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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.



1. Working Women Association

Special, 2011

Introduction

Working Women Association (WWA) was established in 1991 in Khartoum, Sudan. WWA's membership includes women working in the public, private and informal sectors. It works in all Sudanese States.

Aims and purposes of the organization

WWA's main goal is to promote the status of women in general and working women in particular. WWA endeavours to achieve the following objectives: raise economic and social status of working women through initiatives to increase production; ensure the adoption of decent work standards among working women in Sudan; adopt social integration projects; training and development of working women; promote women's rights and protection; and build stakeholders' capacity.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

WWA led the advocacy campaign to ensure legal reform of laws related to working women in the civic and private sector. Further, WWA conducted resettlement programmes for 1,000 IDPs families affected by the war in Kordufan and Darfur States of Sudan. WWA contributed to rural women's development through production and dissemination of models of small scale industries and secure means of microfinance. In that regard, WWA has enabled 44,000 working woman to obtain loans.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WWA attended the Economic and Social Council's substantive session in 2012, Geneva, Switzerland. WWA attended the 57th and 58th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 4-15 March 2013 and 10-21 March 2014, New York. WWA presented a panel and a written statement on combating violence against women at the workplace during the 57th session and co-sponsored a joint statement to promote a global development strategy based on human rights during the 58th session. WWA attended the 22nd and 27th session of the Human Rights Council, 9-26 September 2014, during which it presented a written and oral statement.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

WWA endeavours to maintain decent work's standards and to achieve equality between women and men in the workplace. It participated in the World Day against child labour on 12 June 2013. It participated in the International Labour Day on

1 May 2012 and 2013 in Khartoum in collaboration with the concerned authority and the International Labour Organization (ILO). WWA celebrated the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April 2013.

2. World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations

Special, 1947

Introduction

The World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (World Alliance), based in Geneva, Switzerland, is a confederation of National Councils of Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCAs) around the world. It counts 11,200 YMCA branches worldwide, reaching 58 million people.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The World Alliance strengthens the capacity of National YMCA Movements; advocates globally on issues affecting young people; represents the YMCA at the global level; and develops programmes to promote youth leadership.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The World Alliance attends United Nations meetings in Geneva; Paris, France; Bonn, Germany; and New York. The organization spoke on behalf of world youth organizations at the High-level Meeting on Youth, July 2011.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings, among others:

- United Nations General Assembly, 2011 and 2013;
- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012;
- 50th and 51st session of the Commission for Social Development (CSoD), 2012 and 2013, New York, and spoke during the 51st session;
- International Labour Conference on Youth Employment Crisis, 2012; and
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP), 2013 and 2014, Warsaw, Poland, and Lima, Peru.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization collaborated with the following organizations, among others:

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in implementing the "One Million Voices" research project;
- International Labour Organization (ILO) on youth employment issues;

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on global campaigns focusing on youth empowerment, mobilising more than 500,000 people.

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

The organization has developed programmes related to MDG 6 in over 40 countries. In total, more than 13 million people benefit from YMCA programmes on health related issues including maternal health and prevention of diseases with special emphasis on sport related activities. 357,000 people benefit from the World Alliance's employment related programmes every year, towards goal 1. The organization has also engaged its membership toward goal 7, by sharing best practices on environment sustainability and education for environment preservation.

3. World Blind Union

General, 1999

Introduction

The World Blind Union (WBU) is the internationally recognized voice of the blind and partially sighted persons at the global level. It represents 285 million blind and partially sighted persons in approximately 190 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

WBU's vision is a community where people who are blind or partially sighted are empowered to participate on an equal basis in any aspect of life they choose. This is achieved through work in the areas of representation and human rights, capacity building, accessibility and resource sharing and collaboration.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The World Blind Union focuses on the promotion and implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), including by assisting WBU members to understand and participate in the CRPD implementation and monitoring processes. It delivered statements to the Economic and Social Council High-level Segment in 2011, 2012 and 2013. WBU made a submission to the 9th Session of the CRPD Committee for their general discussion on women and girls with disabilities, April 2013. As a core member of International Disability Alliance (IDA), WBU also contributes to numerous reports and statements of United Nations agencies and treaty bodies to ensure that the needs of blind persons are reflected.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WBU Delegations attended the following meetings, among others:

- 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Conferences of State Parties of the CRPD, September 2011, September 2012, July 2013, and June 2014, New York;
- High-level Meeting on Disability and Development, September 2013;
- High-level Summit on Millennium Development Goals, September 2013; and
- 52nd Commission on Social Development (CSoD), February 2014, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization collaborated with the following entities, among others:

- World Health Organization (WHO) on the promotion of new community-based rehabilitation guidelines and the World Disability Report;
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on the Global Partnership for Children with Disabilities initiative;
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR);
- International Labour Organization (ILO); and
- International Standards Organization (ISO): The WBU has been involved in the development of numerous standards of importance to blind and partially sighted persons.

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

WBU participated in the Education for All Visually Impaired Children (EFAVI) initiative in cooperation with International Council on Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI). WBU was also very active in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

4. World Coal Association

Special, 1991

Introduction

The World Coal Association, based in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, is the global industry association for coal producers and stakeholders.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The World Coal Association and its member companies engage constructively and openly with governments, the scientific community, multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations, media, coal producers and users, and others on global issues, such as CO₂ emissions reduction and sustainable development, and on local issues including environmental and socio-economic benefits and the effects from coal mining and coal use.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The World Coal Association supports global efforts to address the joint global actions to address climate change and sustainable development. The organization takes the view that an effective and sustainable climate response must integrate environmental imperatives with the legitimate aims of energy security and economic development, including poverty alleviation. These issues are inextricably linked. The world's least developed countries need access to low cost energy, but they are also the most vulnerable to the impacts of policies aimed at reducing anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the World Coal Association attended each session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. It also attended the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The World Coal Association actively participated in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda.

5. World Council for Psychotherapy

Special, 2003

Introduction

The World Council for Psychotherapy is a worldwide membership organization that focuses on improving the mental health and well-being of people through the use of various forms of psychotherapy to reduce emotional suffering.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization supports grassroots efforts to ameliorate emotional trauma caused by environmental disasters, wars, conflicts, and human indignities. The main interventions include emotional disaster recovery, mental health workshops and trainings, individual and group interventions, education, and social policy.

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 in the following ways:

- Its advocacy efforts were crucial in the inclusion of “promote mental health and well-being” in target 3.4 of the SDGs in the Agenda 2030.
- It was influential in the development of the first-ever mental health law in China that became valid on 1 May 2013.
- It presented a Symposium at the American Psychological Association’s Annual Convention in 2014 on “Environmental Protection, Climate Change, and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals”.
- It co-sponsored side events at United Nations Commissions, as well as a Forum at the United Nations entitled “Eradicating stigma & promoting psychosocial wellbeing, mental health and resilience in the Ebola epidemic through policies and practices to protect the global community”, 2014.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization regularly attends United Nations activities, conferences and briefings in New York. The organization made an oral presentation at the 4th Interactive Dialogue on Harmony with Nature, April 2014, New York. It co-sponsored statements submitted to the Commission on Social Development (CSocD), the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the International Day of the Cultures of Peace, and the United Nations General Assembly High-level Meeting on Disability and Development, among others.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

The organization has an ongoing project in Haiti, related to poverty eradication and building mental health resources and capacity, in cooperation with the University of Notre Dame of Haiti. It completed another project on entrepreneurship and life skills education for girls’ empowerment and HIV/AIDS education in Lesotho with partners in 2013. It undertook several other projects with the ECOSOC-accredited NGO “Voices of African Mothers”, addressing the MDGs.

6. World Federation for Mental Health

Special, 1963

Introduction

The World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) was founded in 1948 in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It has a broad membership of mental health organizations and individuals, including professionals of many health disciplines, consumers of mental health services, family members, and concerned individuals.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are to prevent or reduce the risk of mental illness as far as possible; to advocate for improved care and treatment of those with mental disorders; and to promote mental health. Its main activities include advocacy, public education, and scientific activities. It regularly organizes international conferences.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The WFMH draws attention to the high prevalence and cost burden of mental disorders and the failure to provide adequately for mental illness in health budgets. The Federation advocates for improved mental health care, the integration of mental and physical health care in treatment plans, and mental health promotion.

The Federation founded World Mental Health Day in 1992 as a vehicle for global advocacy. It is widely observed each year with programmes and events in many settings and countries, including many low-income countries. The themes during the reporting period were “The Great Push: Investing in Mental Health”, 2011; “Depression: A Global Crisis”, 2012; “Mental Health and Older People”, 2013; and “Living with Schizophrenia”, 2014.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WFMH representatives attended all the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) during the reporting period and arranged side events at every session. It also attended the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, 19-20 September 2011, and submitted a statement on mental health as an important non-communicable disease, signed by 68 organizations.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The World Federation for Mental Health has official relations and frequently consults with the World Health Organization (WHO).

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

Advocacy for mental health supports all of the Millennium Development Goals, especially goals 1, 3 and 5.

7. World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women**Special, 1983****Introduction**

The World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women (The World Federation) is a sisterhood of 3.5 million members in 71 countries. It provides a global network for sharing information on activities with its constituencies.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to be a support group for women in their spiritual growth and in activities to promote justice, peace and development. It facilitates and encourages leadership training especially for women. Study Programs on MDGs are developed yearly by each of the nine geographical areas of the organization.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The World Federation attended meetings of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, and Brasilia, Brazil. The organization is also involved in the work of the United Nations in New York and has organized 7 forums on human trafficking and 4 worship services there during the reporting period.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The World Federation participated in the following meetings, among others:

- all the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and collaborated in the preparation of oral statements and organization of side and parallel events during CSW 56, 57 and 58;
- 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2014;
- 64th Annual United Nations/Department of Public Information (DPI) Conference, 2011, for which it served on the Committee;
- Fifth and Sixth session of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); and
- High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, 3-4 October 2013, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Organization collaborates with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and DPI. In 2014, the organization received the 70th Anniversary award from the United Nations Association of the United States of America's (UNA-USA) Mary-Frances Wain for its role as an educator and advocate for the United Nations.

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

The organization undertook the following activities in support of the MDGs:

- Agricultural Project: women raised fruit trees and produced jams from the fruits and vegetables they grew;
- It partnered with a small charity, "Children Unite", who campaigned on behalf of child domestic workers around the world;

- It held workshops worldwide on gender equality and maternal health;
- The organization’s “Thursdays in Black” has been an important movement to protest against all forms of violence against women and girls; and
- Activities during United Nations Day and International Women’s Day.

8. World Federation of the Deaf

Special, 1959

Introduction

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is an international NGO comprised of 134 members from all continents. The WFD is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA).

Aims and purposes of the organization

The World Federation of the Deaf promotes and advances the human rights of deaf people through cooperation with the United Nations and its agencies, national organizations of deaf people, and other partners. Its work is conducted in accordance with the United Nations human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The WFD has empowered national associations of the deaf to strengthen advocacy work in their countries. In 2011-2012, a capacity-building training project was conducted in Western and Central Africa for 19 countries. In 2013-2014, national associations of the deaf in four developing countries were trained to contribute to the CRPD parallel reporting process, in collaboration with other organizations of persons with disabilities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the following meetings:

- 5th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th session of the CRPD, Geneva, Switzerland, 11-15 April 2011, 15-19 April 2013, 2-5 September 2013, 31 March-3, April 2014, and 15-19 September 2014 and submitted statements during the 11th and 12th session;
- 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th session of the Conference of State Parties to the CRPD, New York, 7-9 September 2011, 12-14 September 2012, 17-19 July 2013, and 10-12 June 2014 and delivered a statement during the 7th session;
- United Nations High-level Meeting on Development and Disability, New York, 23 September 2013; and

- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Global Partnership on Children with Disabilities Forum and Youth Council meetings, New York, 24 September 2013, 9 July and 24 September 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The WFD has lobbied for better accessibility in terms of qualified International Sign interpreting, particularly for events related to the CRPD. The WFD has recommended suitable International Sign and national sign language interpreters for the United Nations. It provided submissions to various United Nations entities, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the CRPD.

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

Advocacy work done by the IDA related to the MDGs has been supported by the WFD.

Additional Information

The United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights was awarded to WFD, 10 December 2013.

9. World Futures Studies Federation

Special, 1987

Introduction

The World Futures Studies Federation (WFSF) is an independent global NGO focused on strengthening the scholarship of futures research, founded in 1973. WFSF operates as an association of academics, researchers, teachers, practitioners, policy analysts, students and futures-focused institutions. WFSF offers a forum for stimulation, exploration and exchange of ideas, visions, and plans for alternative futures, through long-term, big-picture thinking and radical change.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works to encourage and promote the development of futures studies as a transdisciplinary academic and professional field. It undertakes further studies of the future as a field of intellectual and cultural activity concerning all sectors of society; encourages innovative interdisciplinary analysis and critical thinking among all people and cultures; promotes a higher level of futures consciousness in general; encourages democratization of future-oriented thinking and acting; stimulates awareness of the urgent need for futures studies in governments and international organizations and other decision-making and educational groups and institutions so as to resolve problems at local, national, regional and global levels.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

WFSF contributes to the work of the United Nations through the diversity of its membership, its encouragement of women and young people, the pluralism of its values, and its commitment to the MDGs.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WFSF attended several meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

WFSF has consultative status with UNESCO and cooperates with the organization through the Participation Program, 2012-2015. In that context, it developed online learning content and procedures, and ran three pilot futures courses in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo; Cairo, Egypt; and Penang, Malaysia, through its World Futures Learning Lab (LEALA). It is also in an informal cooperation with UN Teamworks of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as a social network for its participants in the LEALA projects.

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

The organization's courses and workshops supported by the UNESCO Participation Program are strongly supportive of the MDGs. It is particularly focused on gender equality and participation of women, environmental sustainability, and on building partnerships with some of the least developed countries.

10. World Jurist Association of the World Peace through Law Center

Special, 1967

Introduction

The World Jurist Association of the World Peace Through Law Center (WJA) was founded in 1963 in response to an international outcry for a free and open forum where judges, lawyers, law professors and other professionals from around the world could work cooperatively to strengthen and expand the Rule of Law and its institutions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's goal remains to raise support for institutions of law and provide a unique, dynamic and open forum for legal professionals to share their experiences, exchange ideas, and learn from their colleagues regarding the rule of law and its use to promote world peace.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization works to further the mission of the United Nations and increase awareness for the role that the organization plays in promoting Rule of Law and world peace. Each year, the WJA holds at least two legal conferences, and every two years a Biennial Congress. These conferences and Congresses bring together its members and other lawmakers and legal professional for a week-long dialogue on a wide range of legal perspectives in seeking to promote world peace through the strengthening of the Rule of Law. The 23rd Biennial Congress in 2011 on National Legal Cultures in a Globalized World, held in Prague, Czech Republic, focused on “International Drug Trafficking”.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The WJA has attended several meetings during the reporting period, including the United Nations Department of Information (DPI)/NGO Thursday Briefing and a United Nations High-level Meeting held in 2014. The organization also serves as a member of the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information.

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 WJA took up key issues that are closely tied to the success of the MDGs, including climate change, conflict resolution, promoting gender equality and empowering women, and global partnership for development through its intellectual property law conference held in China.

11. World Lebanese Cultural Union

Special, 2011

Introduction

The World Lebanese Cultural Union (WLCU) is an international non-profit, non-political and non-religious organization. It is represented by chapters and affiliated clubs in more than 34 countries worldwide.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The WLCU aims to promote the Lebanese culture throughout the world and encourage mutual cultural exchange between its members and the host countries; spread an environment of peace and understanding in conformity with the United Nations Charter; and support the MDGs, in particular education, eradication of poverty and women’s rights issues.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The WLCU has participated in all the United Nations Department of Information (DPI)/NGO Annual Conferences and most of the DPI/NGO Thursday Briefings and other briefings related to worldwide problems such as global warming, or freedom of the press. The WLCU also participated in the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The WLCU cooperates with the United Nations Information Centre New York and has attended a few meetings with DPI's Outreach Division.

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

The WLCU offers scholarships to students and continuously help the elderly in many ways and in many regions.

12. World Muslim Congress

General, 1967

Introduction

The World Muslim Congress (WMC) is the oldest international Muslim organization, founded in 1926. It promotes the United Nations Charter and works for the world peace on the basis of universal brotherhood, promotion of human rights, and inter-faith dialogue. It has a number of branches throughout the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The World Muslim Congress strives for inter-faith cooperation, in order to create an atmosphere of tolerance, and conflict resolution, especially on the basis of religious differences, through education and social awareness.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

WMC promotes the objectives of the United Nations throughout the world by networking with the United Nations system as well as other NGOs. The General Council Meeting of WMC was held on 13-14 November 2011 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. It took note of the demonstrations throughout the Western world against the negative effects of the capitalistic and exploitative economic system and called for egalitarian global economic policies. WMC participated in the 41st session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), 18-19 June 2014, and reiterated its commitment to the objectives and principles of the United

Nations Charter and the OIC as well as the need to strengthen the bonds of humanity and solidarity.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WMC actively participated at the United Nations Headquarters throughout the reporting period. It attended all the meetings of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, as well as meetings in Vienna, Austria. It took part in meetings of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

World Muslim Congress promotes the MDGs through its monthly International Magazine, consultative meetings and contacts. It provides scholarships to students from almost fifteen developing countries of Central Asia, China, Africa and South East Asia.

13. World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry

Special, 2007

Introduction

The World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (WNUSP) is a global organization of self-identified users and survivors of psychiatry and persons with psychosocial disabilities. WNUSP is a Disabled People's Organization (DPO) with a global democratic structure. It is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA).

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is to be a global forum and voice of users and survivors of psychiatry in order to promote their rights and interests. To achieve its purpose, the organization aims to advocate for the advancement of human rights of users and survivors of psychiatry; provide international representation and consultation to influence matters that affect users and survivors; encourage the development of national user/survivor organizations in each country; and facilitate effective information exchange among these organizations 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 organization contributed materials to the "Stop Torture in Health Care" campaign initiated by Open Society Institute, 2012. It submitted amicus briefs to the European Court of Human Rights in the cases Mihailovs v. Latvia, Application

No. 35939/10, 13 February 2012, and *Koroviny v Russia*, Application No. 31974/11, 18 March 2013, drawing attention to the standards of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). It conducted capacity building activities with WNUSP members on understanding the CRPD and participating in monitoring and implementation, through the Technical Resource Group established in 2013 and bilateral cooperation among members.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization attended the following meetings:

- 10th, 11th, and 12th session of the CRPD, Geneva, Switzerland, 2-13 September 2013, 31 March-11 April 2014 and 15 September-3 October 2014. Representatives intervened in open meetings during each session, and in NGO briefings. It convened thematic briefings and submitted written comments to the consultation on draft General Comment No. 1 on Article 12 in 2011 and 2014.
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd meetings of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime in Vienna (UNODC), 31 January-3 February 2012, Vienna, Austria; 11-13 December 2012, Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Vienna 25-28 March 2014.
- WNUSP convened a public side event at the 25th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, called “Ending Impunity for Torture in Psychiatry,” 14 March 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization provided speakers for various meetings of United Nations entities. It submitted comments to the World Health Organization (WHO) on its Zero Draft Global Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020, 7 November 2012.

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

The organization distributed a paper entitled “Human Rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities in the post 2015 Inclusive Development Agenda: Towards HLMDD”, September 2013”.

14. World Organization of Building Officials

Special, 1987

Introduction

The World Organization of Building Officials (WOBO) was founded in 1984 to satisfy a number of needs, specifically the need for an organization of building officials to deal with issues on a global scale.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of WOBO is to provide a world organization for building officials and code administrators which would be associated with the United Nations. In

particular, it aims to: promote communication and exchange of information internationally; promote the concept of international standards and building codes for construction, materials, equipment and appliances; promote safeguards from potential hazards; recommend solutions for preventing fire risks to existing and under construction buildings; promote the concept of standardizing construction materials and equipment; promote unification of legislation related to the administration of codes and standards; collaborate with international organizations, governments and educational institutes to promote the development of training programmes for building officials; and encourage/establish a national organization for building officials and advisory committees.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

WOBO attended the following meetings:

- 2011 City Escape, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates;
- 2011 Japan Conference of Building Administration Annual Meeting, and delivered a presentation on “Improving Customer Service at Development Service Department; and
- International Code Council (ICC) Global Membership Council Annual Meeting, October 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

WOBO attended the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)/World Urban Forum Six (WUF-6) in September 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

WOBO attended the following meetings in support of the MDGS:

- 4th Annual Ultra High Rise Building Summit, Shanghai, China, 2011;
- ICC’s International Forum, during which the organization delivered a discussing WOBO’s contribution to building safety, Phoenix, Arizona, United States of America, 2011;
- 2011 World Future Energy Summit; and
- The Egyptian Green Building Council Meetings in Cairo, Egypt 2013.

In addition, WOBO participated in funding the installation of an irrigation well in Kenya, August 2013.

15. World Rehabilitation Fund

Special, 2003

Introduction

The World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) was established in 1955 to facilitate full participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWD) in society and development. With headquarters in New York, United States of America, WRF currently operates in five other countries: Lebanon, Mozambique, Cambodia, Sierra Leone, and Dominican Republic.

Aims and purposes of the organization

WRF's mission is to enable individuals around the world with functional limitations and participation restrictions to achieve community and social integration through physical and socio-economic rehabilitation and advocacy. Some of the activities undertaken include: developing community-based programmes for physical, psychological, and socio-economic rehabilitation and reintegration; upgrading skills of rehabilitation service providers; collaborating with industry and local professionals to create employment and income-generating opportunities; and training rehabilitation professionals.

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 organization's work focused mainly on Lebanon, Cambodia, Haiti, and Philippines, with a continued partnership in Pakistan. After the earthquake in Haiti in January 2010, WRF partnered with local partners to provide artificial limbs and braces for PWDs and train Haitian technicians. During the reporting period, the programme has provided over 1,100 devices. Partnering with the Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine, WRF provided rehabilitation medicine supplies and equipment to three hospitals in the Tacloban region affected by Typhoon Haiyan, Philippines, 2013.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2014, the organization participated in the 65th Annual United Nations Department of Information (DPI)/NGO Conference; the Seventh Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); and 52nd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In response to the war in the Syrian Arab Republic, WRF has addressed critical needs through its Emergency Assistance Program for PWD for refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic and in Lebanese Host Communities with support from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Through this programme the organization provided 153 prosthetics and

225 orthotics and rehabilitation services to PWDs, as well as 185 hearing aids and 290 prescription eyeglasses to children refugees.

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

The organization's activities contribute to several of the MDGs. For example, the organization's "Artisans' Association of Cambodia (AAC)" is a fair trade association that enables Cambodia's most vulnerable people, including PWDs, women, single parents, migrants, and vulnerable youth, to achieve socio-economic independence, through provision of trainings and technical assistance and other services. In addition, the organization's "Music for Haiti" project supports music education in a school for children with disabilities in Haiti.
