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Note by the Secretary-General*

Addendum

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



1. Institute for International Urban Development

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Institute for International Urban development (I2UD) provides research, advisory services and technical assistance to policy makers and capacity building programmes in the field of urban development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The objectives of the organization are to:

- promote sustainable urban and regional development through the transfer of innovative international experiences;
- conduct applied research to identify best practices in urban and regional growth management;
- offer capacity building programmes to enhance the planning and managerial skills of public officials in developing countries and emerging economies; and
- assist educational institutions in developing their research and teaching activities.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- On Urban Planning undertook an assessment of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq Housing Programme, October 2014; developed Municipal Growth Plans, Belize, 2012-2013; assessed Climate Change Impact on Land Use, El Alto, Bolivia, 2011-2013.
- The organization is a member of UN-Habitat Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme (2005-present) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Cultural Heritage in Development Network (2012-present).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- First Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), New York, September 2014;
- United Nations Economic and Social Council, New York, May 2014. A public statement was released;
- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 2012;
- The Civil Society Declaration on Poverty Eradication, Commission for Social Development (CSocD), New York, February 2012. The organization provided a comment.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- Prepared case studies and presentations for Capability Enhancement Programme on Durable Shelter Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons and Returnees in Baghdad, Iraq, UN-Habitat, October 2014.
- Assessment of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq Housing Programme Phase 1, UN-Habitat, October 2014.
- Lead author of “State of the Arab Cities”, UN-Habitat, 2012.

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

- Belize: Provided local authorities with tools to better manage new demands for services and infrastructure, promote local economic development, strengthen local revenue generation and consider environmental risks.
- South Africa: Developed regeneration plans to expand employment opportunities in four townships in the Johannesburg Metro area.
- Colombia and Nicaragua: Conducted a study on local urban planning and management practices to equip informal settlements to handle climate change.
- Bolivia: Examined how declining water availability in El-Alto will affect rural-urban migration, impact existing inequalities in water access, and affect watershed protection requirements and provided recommendations on how hydrological models can be integrated into land use planning and urban management.

2. Institute for Women’s Studies and Research

Special, 2003

Introduction

The Institute for Women’s Studies and Research (IWSR) was established to improve the status of women in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the surrounding region through research and education.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works to: identify women’s issues in Islam and apply scientific methods to resolve them; improve researchers’ scientific and technical knowledge in the country; and bring forth women’s issues at national, regional and international fora.

Significant changes in the organization

The IWSR has been cooperating over the past four years with the Farsi speaking countries. As the Secretariat of the Farsi Speaking NGOs Cooperation (Islamic Republic of Iran, Tajikistan and Afghanistan) the Institute has successfully assisted more than 100 NGOs from these countries to share experiences and run joint projects.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute held the International Day of Families in 2012, International Human Rights Day in 2013, and International Day of Women in 2014. It also organized regional seminars in Tajikistan and Tehran on the prevention of violence against women and empowerment of women in 2011, 2012 and 2014.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The IWSR participated in the following events:

- United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), Geneva, Switzerland, 27 February-23 March 2012;
- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 2012;
- Internet Governance Forum, Turkey, Istanbul, 2-5 September 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute held a meeting with the representatives of United Nations agencies in the Islamic Republic of Iran to discuss women's issues in the Islamic world.

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

The IWSR has worked toward the realisation of MDG 3 through the organization of educational courses and technical sittings with governmental officials, academics and the general public. Some of the topics discussed were: women's rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the political participation of women; women and job creation; and women's education.

3. Institute of Noahide Code

Special, 2011

Introduction

The Institute of Noahide Code's (INC) mission is to help bring peace and unity to all people with the Laws of Noah.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The INC develops programmes and publications to help foster the practical adherence to the seven laws of Noah. It promotes independent research and disseminates its findings to appropriate institutions and individuals 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

- In partnership with the Mission of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the International Strategic Alliance Committee (ISAC), INC organized a Conference “The United Nations and the Levant Initiative for Global Peace — Road Map for a Culture of Peace as Conflict Prevention and Mediation”, New York, March 2014.
- “One People One World” Conference in 2012, 2013 and 2014, New York.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization spoke during the high level meeting of the Levant Initiative for Global Peace held during the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in New York, March 2014.

The Institute also participated in the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2013 and 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

INC cooperated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), ECOSOC, UN Women and the Office of the Secretary-General.

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

The organization worked to foster the Seven Laws of the Noahide code among the United Nations Member States, NGOs, the private sector and civil society.

4. Instituto para la Participación y el Desarrollo-INPADE

Special, 2011

Introduction

The Instituto para la Participación y el Desarrollo (INPADE) was established to promote and defend the human rights proclaimed and established by the United Nations and by the Inter-American System of Human Rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its main objective is to promote a globalization model oriented by the values of justice and solidarity.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During this period, INPADE developed an active programme of defending human rights, particularly economic and social rights, with the establishment of Observatories of Gender and Youth Rights in several of the poorer neighbourhoods

of Buenos Aires. These observatories inform and empower people to defend human rights proclaimed by the United Nations and the Inter-American system.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

INPADE participated in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 and in the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 20), December 1-12 in Lima, Peru.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

INPADE worked actively with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to organize seminars, write publications, and organize conferences at the national and regional level relating to employment, poverty, social participation, children rights, and eradication of violence against women.

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

INPADE was part of a group of social organizations that took actions to monitor the MDGs, producing annual reports on progress toward the goals set by the government of Argentina. Regional seminars were held, with the participation of social organizations from several countries in the region, especially the Mercado Común del Sur (MERCOSUR) in 2010 and 2013 to analyse the progress toward the achievement of the MDGs in Latin America and MERCOSUR.

5. Inter-Press Service International Association

General, 1991

Introduction

The Inter-Press Service International Association (IPS) is an international communication institution raising the voices of the South and civil society on issues of development, globalization, human rights and the environment.

Aims and purposes of the organization

IPS has three main areas of work:

- Providing news and content: producing stories and analyses, which explain how events and global processes affect individuals and communities;
- Capacity-building: empowering journalists, media organizations and civil society to be better able to communicate effectively;
- Dissemination and networking: building an information bridge linking civil society, international institutions, policy-makers, donors and individual readers, to promote an ongoing dialogue about communication and development.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- During 2011-2014, Inter Press Service International Association and Inter Press Service (IPS) remained focused on the political, social and economic issues on the United Nations agenda. As part of its mandate to promote nuclear disarmament, IPS bestowed its annual International Achievement Award for Nuclear Disarmament to Jayantha Dhanapala, a former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs in 2014.
- IPS publishes a Monday-through-Friday electronic newsletter IPS UN Terra Viva, which is widely circulated in the United Nations system.
- IPS provides an editorial platform for United Nations agencies, officials and ambassadors.
- IPS has a global wire service which has mini websites for all United Nations related issues, including poverty and hunger eradication, food security, MDGs, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

IPS provides coverage for the annual meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly, the Security Council and the United Nations Committee on Information, among others. A few of the high level meetings covered by IPS include: the High Level Meeting on AIDS, 8-10 June 2011, New York; the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) Rio de Janeiro, June 2012; and the United Nations Climate Summit, 23 September 2014, New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

IPS worked closely with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to cover population-related issues, including child marriage, female genital mutilation, and reproductive health. IPS works in tandem with UN-Women focusing specifically on Beijing +20 to be commemorated throughout 2015.

IPS projects with United Nations agencies included media training with UNFPA and the publication of Tierramerica, supported and funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), focusing on sustainable development in Latin America.

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

IPS placed high priority on focusing both on the MDGs and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It has a dedicated website for Poverty and the MDGs.

6. International Action Network on Small Arms

Special, 2011

Introduction

International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) is a global movement against gun violence. IANSA is the official coordinator of civil society participation in the United Nations small arms process.

Aims and purposes of the organization

IANSA aims to:

- raise awareness among policymakers, the public and the media about the global threat to human rights and human security caused by small arms;
- promote civil society efforts to prevent arms proliferation and armed violence through policy development, public education and research — fostering collaborative advocacy efforts, and providing a forum for NGOs to share experiences and build skills; and
- facilitate civil society participation in global and regional processes — promoting the voices of survivors.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has closed its office in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It has instead incorporated in Accra Ghana, in the offices of its Regional network, the West African Action Network on Small Arms.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

IANSA coordinates civil society participation in the United Nations small arms process and in the conventional weapons segment of the First Committee of the General Assembly. Its members work in tandem with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) offices in countries affected by armed violence, through advocacy, research, outreach, and raising awareness. The organization plays a similar role for the regional peace and disarmament centres. It contributes to advance the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms, the International Tracing Instrument, the Firearms Protocol and the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), by supporting and persuading national governments to comply with their obligations. It plays a similar role in relation to the Security Council resolutions on Women peace and security.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

IANSA brought representatives from gun-affected countries and coordinated their participation in the United Nations Biennial Meeting of States on Small Arms in 2010, 2012 and 2014; as well as the meetings of the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty and First Committee. It also held side events at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, on the topic of women and armed violence.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization works very closely with the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs and collaborates with UNDP, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Women, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Health Organization.

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

IANSA is actively involved in the regional meetings of the post-2015 The World We Want discussions, and the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development.

7. International Administrative Science Association

Special, 2011

Introduction

The International Administrative Science Association (IASA) promotes government services, utilizing the public and private sectors. The Association focuses especially on healthcare, persons with disabilities, cultural diversity, human rights and the MDGs.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- Unite broad international forces in all administrative sectors (political, religious, social and private) to create a peaceful, happy, sustainable and prosperous life for humankind;
- Preserve and defend world peace, national culture, sovereignty and territorial integrity, world economic security, ecology, human rights, universal justice, transparency, and the free flow of information without distortion or hindrance;
- Mobilize popular support for the principles of the United Nations and its agencies, the MDGs, and the Global Compact.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2011, IASA established a satellite office in Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America to support the higher education for persons with disabilities.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association organized conferences and meetings on disarmament, peace, development, human rights and ecology, conflict resolution, and poverty alleviation. It cooperated closely with national and local governments, the private sector, and international and national NGOs.

Major Projects are:

- The World Brand Cultural Heritage project: to protect cultural diversity and ensure sustainable poverty eradication by marketing brands of goods and services from developing areas;
- Environmental Protection and Conservation Project initiation in inner Mongolia; and
- Women’s education and job improvement by providing internships for young women (nurses) from developing areas to work in more developed areas.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), New York, 10-21 March 2014;
- Commission for Social Development (CSocD), New York, 11-21 February 2014;
- 6th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, New York, 17-19 July 2013;
- Commission on Population and Development, New York, 23-27 April 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization discussed the possibility of creating a University for persons with disabilities with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage.

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

The World Brand Cultural Heritage project has led to the “Summit Forum on Chinese Dream — Protecting World Brand Cultural Heritage”, which was held in China on 29 November 2013.

8. International Alert

Special, 1991

Introduction

International Alert is a peacebuilding organization, currently operating in more than 25 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

International Alert:

- helps people find peaceful solutions to conflict, through training, advice, opportunities for dialogue and other support;
- advises companies, governments and international organizations on how their policies and operations can better support peace; and
- contributes to improving the peacebuilding sector through training, dissemination of knowledge, and advice.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2011, International Alert established a Department for Emerging Programmes to lead geographic and thematic start-ups and innovation for Africa and South and Southeast Asia.

Local offices were also opened in Lebanon, Tunisia and Myanmar and the work of the organization expanded to Nigeria, Mali, Kenya/Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Libya, Syria, Greece, Netherlands, Italy, Peru and South Africa.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- International Alert is a member of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Global Compact Business for Peace.
- It reviewed and provided input for the United Nations Environment Programme/Peacebuilding Support Office/United Nations Development Programme (UNEP/PBSO/UNDP) study “Women and Natural Resources — Unlocking the Peacebuilding Potential” in September 2013.
- It conducted a UN-Women-sponsored training for young women from the South Caucasus, in Istanbul, Turkey, October 2014, and a “Gender and Peacebuilding” training and produced a toolkit for approximately 45 UN-Women, PBSO and UNDP staff in New York, June 2013.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Since December 2013, International Alert has participated in the UN-Women East Africa coordinated regional contact group on gender and natural resource management.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

International Alert conducted a joint workshop on gender in peacebuilding with UNEP in Geneva, Switzerland, in June 2014. The organization has conducted interviews with and presented its gender research to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Kampala, Uganda, in January 2013, the United Nations Office in Burundi in Bujumbura in May 2013, and UN-Women Liberia in Monrovia, Liberia, in January 2014. Moreover, staff from the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery attended workshops on International Alert’s gender in peacebuilding work in Geneva and Helsinki in June and December 2014.

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

The organization contributed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) consultation process in many ways, including co-facilitation of regional consultations in West Africa and participation in consultations in London, Brussels and New York.

9. International Alliance of Women

General, 1947

Introduction

International Alliance of Women (IAW) is an international organization involved in the promotion of women's human rights, equality and empowerment of women.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The basic principle of the IAW is that the full and equal enjoyment of human rights is due to all women and girls. IAW focuses particularly on empowerment of women, development issues and gender equality.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

From 2011 onwards, IAW campaigned about Security Council Resolution 1325, including by organizing a side event at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on "gender based violence as a political weapon — implementing Security Council Resolution 1325" in New York, March 2014. During the reporting period, the Alliance organized panels, workshops and roundtables on gender equality education, violence against women, women and political power, social protection floor, and birth registration.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Alliance attended, lobbied, sponsored, co-sponsored side events and issued statements or joint statements at all sessions of the CSW. Some of these include: "Physical barriers to girls' education" (March 2011), "Violence against women as a human rights issue (March 2013), and "The effect of the economic crisis on gender-based violence" (March 2013). The Alliance organized the following side events "Physical barriers to girls' education" (2011), "Innovative approaches for the economic development for rural women" (2012), and "Gender-based violence as a political weapon" (2014).

IAW attended and lobbied at all sessions of the Human Rights Council (HRC) in the reporting period. IAW attended the Committee on Non-governmental Partners of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in February 2012, April 2013, and September 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2012, the Alliance provided input and comments on the World Health Organization (WHO) Draft Twelfth General Programme of Work (GPW 12). Under the plan of cooperation with WHO, IAW networked and lobbied for the recognition of women's sexual and reproductive health rights in all relevant international negotiation processes, including the Rio+20 process.

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

The Alliance has highlighted the MDGs throughout the CSW process since the beginning of the implementation of the MDGs. During the CSW in 2014, IAW organized a side event entitled: “Women’s human rights, gender equality and the Millennium Development Goals”.

10. International Art and Technology Cooperation Organization

Special, 2011

Introduction

The International Art and Technology Cooperation Organization (ArTech), based in Japan, was has four main projects: “Plasma High-Tech Centre”, “Bio High-Tech Centre”, “Art Centre”, and “Kids Project”.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of organization is to balance art and technology as well as to decrease the gap between developed countries and developing countries.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

ArTech has been promoting and operating an environmental education programme for children called “Kids’ ISO 14000 programme” since 2000. This programme is part of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UN-DESD). The programme has expanded internationally through United Nations organizations such as the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The organization has held various international seminars for Kids’ ISO 14000 programme with UNESCO between 2003 and 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

11. International Association against Torture

Special, 1987

Introduction

The International Association Against Torture (AICT) focuses on the effects of torture on people throughout the world and what needs to be done to mitigate its impacts.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The goal of AICT is to: advocate against all torture; increase public awareness of the different forms of torture, particularly in relation to minorities; repair the damage suffered by victims of torture; and support the work of other institutions organized for the same or similar purposes.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

AICT organized the kick-off commemoration of the United Nations International Year for People of African Descent (IYPAD) at the African Burial Ground in New York, 2 January 2011. During that event, the organization distributed a joint presentation “The Significance of the IYPAD”. It also showed the documentary on the 2001 United Nations World Conference Against Racism, “The Durban 400”.

AICT organized an International Peoples Tribunal (IPT) on war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Haiti, US, Côte d’Ivoire and Libya at Columbia University Law School, New York, on 14 January 2012. The organization delivered findings of the IPT to the International Criminal Court in The Hague on 18 June 2012.

AICT made a presentation to the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) First Regional Reparations Conference at St. Vincent and the Grenadines on 15-17 September 2013.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- AICT made an oral intervention under agenda item 9 “Racism and Racial Discrimination” at the Human Rights Council, in Geneva, Switzerland, 22 March 2011.
- AICT participated in the 10th and 11th sessions of the Working Groups of Experts on People of African Descent, in Geneva, Switzerland, 28 March-1 April 2011 and 30 April-4 May 2012. The organization contributed toward outcome documents, particularly on the issues of the Theme of the International Decade for People of African Descent (IDPAD) and the Programme of Action for the Decade.

- AICT made a presentation at the High Level Meeting to Commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA), New York, 22 September 2011.
- AICT gave a joint statement at the Closure Debate for the IYPAD, New York, 6 December 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

AICT participated in the informal consultations organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the IDPAD, New York, 14 July 2014.

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

AICT has contributed to MDG 6 in the Caribbean and the United States of America. AICT helped Haiti tackle the cholera situation and held programmes and distributed literature in the United States on healthcare inequities facing minorities.

12. International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty

Special, 1987

Introduction

The International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty (AIDLR) was created in 1946.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works to: stress the importance of freedom in religious matters; help people cooperate to establish justice and peace; protect, defend and promote liberty of thought, conscience and religion for everyone, everywhere; and join the crusade against intolerance, discrimination, fanaticism, sectarianism and every kind of violence and terrorism in the name of religion.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Publication of a yearly journal called “Conscience and Liberty” (C&L) in English, French and German. This publication is sent to many governmental, political and ecclesiastical institutions in order to promote human rights and religious freedom. The 2012 publication “Human Rights and Universality: A necessary and Continuous Relationship” called for an increased authority of United Nations.
- AIDLR organized the International Conference on Religious Liberty and Religious Minorities at the Complutense University of Madrid, Spain on 17-18 January 2014.
- AIDLR organized an event on religious liberty, co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Uruguay, Spain, Canada, Norway and the Council of Europe at the Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva, Switzerland, 10 June 2014.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization regularly takes part in the sessions of the HRC and the Universal Periodic Reviews in Geneva, Switzerland and the General Assembly in New York. The organization submitted written Statements during the 25th, 27th, and 28th sessions of the HRC and delivered an oral statement during the HRC in Geneva, Switzerland, 11 March 2014.

AIDLR is also involved in the activities of the NGO Special Committee on Human Rights and the Sub-committee on Freedom of Religion and Belief in Geneva, Switzerland.

AIDLR delivered a keynote entitled “Peace starts with each one of us” at the High Level Forum on Culture of Peace in New York, 9 September 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

AIDLR supports and participates in activities of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the HRC, the Universal Periodic Reviews, United Nations Special Rapporteurs, and the Department of Public Information (DPI)/NGOs.

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

At its events, the organization stated the following as being essential for further developments: education for human rights, an interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and a new approach with five categories (diplomatic, political, religious, educational and civil society), representatives, and international coordination.

13. International Association for Water Law

Special, 1971

Introduction

The International Association for Water Law (AIDA) is a critical NGO dealing with the legal aspects of water governance in the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association’s purpose is to foster the evolution, knowledge, understanding and application of national and international water law, with the view to develop national water legislation, the legal aspects of national water administrations and institutions, and related aspects of international water law.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The association is the official partner of United Nations on the issues relating to the legal and administrative aspects of water governance and management. It is a member of UN-Water.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Some of the meetings AIDA took part in include:

- 6th World Water Forum, Marseille, France, 12-17 March 2012 (in cooperation with the United Nations);
- “Water for Food Security: What Role for Water Law?”: Joint International Association for Water Law/International Fund for Agricultural Development side-event at the 2012 World Water Week, Stockholm, Sweden, 26-31 August 2012 (in cooperation with the United Nations);
- World Water Day international celebration, The Hague, Netherlands, 22 March 2013;
- 38th session of the Food and Agriculture Organization Conference held in Rome, Italy, 15-22 June 2013; and
- International Association for Water Law/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) side-event on “Bridging the land/water divide — The role of water law” at the 2013 World Water Week, Stockholm, Sweden, 2-6 September 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

AIDA is in permanent consultation and cooperation with UN-Water.

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

All activities of the Association are in support of several of the MDGs, as the sound regulation and administration of water plays a role in the eradication of poverty, the improvement of maternal health, the fight against water related diseases, the reduction of child mortality, and environmental sustainability.

14. International Association of Charities

Special, 2003

Introduction

The International Association of Charities is a network of associations whose goal is to combat poverty and give women a recognized role in the church and in society.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of the International Association of Charities is:

- To work primarily with women around the world;
- To strengthen the participation of the poor;
- To encourage partnerships and networks; and
- To become involved in public policy programmes, while remaining aware of the responsibility of all actors.

Significant changes in the organization

The International Association of Charities has taken root in three new countries: Ethiopia, Egypt and Ireland.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The International Association of Charities responds to the various questionnaires submitted to it by the Department of Public Information, and to the questionnaire on the medium-term strategy for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Association participates in International Women's Day on 8 March, International Day of Families on 20 May, and International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association acted as a facilitator at the Department of Public Information/Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations Conference, entitled "2015 and Beyond: Our Action Agenda", held in New York from 27 to 29 August 2014.

The Association participates annually in the Commission for Social Development and in the Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The International Association of Charities participates in UNESCO General Conferences and has actively contributed to the work of the NGO/UNESCO Liaison Committee. In 2011 and 2012, the Association was represented in joint programme commissions on education, extreme poverty and dialogue among cultures. In 2013 and 2014, the Association participated in the organization of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty through personal testimonials.

The Association participated in the work of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, by signing the joint written statements: "Towards safeguarding the universality of human rights" in February 2012 and "For the protection of the family and its members" in September 2014.

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

The Association conducts around 14,000 field projects, which are all in line with the Millennium Development Goals. Some examples below:

- Vocational training courses resulting in the creation of income-generating activities, thus contributing to the empowerment of women. In Madagascar, 2,500 children and adults have benefited from the "Tsiry" project for literacy and adult/child education.
- Maternal health is being improved by opening clinics and nursing homes, by creating health cooperatives or by proposing low cost medication.
- Through twinning projects (such as Germany-Ukraine, United States-Madagascar), the Association is also working towards achieving Goal 8.

15. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

Special, 1995

Introduction

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (IAJLJ) strives to advance human rights everywhere. Its membership comprises lawyers, judges, judicial officers and academic jurists in more than 50 countries who are active locally and internationally.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The association's efforts include the prevention of war crimes, the punishment of war criminals, the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction, and international co-operation, based on the rule of law and the fair implementation of international covenants and conventions. The association is especially committed to issues such as combatting racism, xenophobia, and anti-Semitism, among others.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- In February 2011, AIJLJ cooperated with the Davis Committee, appointed by the Human Rights Council (HRC), by arranging a video conference between the Davis Committee and Israeli victims of Hamas rocket attacks during the Gaza conflict, in order to bring their testimonies before the Committee.
- In November 2012, it provided the International Fact-Finding Mission on Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory with a paper and information re: Israeli Law Enforcement in the West Bank.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- AIJLJ participates and delivers statements in many of the session of the HRC in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The association participated in the Human Rights Council Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland in October 2012 and December 2013.
- The association held a side event at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, titled: “UNRWA — Providing Humanitarian Relief or Prolonging the Palestinian Refugee Problem?” on May 2014.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.