth plenary assembly of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (Seoul, August 2009); round table on climate change, with the United Nations Associations of China and Sweden (Beijing, October 2010); Model United Nations (Mumbai, November 2010); and a seminar on climate change (Chhattisgarh, India, June 2011).

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 Federation contributed to Millennium Development Goal 4.

12. Indigenous World Association

Special, 1985

Introduction

The Indigenous World Association promotes the participation of indigenous representatives in the United Nations system. Since most indigenous peoples, nations and organizations do not have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, the Association provides a vehicle for them to attend United Nations meetings and become involved.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association promotes the rights of indigenous peoples in many fields, including human rights, the rights of indigenous women and children, protection of indigenous lands, protection of the environment for sustainable development, the fight against racism against indigenous peoples, protection of biological diversity, poverty reduction, communications and use of the Internet, food sovereignty, the rights of the disabled and other emerging rights. It is committed to organizing international meetings of indigenous representatives prior to important meetings of the United Nations that are of interest to indigenous peoples.

Significant changes in the organization

The Association changed its headquarters in 2009.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association has been active in a number of fields. One of its most important areas of work is to communicate with and organize indigenous representatives who attend United Nations meetings. This is an important element in empowering indigenous peoples to try to control their own lives and develop on their own terms. Indigenous peoples are not only affecting the discussions in the United Nations, but they are also able to communicate with each other and share positive experiences of indigenous peoples and communities in dealing with poverty reduction, resource sharing, networking, negotiation skills and cooperative strategies.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Indigenous World Association has attended the following meetings in the past four years: the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action (New York, September 2011), at which the Association was invited to speak; the

Durban Review Conference (Geneva, April 2009), where it contributed to the report; the annual sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York, 2009-2012); the annual sessions of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Geneva, 2009-2012); sessions of the Human Rights Council (Geneva, 2009-2011); the universal periodic review of Bolivia (Geneva, 2011); and the examination of Canada by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Geneva, February 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Each year of the reporting period, the Indigenous World Association organized meetings between indigenous representatives and the members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York and with the members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Geneva on the day before the start of the annual session of the respective bodies.

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

With indigenous peoples being the poorest of the poor in the countries where they live, the Indigenous World Association tries to mainstream indigenous issues across the United Nations system. Health, education and poverty all relate to indigenous peoples' right to control their own lives and develop on their own terms. The Association promotes the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

13. Initiatives of Change International

Special, 2005

Introduction

Initiatives of Change International is a worldwide network of people of diverse cultures and backgrounds who are committed to the transformation of society through changes in human motives and behaviour. It is made up of 32 national associations. The main focus areas are building trust, ethical leadership and sustainable living.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization believes that people can themselves personify the changes they wish to see in the world. The mission is to inspire, equip and connect people to address global needs, starting with themselves.

Significant changes in the organization

An internal consultation process among its members has led to a clearer definition of the work of the organization and produced a new "framework for common action" document. There are now national associations in Ukraine, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Initiatives of Change International naturally tends to link peace, security, development and human rights through a variety of programmes, including those held at its two large conference centres. The centre in Caux, Switzerland, provides ethical leadership and good governance courses to 1,500 people every summer, while the one in Panchgani, India, provides the same courses to over 6,000 people a year. The Hope in the Cities programme, started in Richmond, Virginia, United States, to help communities heal the trauma of racism, reached over 700 people annually. The programme in the Great Lakes region of Africa, conducted with the help of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, has been assisting peacebuilding efforts in Burundi and helping to create space for political dialogue by means of workshops for politicians and civil society in Bujumbura and in Caux.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A representative of Initiatives of Change International spoke at the International Day of Peace side event organized by the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office at Geneva on 21 September 2012; the organization closely follows the discussions of the intergovernmental working group on the draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace. During the reporting period the organization also attended the Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2009, 2010 and 2011, and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012. It also regularly attended the meetings of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Initiatives of Change International undertook four visits to Chad in 2012 to help forge a national network of mediators and the organization's film unit was invited by UNDP to document the process. Initiatives of Change France implemented peace education workshops for 4,500 students aged 7-14 in 55 schools across France; this programme became a UNESCO pilot project in 2012. The secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification co-sponsored a one-day event on land restoration at the Caux Forum for Human Security in 2011 and 2012.

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

The organization's work focuses on the following Millennium Development Goals:

(a) Goal 1: as part of a rural development programme in India, the organization trains over 200 rural men and women a year in sewing and cell phone repair to help them start their own enterprises; another programme was launched to train about 250 farmers a year, mostly in East Africa, to share their expertise, promote local consumption and reduce poverty;

(b) Goal 3: a grass-roots women's peacebuilding programme provides training to over 300 women to facilitate "peace circle" sessions in more than 30 countries, empowering over 2,500 women;

(c) Goal 7: the organization promotes environmentally sustainable farming and building capacity for natural resource management training to over 100 farmers a year;

(d) Goal 8: the organization's conference series on trust and integrity in a global economy brings about 200 participants a year to Caux; as part of its round-table forum, senior business leaders meet and discuss international business and trade issues.

14. Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development

Special, 1993

Introduction

The Institute for International Economic Cooperation and Development is a non-profit organization founded in 1966. Its members are prominent persons from the worlds of politics, culture and business. In 1990 the Institute joined the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes as an institutional member. In 1995 it was granted the status of "organization with international aims" by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Institute aims to promote the economies and the development of developing and emerging countries, Central and Eastern European States and newly independent States, and to provide information, research, advice and technical assistance related to international economic cooperation and development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In June 2009, the Institute organized a conference, in cooperation with the Associazione Prometeo, at the Central State Archives in Rome to examine issues of importance for the future development of Italian and European society, such as the integration of second-generation immigrant children and the conflict between their culture of origin and that of their adopted society.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute carries out cooperation activities and exchanges information with United Nations organizations such as the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, FAO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Information Centre for Italy, Malta and the Holy See, and with other international organizations such as the World Bank and the World Trade Organization.

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

The Institute has undertaken a major initiative in Ukraine on issues relating to the environment and waste. Following a meeting in Kyiv in April 2012, a protocol was signed with the Ukrainian authorities. From 2009 to 2012, the Institute undertook research on key issues and programmes of development cooperation and produced studies and publications on issues relating to new strategies for international trade, industrial growth and technology transfer in line with the principles and actions of the United Nations.

15. Institute for Policy Studies

Special, 1977

Introduction

The transnational branch of the Institute for Policy Studies was founded in 1974 as one of the first research institutes to be transnational in name, composition, orientation and focus. It seeks to create and promote international cooperation in analysing and finding possible solutions to such global problems as armed conflicts, poverty and marginalization, social injustice and environmental degradation. At the heart of the Institute is a worldwide network of independent researchers and social activists. Close partner relationships have been developed over the years with many NGOs in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern and Western Europe and the United States.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The objectives of the Institute are to undertake, promote and supervise research in the fields of culture, politics and social sciences; and to create and promote international cooperation in the study of and research into solutions for world global problems such as pollution, militarism, social injustice, racism and development. It pursues its objectives by providing courses, organizing international scientific congresses and collaborating with non-profit organizations that have similar objectives.

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 Institute has contributed to solving the global drug problem, and worked on climate change issues and the provision of water.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Institute attended the annual session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (Vienna, March 2009); it represented the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs in formal round-table discussions on countering illicit drug traffic and supply, and alternative development, held during the annual sessions of the Commission in 2010, 2011 and 2012. It also attended the Conferences of the Parties

to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2009, 2011 and 2012; the FAO Committee on Food Security in 2010, 2011 and 2012; the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises of the Human Rights Council and civil society briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in 2011, and the public debate on the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights drawn up by the Special Representative, also in 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and WHO regularly attended the Institute's informal drug policy dialogues and expert seminars such as the South-East Asia dialogues held in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 in Bangkok, organized with the Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit in collaboration with the Office of the Narcotics Control Board in Thailand. The Institute coordinated the Reclaim Public Water network, which has helped shape the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance, hosted by UN-Habitat, and served on its Steering Committee in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

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

The Institute focused particularly on Millennium Development Goals 1, 6, 7 and 8 through its programmes on drugs (Goals 1 and 6), water (Goal 6), trade and investment (Goal 8), agrarian justice (Goals 1 and 7) and environmental justice.
