



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
26 June 2019
English
Original: French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

2020 regular session

20–29 January and 7 February 2020

Quadrennial reports for the period 2015–2018 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

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



1. Coup de pousse

Special, 2015

Introduction

Coup de pousse is a non-governmental organization founded on 2 November 2011 and legally recognized by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Coup de pousse aims to:

- Stimulate the emergence of comprehensive development that benefits local people
- Mentor young people who are unemployed
- Promote community health and combat sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS
- Promote the rights of children and women
- Empower local people and help them to assert their values and abilities
- Sustain collaborative relationships with national and international associations and organizations that advocate truly sustainable development

Significant changes in the organization

The only change is the signing of a public-private partnership agreement with the Embassy of Japan in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the company Yamaha Motors Japan, which will remain in effect until the projects currently under way are completed.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Regrettably, the organization has not benefited from the support that it should have received from United Nations agencies and representatives based in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which would have enabled it to be more effective on the ground. Nevertheless, the organization has conducted several awareness-raising campaigns in the target communities, albeit in a scaled-back manner owing to limited funds. A total of 97 young people were trained to work in various fields. The organization also conducted field trips to collect data on the real needs of communities in the area of combating climate change. The data enabled the organization to develop a project aimed at distributing improved cookstoves to households and establishing a natural treatment system for drinking water.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization has participated in the following meetings and conferences, either in person or, more frequently, by videoconference or through the submission of documents:

- 65th Annual Conference of the United Nations Department of Public Information for Non-Governmental Organizations, held from 27 to 29 August 2014 at United Nations Headquarters in New York
- High-level Meeting on Sustainable Transport of Landlocked Developing Countries, held on 13 and 14 October 2016 in Santa Cruz, Plurinational State of Bolivia

- 55th session of the Commission for Social Development, held from 1 to 10 February 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York
- 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 13 to 24 March 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York
- United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, also known as the Ocean Conference, held from 5 to 9 June 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York
- High-level political forum on sustainable development, held from 10 to 19 July 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Coup de pousse has sent information and requests for assistance to all United Nations agencies and other affiliates. However, such requests have been unsuccessful to date. Proposals made during United Nations meetings have had no material impact on the evolution of the organization.

Thus far, Coup de pousse has carried out its work with very limited resources, and the results achieved on the ground are poor compared with the level of need. The organization urges the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to recommend that the United Nations agencies based in Kinshasa grant it funding, to enable it to achieve its objectives.

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

- Together with the Embassy of Japan, Coup de pousse helped 400 households in the Ndjili Kilambu neighbourhood of Mont Ngafula commune by installing a drinking water purification system. This will help to combat waterborne diseases and reduce violence against women and girls.
- Coup de pousse works to combat HIV/AIDS and sexual violence and to promote human rights among disadvantaged and poor youth, reaching over 500 girls and boys.
- In partnership with CoopCongo, Coup de pousse is raising awareness of cooperatives among the people of Kinshasa and South Kivu and helping them to participate in such initiatives.
- Coup de pousse is working to combat global warming.

2. Dignité Impact/Impact Dignity

Special, 2015

Introduction

Dignité Impact/Impact Dignity was founded in Geneva in 2012 and aims to promote and protect human dignity. The organization has offices in Geneva and in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's goals include providing emergency assistance and facilitating access to basic services for disaster-stricken communities and people in need in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The organization

seeks to empower and build the capacity of grass-roots groups, women and children. It holds training workshops and conferences, and has carried out advocacy work.

Significant changes in the organization

In January 2018, the organization changed its name to Dignité Impact/Dignity Impact. In addition to its regular activities, the organization has set up and is managing a training centre in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Projet Matumaini). The goals and objectives of the organization have also been modified, with a view to implementing, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and/or wherever the need arises, any project that aims to promote and/or protect human dignity. The organization's new goals include:

- To promote and contribute to the improvement of the social and economic situation of communities, in particular women and children, to foster real empowerment
- To contribute to the strengthening of a culture of peace (including through peaceful and non-violent conflict management and reconciliation among peoples), human rights and good governance
- To promote respect for internationally recognized norms relating to the restoration or preservation of dignity, both in times of peace and in times of violence or armed conflict
- To promote understanding, tolerance, gender equality and friendship between peoples
- To facilitate access to justice for poor and/or vulnerable individuals, in particular those living in rural areas
- To take all other reasonable and sustainable measures to promote and protect the human dignity of peoples or certain population groups

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Training session for members of civil society and the justice sector on social rights, held on 16 December 2016 in Bukavu
- Conference on women's access to justice in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, held on 22 September 2017 in Geneva

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Holding of a side event at the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council, on women's access to justice in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, on 21 September 2017 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
- Participation in the meeting held by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva with non-governmental organizations, on 10 October 2017 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
- Participation in the Humanitarian Conference on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the first such conference on the crisis in the country, on 13 April 2018 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
- Participation in the discussions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations held on 22 June 2018 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
- Participation in a special briefing session, organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva, with Bruce Jenks and Jennifer Topping of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, on 11 September 2018 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Contribution to the report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context.
- Cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the fight against impunity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights sent a letter to the Secretary-General of Dignité Impact/Impact Dignity.
- Holding of a training session for members of civil society and the justice sector on social rights, in collaboration with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), on 16 December 2016 in Bukavu.

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

- Projet Matumaini (ESPOIR) in Kabare, South Kivu, aims to empower girls and boys through the establishment of a vocational training centre to prepare them for jobs in the agribusiness sector, with a view to reducing extreme poverty and hunger (Millennium Development Goal 1), promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women (Goal 3), manufacturing eco-friendly bricks and preserving the environment (Goal 7) and developing partnerships for development (Goal 8).
- In collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, Dignité Impact/Impact Dignity is working to combat poverty and provide assistance to refugees in Kalehe (Millennium Development Goal 1).
- Between 2015 and 2018, in collaboration with the group ECOS République Démocratique du Congo, the organization planted shrubs with a view to combating erosion, ensuring environmental sustainability and protecting the ecosystem through prevention (Millennium Development Goal 7).

3. Du pain pour chaque enfant

Special, 2007

Introduction

Du pain pour chaque enfant is a non-governmental organization founded in 2002 in Luxembourg. The organization is run by a number of volunteers, who are the backbone of its work and who are active in all fields, both nationally and internationally.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purposes of the organization are to participate in efforts to combat poverty and to support socioeconomic development in developing countries. The organization applies a sustainable development approach to its work. It strives to promote peace and intercultural links between populations through exchanges, partnerships and social mixing.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Du pain pour chaque enfant contributes actively to the work of the United Nations. Every year, the organization marks the following international days by holding workshops and brainstorming sessions on the theme in question:

- World Health Day, observed annually on 7 April by the United Nations to promote global health
- International Day of Peace, observed annually on 21 September by the United Nations to promote world peace
- International Day of Persons with Disabilities, observed annually on 3 December by the United Nations
- International Volunteer Day, observed annually on 5 December by the United Nations to encourage volunteers to engage in community work

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Du pain pour chaque enfant has participated in the following meetings of the United Nations:

- On 14 and 15 May 2018, the organization worked with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the main human rights body of the United Nations, and participated in a consultation on human rights and mental health held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva
- On 12 December 2015, the organization signed the Paris Pledge for Action at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No activities were specified.

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

Du pain pour chaque enfant is committed to maintaining the momentum of the Millennium Development Goals in the context of the new sustainable development programme for 2030 (the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at the heart of the 2030 Agenda, which are intended to respond more effectively to the global challenges facing humankind. The organization's strategy is based on three of the Sustainable Development Goals:

- Goal 3 on healthy lives and well-being: In recognition of its efforts to achieve Goal 3, Du pain pour chaque enfant has received the label "Gesond iessen, Méi bewegen" or "Bien manger, Bien bouger". It has, on a number of occasions, organized physical activities for children and teenagers in schools, with a view to promoting good health and well-being.
- Goal 4 on quality education: As part of its efforts to achieve Goal 4, Du pain pour chaque enfant has been accredited by the Ministry of Education and has obtained a quality label, enabling it to deliver adult education courses in the field of languages and information technology. The courses are intended to give all individuals the opportunity to access high-quality education, with a view to combating illiteracy.
- Goal 16 on peace, justice and effective institutions: Du pain pour chaque enfant participates in the promotion of peace around the world by helping to build peaceful societies that promote sustainable development.

4. Association pour l'éducation, la santé et la promotion des femmes et des enfants au Cameroun "ESOFÉ"

Special, 2015

Introduction

Inspired by solidarity, the mission of the Association pour l'éducation, la santé et la promotion des femmes et des enfants au Cameroun "ESOFÉ" is to promote the inclusion of women in society and improve conditions for education. To achieve this, the Association builds schools, latrines and wells, and educates the poorest children, who are predominantly girls. It also provides training for women to provide them with financial autonomy. Being a member of the Association means encouraging a mission of general interest in education, regardless of sex, religion, political affiliation or physical characteristics.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Through the organization of various activities, the Association's purpose is to raise funds and donations to support the training and advancement of underprivileged women and children in Cameroon.

Significant changes in the organization

ESOFÉ became AESOPFE.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

As we are not yet familiar with how the different entities operate, the last four years have been about observing and adapting. In response to the anglophone crisis raging in Cameroon, we contacted the Director of the United Nations Office at Geneva who referred us to the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, but we have not yet received a response to our request.

With regard to our projects exceeding CHF 10,000, we are encountering significant difficulties in securing the overall budget in a single year. Small associations such as ours, although effective on the ground and working directly with the target population, are not well known to major donors. Our principle is not to entrust our budget to the authorities or to beneficiaries in order to avoid disappointing surprises. Administrative delays are another major obstacle that we constantly face. For the above reasons, the Association is looking for funding and grants to support children, orphans and the poorest women in Cameroon; medical equipment and school materials; volunteer members in the areas of education and health; textbooks, computers, old mobile phones and computer equipment.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

We have attended meetings organized by the NGO Liaison Unit in Geneva and other conferences on areas relevant to our work.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Working in the field of basic education, we sought a partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). However, we were told that UNICEF only works with its field office in Cameroon. How can we cooperate with United Nations bodies, funds, programmes and agencies? We are building latrines in rural schools and we need support to equip them with drinking water. We would like to point out that UNICEF efforts do not reach certain areas located in forests.

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

1. Education: 8,000 children have received school kits and teaching materials. Tuition and examination fees have been paid for the poorest. We have also built:

- Two classrooms for Bakwat nursery school
- Four modern latrines and a shower room for Bakwat public school
- Three modern latrines in the villages of Ekohock and Ngol.

Because of the anglophone crisis and Boko Haram in the north, school classrooms are overcrowded. This is going to create major problems when school resumes. Displaced girls are exploited and abused by prostitution and slavery networks.

2. Health: We have renovated the health centre in the village of Bakwat and provided first-aid kits. We have also provided basic medicines to the entire population.

3. Advancement of women: We have financially supported 20 teenage mothers in their foster homes.

5. Fondation Congo Assistance**Special, 2007****Introduction**

Fondation Congo Assistance was established on 7 May 1984 in Brazzaville, the Congo, to promote social action in the areas of education and vocational training; health, especially the fight against major pandemics; development through the dynamics of gender; and poverty reduction and peacebuilding. It supports mothers, children, youth and older persons.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization has set the following key goals and objectives:

- The advancement of women through gender promotion.
- Assistance to disadvantaged children to encourage their enrolment in school.
- Health and nutritional coverage to support mothers and children.
- Support for older persons through decent care and adequate living conditions.
- Advocacy for persons with chronic diseases such as HIV/AIDS and sickle cell anaemia.
- Measures to help reduce maternal and infant mortality.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2015 and 2016, the organization sent representatives to the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. In addition, throughout the reporting period,

members of the organization participated in the events organized on the margins of the meetings of the United Nations General Assembly. The representatives called for programmes launched to combat sickle cell anaemia to be funded on a sustainable basis.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization has strengthened its ties with United Nations bodies through ad hoc and programme partnerships. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) supported actions initiated by the organization during the reporting period. UNDP had been providing technical support for a project targeting women and girls entitled “Centre de la Femme et de la Fille” but had to withdraw that support for budgetary reasons. However, the organization continued its programme to support persons living with HIV/AIDS by mobilizing resources from other partners, including UNAIDS and the Organization of African First Ladies against AIDS. With the support from the World Health Organization, the organization has helped to equip the National Reference Centre for Sickle Cell Anaemia with state-of-the-art equipment. With the support of the World Food Programme, it has provided food support to populations displaced by armed conflict in the Pool region.

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

In the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the organization has continued its support to women’s farming cooperatives primarily in the Sangha region, with the aim of reducing food insecurity and poverty. It has strengthened its support for motherhood in Pointe-Noire, which has helped to reduce maternal and infant mortality. Lastly, in 2016, it opened the “Maison des Séniors” hospice, which provides care for older persons who have been abandoned by their families.

6. Fondation Institut de recherche pour le développement durable et les relations internationales

Special, 2015

Introduction

Fondation Institut de recherche pour le développement durable et les relations internationales (IDDRI) is an independent French think tank specializing in sustainable development and international relations.

Aims and purpose of the organization

IDDRI is both a research institute and a platform for dialogue which brings stakeholders together to share expertise in a transparent and collaborative manner on the basis of leading interdisciplinary research. IDDRI also organizes workshops and conferences.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The four issues at the centre of IDDRI activities contribute to implementing the development plan of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and of the United Nations more broadly. The four areas are sustainable development governance, biodiversity, climate and oceans.

- The governance programme of IDDRI covers the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. It seeks to inform French and European decision makers on the major issues arising from sustainable development meetings and on the opportunities for initiative and action.
- The biodiversity programme seeks, inter alia, to contribute to the development of global biodiversity governance post-2020 and to the negotiation process under the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- The climate programme seeks to create the conditions for a fair and ambitious response to the challenges of climate change. To that end, it addresses international climate governance and the links between science and policy and the operationalization of the Paris Agreement in the broad sense.
- The oceans programme seeks to support the development of international mechanisms to ensure sustainable and equitable management of marine and coastal resources. It includes a major focus on high seas governance, in the context of the ongoing United Nations negotiations as well as regional initiatives.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of IDDRI have participated in the following United Nations forums, all of which have resulted in outcome reports that we are unable to reproduce here owing to space restrictions, but they are available on the website of IDDRI. The list is non-exhaustive owing to space limitations, but IDDRI participation includes the following:

- Participation in the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held under the auspices of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 16 July 2015.
- Participation in three high-level political forums on sustainable development, held under the auspices of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, in New York, United States, from 18 to 20 July 2016; 10 to 19 July 2017 and 9 to 18 July 2018. In that context, IDDRI was the joint organizer of two side events:
 - o “Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2: Two initiatives to support the development of national transformation pathways” with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Biovision, on 12 July 2016
 - o “Paris Collaborative on Green Budgeting: Using the tools of budgetary policy-making towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals” organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on 16 July 2018.
- Participation in the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held in New York, from 5 to 9 June 2017. In that context, IDDRI was joint organizer of two side events: “Because the ocean: Bridging ocean and climate goals” and “Oceans in the 2030 Agenda: The role of regional governance”, held on 6 June 2017.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

IDDRI has an initiative and teams dedicated to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Its objective is to strengthen ownership of the Goals by the European Union and its member States, especially France, as well as by non-State actors. The biodiversity programme contributes to several of the Goals. Through its initiative relating to more sustainable agrifood value chains it contributes to Goals 8, 10, 11, 12 and 15, while the initiative on land use contributes to Goals 3, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15, and the initiative on the post-2020 agenda contributes to Goals 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17. The oceans programme directly contributes to Goal 14 and the climate programme contributes to Goal 13.

7. Forum Azzahrae pour la femme marocaine

Special, 2011

Introduction

Forum Azzahrae pour la femme marocaine (FAFM) has continued to expand its network, which now comprises more than 120 women's organizations. The Forum is a member of the national gender observatory for the public service, the observatory for the promotion of the image of women in the media, as well as entities in the city of Temara that work in the area of equity and equal opportunities. The Forum participates actively, in the context of participatory democracy, to strengthening the capacities of associations in the areas of advocacy and the monitoring and evaluation of public policies on women.

Aims and purpose of the organization

- Protect the dignity and rights of women and combat all forms of discrimination against them.
- Support efforts to empower women in all areas and strengthen their presence in decision-making positions.
- Contribute to the development of innovative perspectives on issues affecting women and the family.
- Strengthen and protect national identity in the area of women and family.
- Contribute to the preparation, implementation and monitoring of public policies for women and the family.
- Strengthen interaction with United Nations resolutions in the area of development and protection of women and the family.
- Work to promote and protect the family and support and protect motherhood.
- Provide mediation services and strengthen the capacities of associations working in the area of women and the family.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Organization of a seminar on the situation of women in developing countries twenty years after Beijing, held during the World Social Forum in Tunis, from 24 to 28 May 2015.
- Neutral and independent observation report on the legislative elections held on 7 October 2016, involving 21 observers, including 14 women, which was submitted to the Human Rights Council.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Participation in the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 9 to 20 March 2015.
 - o 9 March 2015: organization of a round table on the theme of protecting women and girls against violence in developing countries in the post-2015 agenda.
 - o 9 March 2015: participation in a side event on the sexual exploitation of minors organized by the Family Watch International Society.
- Participation in the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women on the theme of women's empowerment and its link to sustainable development, held in New York, from 12 to 17 March 2016.
 - o During that session, the organization participated in a workshop on interfaith dialogue for peace and participated in the initiative to establish the Arab Women's Caucus.
 - o Participation in the thirty-first session of the Human Rights Council (OHCHR) in Geneva by means of an oral statement on the subject of violence against children.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- In 2017, preparation of an alternative report to the sixth periodic report of Morocco, concerning the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Participation in the meeting with the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, Ms. Tendayi Achiume, during her official visit to Morocco from 13 to 21 December 2018. The organization also participated in the preparation of her mission by responding to the call for written contributions.

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

The 120 Forum associations continue to support vulnerable women out of poverty through income-generating activities and the creation of women's cooperatives. In 2018 the Forum launched two studies aimed at improving the socioeconomic status of women:

- A sociological study on the management of property acquired during marriage and the impact on the socioeconomic status of divorced women and widows.
- A legal study on the harmonization of the Labour Code with international covenants relating to the employment of women.

An advocacy plan has also been developed to improve the situation of women. Some associations have launched awareness-raising campaigns and are engaged in advocacy work to improve maternal health.

8. Forum réfugiés – Cosi

Special, 2015

Introduction

Forum réfugiés – Cosi is a French non-profit organization that provides assistance to individuals requesting asylum in France. At the national level, it looks after and provides guidance to asylum seekers, helps refugees to integrate and defends the rights of foreigners held in administrative detention centres. At the international level, the organization supports and defends the rights of people who need international protection, whether in their countries of origin or in transit countries; assists civil society organizations that promote, protect and defend the rights of vulnerable groups; and carries out advocacy work, based on its experience in the field.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- To defend the right to asylum and to look after asylum seekers and refugees
- To help foreigners to exercise their rights effectively and to combat any discrimination against them
- To promote and defend human rights, the rule of law, democracy and good governance throughout the world, through partnerships with civil society organizations

Significant changes in the organization

During the period under review (2015–2018), the organization's activities in France expanded significantly. The organization's annual budget and the number of staff have doubled in five years. This rapid growth has forced the organization to focus mainly on national activities, at the expense of its international and advocacy work. Since 2018, the organization has made a concerted effort to expand its international activities, with a view to strengthening its international advocacy work.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Forum réfugiés – Cosi has been involved in advocacy efforts concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The organization co-signed an open letter to the United Nations entitled “No to impunity for rape and massacres in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”. Two representatives of the co-signing non-governmental organizations, one of whom was from Forum réfugiés – Cosi, presented the letter to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 8 March 2016, during the session of the Human Rights Council. In the letter, the non-governmental organizations called on the United Nations to commit to combating impunity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to lift the embargo on the confidential database managed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which contains the identities of the alleged perpetrators of 617 violent incidents documented in the Report of the Mapping Exercise documenting the most serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed within the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo between March 1993 and June 2003.

Forum réfugiés – Cosi also pays close attention to the deliberations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on the challenges of protecting and resettling refugees and developing alternative pathways that are legal and safe. Since 2017, the organization has been running a project in the Niger aimed at facilitating access to third countries, through alternative pathways that are legal and safe, for individuals who are under international protection and transiting through the Niger. The organization has an office in Niamey, which provides guidance and assistance to refugees who are eligible for alternative pathways (family reunification, education, humanitarian grounds).

In 2017, Forum réfugiés – Cosi carried out the following activities:

- Provision of support, accommodation and guidance for asylum seekers: 20,684 individuals received support and 4,829 individuals were housed
- Integration assistance: 1,266 families were provided with assistance
- Legal aid during detention: 5,779 individuals received legal aid
- Mental health: 3,063 appointments were arranged for 656 patients
- Project to ensure access to justice for victims of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- A representative of Forum réfugiés – Cosi attended the thirty-first regular session of the Human Rights Council (March 2016).
- The organization's advocacy officer attended meetings with the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva on 23 February 2017 and 10 October 2017.
- Forum réfugiés – Cosi is also a member of the European Network for Central Africa (EurAc). In this capacity, in September 2018, during the thirty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Forum réfugiés – Cosi provided support for a side event organized by Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Franciscans International and the International Federation for Human Rights on the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the period leading up to the elections.
- Forum réfugiés – Cosi also participated in the UNHCR Annual Tripartite Consultations on Resettlement in 2018.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Forum réfugiés – Cosi regularly collaborates with UNHCR offices. UNHCR representatives attended several events organized by Forum réfugiés – Cosi:

- 20 June 2015: UNHCR representatives took part in the Umbrella March to mark World Refugee Day and held a joint press conference in Lyon, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees delivered a statement on the state of asylum in France and Europe
- 31 July 2016: UNHCR representatives attended the event “Après la Nuit ”
- 20 June 2018: UNHCR representatives took part in the Umbrella March to mark World Refugee Day
- 22 November 2018: UNHCR participated in a conference, held in Paris, on statelessness

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

The work of Forum réfugiés – Cosi is consistent with Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice and effective institutions. Upholding the rule of law and ensuring that vulnerable people can access justice are guiding principles for the organization. In line with these principles, the organization is coordinating a project aimed at combating sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition, the organization's efforts to look after migrants and refugees and ensure that their dignity and rights are respected cuts across several Sustainable Development Goals. The work of the organization contributes to the achievement of Goal 3, on healthy lives and well-being; Goal 4, on quality education; and Goal 5, on gender equality.

9. Gic technologies nouvelles au Cameroun

Special, 2011

Introduction

Founded in January 2001, Gic technologies nouvelles au Cameroun works to develop new information and communications technologies in Africa, and more particularly in Cameroon. The organization's main objective is to recover and reuse ICT equipment, including computing, electronic, telecommunications, office and other equipment. There is also a social dimension to the organization, which works in parallel to popularize the use of computers and other ICT tools and to teach people how to maintain them. The organization mainly targets young people of all ages, but it also works with the general public.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- To popularize information technology and other new technologies among young people and underprivileged groups
- To improve people's living conditions, combat poverty and contribute to the development of Africa through new technologies
- To recover and reuse electronic, computing, office, telecommunications and other equipment, including ICT equipment
- To train unemployed young people in how to maintain and use such equipment

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Owing to a lack of funding, the organization has not been able to fully implement all the programmes it has developed. However, since January 2017, the organization has created a multimedia room and set up an Internet access point in the rural town of Batchenga, to give rural youth access to ICT.

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/Sustainable Development Goals

Improving access to new technologies for rural youth.

10. Groupe d'action pour la promotion socioculturelle et l'alphabétisation: nouvelle énergie

Special, 2015

Introduction

Groupe d'action pour la promotion socioculturelle et l'alphabétisation: nouvelle énergie is a non-profit and non-political organization that aims to bring together Congolese people of all backgrounds and professions, whether they live in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or abroad, with a view to stimulating the economic, social and cultural recovery of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization acts as a pressure and interest group, lobbying the institutions and bodies of the European Union, including the European Parliament, in an attempt to persuade the country's partners to look at cooperation and development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo from a new angle. The organization works with various partners, participates in international symposiums and exchanges views, analyses and experiences that are relevant to the recovery of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including on the issues of wealth creation and microfinance. One of the ways the organization seeks to combat poverty is through the design and implementation of microdevelopment projects. The organization also holds thematic evenings on the social economy, human rights and democracy, and runs awareness-raising campaigns.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Holding of seminars on reproductive health in April 2017
- Promotion of the rule of law in Kananga, in relation to the Kamuina Nsapu armed group, in collaboration with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations
- Promotion of sustainable development
- Child welfare
- Promotion of human rights in the post-conflict areas of Tshikula, Luiza and Tshimbulu, in collaboration with the Association humanitaire d'entraide et d'action sociale (CORDAID)
- Coordination of humanitarian efforts, in collaboration with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the non-governmental organization Johanniter International

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- In 2016, the organization took part in the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- The organization experienced various challenges that prevented it from participating in United Nations meetings in New York and Geneva. Administrative issues and the decisions of the United States of America and the Swiss Embassy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to deny the organization's members visas meant that in 2015, 2016 and 2017, the organization was unable to attend United Nations meetings in Geneva, New York and Vienna.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- December 2018: In collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the organization trained a pool of 12 trainers on responsibilities towards people living with HIV/AIDS and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse. The organization also worked with OCHA and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to deliver family planning advice in Demba, including information on AIDS prevention and contraception.
- April–July 2017: The organization moderated several social and recreational workshops on gender, subsistence farming and seed distribution, in collaboration with the UNICEF office in Kananga and OCHA.
- January–March 2016: In collaboration with the UNDP office in Kinshasa and UNICEF, the organization helped to identify groundwater resources, with a view to drilling boreholes for water wells in Kananga and Demba.
- In collaboration with the World Food Programme and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the organization held seminars to explore ways and means to eradicate poverty and to discuss issues related to sustainable development.

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

- November 2018: The organization helped to reduce the digital divide in Kananga by setting up a cybercafe to provide training in how to use office equipment and refresher courses. This computer training project was carried out with the help of the Central Support Services of the United Nations Office at Geneva, which donated computer equipment.
- June 2018: With the support of the National Forest Fund of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the organization carried out a project intended to promote sustainable forest management and reforestation in Kananga and Demba, in the Kasai Central province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- The organization undertook an agricultural project in Demba aimed at empowering women market gardeners.
- 30 December 2015: As a result of a twinning project, the city of Kananga and a town in Wallonia, Belgium, were twinned, and a union with Walloon towns and communes was formed.
- February–March 2017: The organization was accredited by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development of the Democratic Republic of the

Congo and, together with the Provincial Minister for the Environment, held seminars on climate change and the degradation of forest ecosystems in Kasai.

- The organization is a partner of the National Fund for the Promotion of Social Services. In July 2017, in collaboration with UNHCR, the organization held a seminar on improving social well-being in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, establishing community centres and facilitating the social and professional reintegration of persons displaced by war (Kamuina Nsapu).
- 20–22 December 2018: The organization held a civic education seminar on the general elections in Demba, Kasai Central, to explain electoral law, how to vote and tactical voting, and to raise public awareness of the importance of a democratic culture and social peace.

11. Handicap International

Special, 1999

Introduction

Handicap International was founded in 1982. In 2009 it evolved into a federation with entities and mechanisms operating internationally. The organization has eight national associations: in France, Germany, Belgium, Canada, the United States, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. Handicap International carries out actions against mines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war; development work for persons with disabilities; and emergency assistance for the victims of natural disasters or crises.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Handicap International is a non-governmental, non-religious, non-political and non-profit association that promotes international solidarity. The federation and its network of national associations works in all contexts to help people with disabilities to ensure their access to services and promote their inclusion in the exercise of their rights. In its areas of action, Handicap International also works to prevent risks and other factors related to disability.

Significant changes in the organization

On 24 January 2018, Handicap International changed its name to Humanity & Inclusion. Our new name, Humanity & Inclusion, conveys a core value of our organization, humanity, which is reflected in our action through a compassionate, caring approach to working closely with people taking into account the unique needs of the individual. Our legal name has not changed, however, and we are still Handicap International. Thus, the change in the name we use has not affected our articles of association or our purpose.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Handicap International participates in all conferences of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This commitment is directly linked to the fact that we participated in the process of developing the Convention and encouraged its signature, ratification and implementation by States. Handicap International has also addressed the United Nations Security Council on the matter of the protection of humanitarian workers, which was done by means of the Arria formula (New York, 2018).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Through the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, Handicap International contributes to preparing the meetings of the Working Group of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and participated in the Task Team on Revitalizing Principled Humanitarian Action. Alongside UNICEF, Handicap International is also the joint chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Task Team on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.
- Handicap International participated in the World Humanitarian Summit held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, and participated in the regional consultations for Europe and other groups held in Budapest, Hungary, on 3 and 4 February 2015.
- Handicap International regularly participates in the annual conferences of UNHCR and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies. These conferences enable the organization to discuss common challenges with officials from UNHCR and to share experiences and establish links with non-governmental organizations from different regions of the world.
- The organization participates regularly in ECOSOC debates on humanitarian affairs. In 2018, it organized a side event on the inclusion of persons with disabilities and a meeting on Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines.
- For several years, Handicap International has participated in the high-level political forum on sustainable development. During the 2018 forum, Handicap International, in collaboration with the Governments of Belgium and Luxembourg, organized a side event on safer and inclusive roads and urban transport for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable road users.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- In collaboration with the World Health Organization and at its request, the organization has created training modules on the guidelines of the World Health Organization on the provision of wheelchairs in three Member States.
- In the context of disability and rehabilitation, Handicap International has implemented the World Health Organization assessment tool to determine unmet needs, areas of poor coverage, costs and options for action in accordance with World Health Organization policies, regulations and guidelines.
- At the request of the World Health Organization and in line with its guidelines, Handicap International revised the manual on rehabilitation in the event of disasters drafted by the United Kingdom Emergency Medical Team so that it can be applied to both conflict and disasters as well as to rehabilitation professionals trained in all Member States.
- Handicap International has signed a partnership agreement UNHCR. Through this partnership, Handicap International and UNHCR undertake to develop joint projects in line with the overall strategy of UNHCR and their shared humanitarian commitment.
- Handicap International has also signed a cooperation agreement with UNICEF, under which inclusive education projects have been implemented. Handicap International participates in the meetings to monitor implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, and of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The organization regularly participates in the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations on peace,

security and disarmament, to alert and make States aware of the impact of explosive weapons on civilians.

- The organization works with the United Nations Mine Action Service in the context of the anti-mine programme, which covers mine clearance, victim assistance, education on risks and advocacy. The organization also contributes to the meetings of the Global Protection Cluster Mine Action Area of Responsibility.

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

Between 2015 and 2018, we worked with United Nations agencies, including UNICEF, to influence the Sustainable Development Goal indicators. In order to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4, on education, we have developed close links with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNICEF. For example, in 2017, the organization jointly organized a seminar on inclusive education in Senegal in collaboration with UNICEF. The organization has also jointly organized regional events with UNICEF. UNESCO also invited regional colleagues, including colleagues from Nepal in 2018, to participate in a round table held in Paris on the development of education sector planning.

12. Human Rights National Circle

Special, 2007

Introduction

Human Rights National Circle, established in 1999, is a human rights organization that promotes human dignity. It advocates for democracy, justice, equality and good governance, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- To promote respect for human rights and contribute to the maintenance of peace, security and development.
- To promote conflict resolution and establish justice between individuals, States and nations.
- To make tangible contributions to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and combat and denounce anything that can prevent the flourishing of humankind in the universe.
- To promote interdependence, complementarity and solidarity among States and peoples.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has introduced new strategies for the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of globalization. The spread of democratic principles creates broader freedoms and that gives rise to challenges in the face of authoritarian and dictatorial regimes and the practices of ex-colonialist Powers that continue to dominate, exploit and plunder the resources of colonized countries. Our organization is no longer just an African or regional organization; it now encompasses all areas in which human rights are violated on our planet.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

With a view to promoting positive change in the societies of countries and nations, Human Rights National Circle submits regular reports on human rights violations to various United Nations bodies. It makes proposals for improving the life of humankind. The organization also provides regular written communications. Lastly, it organizes seminars, symposiums and conferences and participates in the various activities organized by United Nations entities such as UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNHCR.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Human Rights National Circle participates in the various United Nations meetings held in different African subregions to contribute to global development. The organization would also like to participate in all United Nations meetings held beyond the African continent. However, despite that strong desire, non-governmental organizations in the South are unfortunately often prevented from doing so because of financial constraints.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Human Rights National Circle cooperates with United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and funds such as UNESCO, UNDP, United Nations Environment Programme, UNICEF, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, International Labour Organization and the World Food Programme. It also cooperates with the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Economic and Social Council, Department of Political Affairs, Commission on Sustainable Development, International Court of Justice, International Labour Office, Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

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

The Human Rights National Circle raises awareness through symposiums, seminars and conferences of the importance of democracy and good governance to contribute to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It advocates for peace, stability, solidarity, love and fraternity among individuals, groups of individuals, States and nations. It condemns, denounces and rejects attempts at domination, imperialism, hegemony and exploitation, which constitute real obstacles to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It would like the United Nations to take into account the views of non-governmental organizations in the countries of the South, especially those in African countries, because it has been established that the major Western Powers continue to be responsible for numerous human rights violations. We will never be able to achieve the Millennium Development Goals if Western countries continue to shamelessly plunder African countries and build and dismantle political regimes in Africa at their will with the main aim of preserving and safeguarding their selfish interests. Even if a people is mentally retarded, it should not be kept in the dark, debilitated and subjected to slavery. African countries have the right to self-determination and genuine autonomy without preconditions. The spheres of influence of certain Western powers after more than sixty years of independence of African countries constitute barriers to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

13. Inter-action globale

Special, 2015

Introduction

Inter-action globale was established on 24 September 2001. Since its establishment, it has undertaken several humanitarian actions, including the establishment of the Fadi N Gourou community school in October 2003 to educate the children of disadvantaged, disabled or deceased parents. As part of its programme of work, the organization continues to support the public authorities.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The NGO Inter-action globale seeks to assist the public authorities in implementing the policy for the empowerment of persons in difficult situations and ensure equal opportunities for these persons and their full participation in the sociopolitical development of the country. Its objectives are to:

- Combat the extreme poverty of persons with disabilities and people in difficult situations.
- Identify the various social problems of Mali and implement actions in partnership with financial partners.
- Mobilize resources and seek donors to finance activities.
- Strengthen and sustain actions for the poor.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The challenges in Mali, as elsewhere, are clear: rural areas are affected much more than urban areas; for that reason, Inter-action globale focuses on establishing local and regional structures. The organization's activities include:

- In 2015 a mother received a nominal sum to carry out an income-generating activity.
- In 2016, as part of its work to empower persons in difficult situations, Inter-action globale provided a mother with a cart so that she could obtain drinking water for her children. This enabled the mother to carry out an income-generating activity by providing other families with drinking water.
- In 2017, with the support of Junior Chamber International Bamako Elite, Inter-action globale launched the "Sauvons les tout petits" (Save the little ones) project which has sponsored ten children and paid for their education.
- In 2018, the organization provided school kits for the children of persons with disabilities and school supplies to the top five in each class at the Fadi N Gourou community school during a ceremony held at the school.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Since obtaining consultative status, the organization has had the privilege of participating in national and international seminars and meetings, which has enabled it to build the capacities of its members:

- Three members of the organization participated in the 115th session of the Human Rights Committee in Geneva from 19 October to 6 November 2015.

- Three members of the organization participated in the sixty-fifth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, held in Geneva from 24 October to 18 November 2016.
- The organization participated in the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 14 to 24 March 2016.
- Three members of the organization participated in the sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 14 to 24 March 2017.
- Eleven members of the organization and partners participated in the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 12 to 23 March 2018.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

On 4 December 2015, the United Nations Office at Geneva supplied three printers, ten flat screens and a desktop computer to Inter-action globale, which enabled it to recruit two young graduates who have been able to use the Internet to learn about United Nations activities and annual programmes. In 2018, the organization received five laptops and five desktop computers that have enabled it to train unemployed young graduates and combat unemployment.

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

In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, Inter-action globale continues to carry out work in the areas of education, health, the fight against poverty, disease and humanitarian action.

1. Education:

Each year Inter-action globale celebrates the Day of the African Child. Teachers were given capacity-building training in 2017 and 2018, which was funded by the organization.

2. Health

Every year Inter-action globale helps people with HIV/AIDS through the project “an ka gnogon kounafoni sida kola”. The slogan is in Bambara, the most widely spoken dialect in Mali so that the information reaches as many people as possible. The slogan translates into English as “tell us about HIV/AIDS”. The project serves to raise awareness and provide information as part of the door-to-door strategy in commune five of the Bamako District, in partnership with the mayor of that commune in Mali. The organization is a member of the network of care providers, which has its head office at the community health reference centre.

3. Sanitation

In response to alarming levels of environmental degradation, air pollution, water and soil contamination, noise nuisances and the destruction of biodiversity, the organization has created a framework of consultation on various activities.

- Training has been provided for Malian citizens to raise their awareness of the negative impact on humankind if adequate steps are not taken to improve habits. The organization also organizes annual awareness-raising days.

4. Combating poverty

Since 2015, citizen days have been organized during which the streets are cleaned by young people who have created economic interest groups to combat

unemployment. These citizen days also serve to reduce youth crime and illegal migration and also help to combat malaria and other tropical diseases in Mali. Moreover, the organization assists women by helping them to create groups for local products in an effort to combat poverty among women and empower rural women. Our motto is a flourishing woman is a flourishing family, and a flourishing family is a flourishing nation, which is the basis for assessing the development of the State.

14. International Association of Soldiers for Peace

General, 1999

Introduction

International Association of Soldiers for Peace, which brings together former peacekeepers who served in their national armies, defends the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations and peacekeeping. Former peacekeepers were gathered together in 1988 to become a force for proposals to the international community. The organization established national associations and currently has some 50,000 members, with 18 sections and fifty countries represented. We work in the area of social welfare by implementing a family support programme for soldiers who return from operations injured or with post-traumatic stress disorder. We carry out humanitarian and development work, including activities relating to mine clearance and decontamination. Lastly, we are involved in conflict resolution through the International Peace Academy.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to be practical in the context of training and expertise in peacekeeping. It therefore creates programmes that encompass humanitarian action and development, peace education and retraining.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization currently has 50,000 members in fifty countries from across four continents, including 18 national associations and three new sections: Mongolia, Hungary and Indonesia.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Participation only in the meetings held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, for financial reasons:

- Participation in the Conference on Disarmament on the elimination of anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions and small-calibre weapons.
- Participation in the sessions of the Human Rights Council and in the meetings of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
- Participation in the environment conference and partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Joint organization of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers in Geneva for sixteen years with the United Nations Department of Public Information.
- Cooperation with the NGO Liaison Service, Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Human Rights Council, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

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

- Development of a sports programme for the promotion of peace with numerous high-level athletes (Olympic champions).
- Participation in an environmental programme on the management of protected natural space through ranger training, decontamination and mine clearance.
- Establishment of a youth peacemaker programme that merges peace and citizenship, and the international awareness that peace is a common good that must be safeguarded.
- A programme called the International Peace Academy established to promote reflection, expertise and training on peacekeeping involving numerous known actors.

15. International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Special, 2011

Introduction

Founded in 1833 by Frédéric Ozanam, the International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul works around the world in 150 countries and territories. For its members, justice and charity go hand in hand and humankind must be at the centre of any concern.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Face-to-face meetings with the poor and with fragile, vulnerable persons, in their daily life and throughout the world, and charity, friendship and respect, in order to help them get back on their feet and regain their dignity, are the foundations of our voluntary commitment. The volunteers have seen all kinds of poverty.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

To promote the work of the United Nations to members and partners, encourage them to be more involved in the process of poverty eradication, and to actively participate in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Participation in the annual meetings of the Commission for Social Development and the conduct of investigations (New York).

- Participation in the sessions of the Human Rights Council (Geneva).
- Participated in several side events with other non-governmental organizations, including Caritas Internationalis, the International Catholic Child Bureau, Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (OIDE), Apostolic Nunciature, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and International Catholic Center of Geneva (Geneva).
- Organization of an exhibition entitled “The Vincentian Family serving the poor around the world for 400 years” at the Palais des Nations in September 2017 (Geneva).
- Joint sponsorship and statements made before the Steering Committee for Human Rights (Geneva).
- Follow-up to the universal periodic review and reports on certain countries (Geneva).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

On the ground, national councils work with the representatives of United Nations agencies in disasters. For example, to rebuild housing in Pakistan and the Philippines. Several also work with migrants covering their reception, care, counselling and training at our learning centres.

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

- Address all forms of poverty, its roots and consequences, in order to achieve full sustainable development and restore the dignity of every man, woman and child, without any discrimination and with full respect for their human commitment.
 - Promote the systemic change that will lead to a better life for every person and the maintenance of peace.
-