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**Note by the Secretary-General**

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## **1. International Social Service**

### **Special, 1947**

#### **Introduction**

International Social Service is an international organization based in Geneva with a network that is active in over 120 countries.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

International Social Service undertakes special projects that support its mission, for example, an international family mediation project, programmes for children with disabilities and the promotion of child protection.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

In the period 2007-2010, cooperation agreements were signed with the following organizations: Association internationale francophone des intervenants auprès des familles séparées and Red Latino Americana de Acogimiento Familiar. In 2007, a new Secretary-General was hired. In 2008, a new strategic plan for the period 2008-2012 was defined and approved by the Executive Committee. In 2010, the statutes of the organization were revised and adopted. As a result, new governance bodies were created and the General Secretariat was consolidated under strict financial controls and efficient new management systems.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In the period 2007-2010, International Social Service continued to support the work of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child by sending relevant information to countries, and it co-chaired the working group “children without parental care” for the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child annually. In 2007, the organization completed the fact sheets project (a compilation of information on alternative care for children) funded by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and studies on child protection in Muslim countries. In 2008-2009, with SOS Children’s Villages, International Social Service helped to draft and advocate for the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, which was welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/142.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In the period 2007-2010, International Social Service representatives attended the annual sessions of the General Assembly, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, the special session of the General Assembly on the rights of the child (as part of the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child) and the Special Commission on the practical operation of the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on the Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption. Representatives of the organization also attended and lectured at several conferences on intercountry adoption and protection measures organized by the central authorities and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Argentina, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Mali, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America.

In 2007, International Social Service attended the informal consultative meeting held by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and, with UNICEF, organized training sessions in Azerbaijan, France, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar and Romania for the new central authority. In 2008, the organization attended the meeting of the Human Rights Council. In 2009, it participated in the Hague Conference of Private International Law (where it chaired a working session) and presented a keynote speech at the International Conference in Burkina Faso on behalf of the Hague Conference.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In the period 2007-2010, International Social Service worked with UNICEF and the European Union to support the Republic of Moldova in reforming its legislature and establishing a framework for the facilitation of community-based social services care. In 2007, it collaborated with UNICEF on the European Union/Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia project, "Development of integrated social care services for vulnerable families and children at risk in Moldova", and evaluated child-protection systems in Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Madagascar, and conducted training sessions for central authorities on intercountry adoption. A similar training session was also conducted for UNICEF National Committee representatives from France, Italy and Spain. The organization also followed up on legislative reforms in intercountry adoption and the protection of children deprived of their families, notably in Azerbaijan, France, Peru and Romania, at the request of such international stakeholders as UNICEF, the European Union and national governments. In 2010, the organization was commissioned by UNICEF to edit a report concerning the context of international adoption following the earthquake in Haiti. International Social Service also cooperated with UNHCR, the Human Rights Council, Save the Children and the Inter-American Children's Institute.

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

International Social Service works to promote global child protection and implementation of the Guidelines on the Alternative Care of Children.

#### **Additional information**

In 2010, the organization published its Global Report 2009-2010, which can be accessed at its website [http://www.iss-ssi.org/2009/assets/files/ISS\\_GlobalReport-2009\\_FINAL](http://www.iss-ssi.org/2009/assets/files/ISS_GlobalReport-2009_FINAL).

## **2. International Sociological Association**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Introduction**

There have been no changes.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

Two amendments to the statutes of the International Sociological Association were approved in July 2010 at the meeting of the Assembly of Councils held in Gothenburg, Sweden. The amendments are to article 4, concerning individual membership, and to articles 10 and 11, concerning the nominating process.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In July 2010, the XVII World Congress of Sociology, on the theme “Sociology on the Move”, was held in Gothenburg. “Sociology on the Move” activities for junior scholars included:

(a) **International Laboratory for Ph.D Students.** The Association gives priority to programmes aiming at developing the knowledge foundations, methodological skills and theoretical competences of young sociologists all over the world. This is coherent with the following three major goals that an international scientific association should pursue:

- (i) The formation of young scholars; preparing the new sociologists is the most valuable investment, since it contributes to the reproduction of a competent and dynamic sociological community;
- (ii) Building a true international association, creating opportunities for young sociologists to meet, work together and build long-lasting intellectual relations; the creation of a true international sociological community also implies increased opportunities for sociologists coming from developing countries, who are usually cut off from post-graduate education and research projects;
- (iii) Improvement of the standard scientific quality of sociological research and enhancement of the prestige of the discipline; a major way to achieve this goal is the systematic development of the methodological competence and research skills of young scholars.

In the years 2007-2009, the following three laboratories were held: Maidugari, Nigeria, on globalization, social problems and social policy, November 2007; Moscow, on education and the media, June 2008; Yokohama, Japan, on the possibility of sociology in the era of globalization, October 2009.

(b) **Worldwide competition for junior sociologists.** The competition engaged in social research is organized by the International Sociological Association every four years. Candidates must send an original paper that has not been previously published. The winners are invited to participate in a World Congress of Sociology. The winners’ papers are considered for publication, subject to editorial decision and

revision, in either the Association's journals or another publication of the organization. For the fifth Worldwide Competition for Junior Sociologists (2007-2010), 130 entries were received from participants from all continents. The award-winners were invited to participate in a three-day workshop held in Gothenburg in July 2010;

(c) **International Sociological Association publications.** The Association publishes a book series, *SAGE Studies in International Sociology*, and two journals (six issues per year).

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In 2008, representatives attended:

(a) Meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women and a one-day pre-session workshop, as well as some of the NGO parallel events;

(b) The seventeenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in Vienna;

(c) The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) conference on the theme "Criminal justice responses against trafficking in persons: role play performance: mock interview and trial programme", an interactive human trafficking mock trial and role play, as part of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking;

(d) **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime activity.** Update by the Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the activities of the Terrorism Prevention Branch, at United Nations Headquarters.

In 2009, representatives attended meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The International Sociological Association organized sessions at the 2009 session of the Commission on the Status of Women on equal participation in decision-making: research and action; Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and National Action Plans; monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) within the United Nations system and at the national level: challenges and achievements; conflict intervention on behalf of widows whose rights have been violated in South-East Nigeria; towards parity in decision-making in indigenous communities.

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

Of the 55 International Sociological Association permanent research network research committees, 24 have been engaged in studying inequality and have systematically contributed to the ideas stated in the Millennium Developments Goals.

### **Additional information**

The International Sociological Association is a member of the International Social Sciences Council and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and is represented on the Board of Directors of the Global Development Network.

### **3. International Touring Alliance**

**Special, 1947**

#### **Introduction**

The International Touring Alliance is a federation of automobile associations, touring clubs and tourist bodies, comprising 130 member associations divided among 90 countries of the world. Collectively, the active member associations of the Alliance have over 110 million individual club members worldwide. As an organization of such wide scope and importance, representing both the interests of the motorist and those of the tourist in general, its policies carry weight and it enjoys considerable international recognition.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Since its foundation in 1898, the International Touring Alliance has supported and encouraged the essential role played by tourism in promoting international understanding. One of its main objectives is to facilitate tourist travel, particularly with regard to the barriers restricting movement across national borders. Aware of the ever-growing number of motor vehicles throughout the world that are used for leisure travel, business travel, commuting to and from the workplace, and commercial transport, the Alliance continues to strive to harmonize international traffic regulations and to protect road users from abusive and restrictive taxation, procedures and legislation. It recognizes the vital importance of travel by private and commercial road vehicles, as well as of public transport in improving people's standard of living and for every national economy. The Alliance therefore aims to promote all measures which may contribute to road safety and the responsible use of all means of transport. It works in close collaboration with its sister organization, the International Automobile Federation and promotes the latter's mobility and road safety activities and provides material support. In conjunction with the Federation, the Alliance produces and administers internationally recognized documents which facilitate international travel and tourism. Its principal areas of competence concern all questions relating to the movement of people: "open-air" tourism (camping and caravanning), ecological driving, mobility of travellers, the respectful use of roads, border facilitation, traffic safety and environmental protection.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Each year, the International Touring Alliance takes part in numerous meetings of various United Nations working groups, principally those within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Within the Economic Commission for Europe, the International Touring Alliance takes an active part in the work of the Inland Transport Committee and its specialized working parties. Written and oral reports are submitted on subjects related to road safety, customs matters and border facilitation documents. The

Alliance participates on a regular basis in the Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport, the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety, and the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations. It has been actively involved in recent revisions of the United Nations Customs Conventions on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles (1954) and Commercial Road Vehicles (1956), and the Convention on Road Traffic of 1968 and continues to contribute to keeping those Conventions up to date. With respect to the Vehicles Conventions of 1954 and 1956, the International Touring Alliance is one of the worldwide international organizations which coordinates and manages a customs document network, ensuring the correct and efficient use of the Carnets de Passages and Triptyques covered by the two Conventions. Those customs documents serve to facilitate the movement of private and commercial vehicles across borders and help to reduce or prevent the arbitrary, sometimes abusive, treatment of travellers.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The International Touring Alliance keeps abreast of related work carried out by the Economic Commissions for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia. It attaches great importance to the activities of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and, as indicated in the present report, takes an active part in their work insofar as it relates to the Alliance's fields of competence, notably those of tourism, the freedom of mobility and transport.

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

The Alliance has been working in collaboration with the International Automobile Federation towards the launch in 2011 of the United Nations Decade of Action on Road Safety.

## **4. International Tunnelling Association**

### **Special, 1987**

#### **Introduction**

Created in 1974, the International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association, changed its original name "International Tunnelling Association" in May 2007 without changing its acronym. It is a federation of, at present, 64 member nations.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main goals and challenges of the Association are:

- Increasing the awareness of public and of decision makers of the unique benefits of the underground, especially social and environmental benefits.
- Managing and minimizing risk and assuring safety and security in all tunnelling activities.
- Embracing sustainable development.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

In 2007, the Association changed its name to better take into account the dimension of underground space use and created two new committees, namely: the Committee on Education and Training and the Committee on Underground Space.

In 2009, the Sir Alan Muir Wood lecture was created to celebrate the engineering vision inside the tunnelling industry the Association became a founder of the Foundation on Education and Training for Tunnelling and Underground Space Use.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In 2007, the Association studied the possibility of holding a seminar on protection of infrastructures within natural and man-made hazards.

In 2009, the Association

(a) Participated in the Conference on Sustainable Urbanization in the Information Age, held at United Nations Headquarters in May 2010. It was organized jointly by the United Nations Global Alliance on Information Communication and Technology for Development and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) with the American Institute of Architects, the Regional Town Planning Association and several societies or associations, including the International Tunnelling Association;

(b) Organized a workshop in Riyadh on underground structures in hot climate conditions

In 2010, the Executive Director of the International Tunnelling Association and the Chair of the Association's Committee on Underground Space met with the Head of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi. It was agreed that the Association could actively participate in the World Urban Campaign; it is envisaged that a memorandum of understanding in that regard will be signed in the near future. On the same occasion, contacts were made with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Association was requested to participate in the Making Cities Resilient campaign. The campaign will inspire the open sessions of the Association's Congress in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In November 2010, the Association participated in the World Congress of the International Society of City and Regional Planners, held in Nairobi. On that occasion, Association members met with board members of the Society and with representatives of UN-Habitat and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Relations with the NGO Section at the United Nations have not been very active since the seminar in December 2007 on sustainable development, apart from a joint paper prepared with the International Road Federation on the crossing of the Bering Strait; which was presented at the forty-ninth session of the European Economic Commission in Geneva in March 2008. Since mid-September 2010, active contacts have been ongoing with both UN-Habitat in Nairobi and the secretariat of the



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in Geneva. The Deputy Director of the Strategy participated in the last World Tunnel Congress.

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

Relations with the NGO Section at the United Nations have been pursued successfully. Following a request from the United Nations, in December 2007, the Association organized a seminar at United Nations Headquarters for representatives of developing country Member States on the use of underground space as an unexpected solution for promoting sustainable development. In 2010, the Association took part in the World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro and participated in several workshops with a view to contributing to awareness-raising about the use of underground space to cope with climate changes, especially in megacities. The International Tunnelling Association, through its Committee on Underground Space, published three white papers on the themes “Underground space Q&A”; “Planning the use of underground space”; and “Sustainable urban underground development”. The Association regularly organizes conferences all over the world and in technical universities on the theme “How could we plan sustainable cities without using underground?”.

## **5. International Union of Economists**

### **General, 1999**

#### **Introduction**

There have been no changes.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

To promote economic reforms as the main means to world community development.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The International Union of Economists works with United Nations, European Union, UNESCO units and other international organizations, and holds events under their patronage. It undertakes activities with a view to advancing the achievement of the development agenda of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council in support of the Millennium Development Goals. The recommendations that result from the events are always published in the scientific tracts and the *Econom* journal, which are available to the public on the International Union of Economists Internet sites and sent to all members and partners of the organization. The most significant activities undertaken were: 2007: The sixteenth annual meeting of the International Union of Economists, “Special Economic Zones — World Experience” (January, Shanghai-Sanya, China); the twelfth International Congress on sustainable development (April, Montreux, Switzerland); International conference on the theme “Economic development and environment: strategies, models, control means”

(September, Sochi, Russian Federation); seminars and round tables on the theme “Problems of withdrawal from socialism”.

2010: The nineteenth annual meeting of the International Union of Economists, “World experience of anti-crisis measures, specialities of economic globalization” (January, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); the tenth anniversary of the International Congress, on the theme “Modernization as the main way of economic development” (May, Montreux, Switzerland); the “Forum on sustainable economic growth” (July, Astana); World Habitat Day, on the theme “Better city — better life” (October, Moscow).

The International Union of Economists supports and develops youth programmes that give young people a real chance to find their rightful place in the modern world and educates citizens who are concerned about the socio-economic prosperity of planet Earth.

2007: Discussion Club on the theme “World is for youth” (March, Moscow).

2008: The Youth Programme on the theme “Economy: theory, politics, investments” (March, Moscow).

2009: The First Youth Forum on anti-crisis economic policy (May, Moscow); The International Youth Business Game “The Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit — 2039” (May, Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation).

2010: The first Eurasian economic youth forum on the place and role of youth in the process of the world economy’s humanization (June, Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation).

2007-2010: Youth scientific competitions among schoolchildren, students and young scientists.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The International Union of Economists implements programmes on the themes “Problems of the international economic security”, “Energy development: questions of security”, “World experience of crisis management measures”, “Problems of climate changes”, “Sustainable economic development”, “Globalization processes in the world”, “Education in the modern world” among others, and publishes extensively. The organization holds annual meetings of its members on urgent questions dedicated to the development of the economy and the annual agenda of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In addition to holding events under the patronage of United Nations bodies, the International Union of Economists conducts publishing and educational activities. As a result of its fifteenth annual meeting, entitled “Strategy of socio-economic development of countries with transitional economies within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals”, the *World Economic and Social Survey: Financing for Development* was published.

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

The International Union of Economists holds various events in support of the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals, such as: international forums, international congresses on regional development, conferences, round tables, seminars, symposiums and international meetings. The organization also participates in the events held within the framework of UN-Habitat.

### **Additional information**

Today, the International Union of Economists unites representatives from 48 countries of the world. It has representative and branch offices in 21 countries. There are more than 350 members of the International Union of Economists, among which are legal entities and private individuals. Members of the organization are national and regional unions and associations of economists, outstanding economist-scientists and practitioners, public figures, public agents, and representatives of business circles of different countries of the world.

## **6. ISHA Foundation**

### **Special, 2007**

#### **Introduction**

ISHA Foundation envisions a rural population full of joy and vitality, with people who are enthusiastically involved in rejuvenating their communities.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Foundation's mission is to work with disadvantaged communities to improve holistic health care, empower children with high quality, affordable education and promote life in harmony with the environment. Since 2003, simple yet innovative projects designed by ISHA have helped rural communities to revive traditional systems and access modern know-how. Over the past four years, the focus of the Foundation's activities was the development and implementation of its programmes in rural health, education and environment. In September 2010, ISHA submitted a concept paper to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome through the Indian Ministry of Agriculture, answering a call for proposals on the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for food and agriculture. The Foundation was invited to submit a full proposal to promote on-farm conservation of plant genetic resources in 2011.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

**2008** ISHA Foundation attended the sixty-first annual United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference on the theme “Reaffirming human rights for all: The Universal Declaration at 60”, held in September 2008 at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

**2010** The Foundation submitted a written statement entitled “Gender mainstreaming through sport” to the 2010 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, addressing the annual ministerial review segment’s theme of “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women”, June-July, United Nations Headquarters.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ISHA Foundation is affiliated with the NGO Section of the Department of Public Information and collaborates with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), in partnership with the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport, to promote a central government programme promoting rural sport. ISHA shared its successes in mobilizing communities to improve health and environmental awareness through sport. An ISHA initiative on indigenous games for youth were profiled in the UNICEF-sponsored Commonwealth Games coffee-table book, *The Power of Sport*. Thanks to the contact facilitated by UNICEF with the Government of India, ISHA staff members were invited to two training sessions at the Laxmibai National Institute of Physical Education — both as trainees and trainers — sharing their experience about community mobilization through sport and yoga. In 2011, through its rural education initiative “Isha Vidhya” ISHA partnered with the FAO flagship programme on education for rural people.

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

ISHA aligned its work with contributing to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals 2 to 7 in Tamil Nadu: Over 2,000 village children in seven Isha Vidhya schools — nearly 50 per cent of them girls — have progressed towards highly marketable levels of English and computer proficiency. As part of the Project GreenHands, over 5 million trees were planted by tens of thousands of farming families to improve livelihood and help mitigate the effects of climate change. Research and design exercises led to new projects that promote urban greening and revive sustainable farming. Since 2007, over 1 million patients received primary health care from the Foundation’s 16 mobile and 4 fixed rural clinics. ISHA launched a ground-breaking project with the Indian Ministry of Health to strengthen traditional systems of Indian medicine (AYUSH) that prioritize disease prevention that supports reduction of maternal and infant mortality among nearly 300 tribal hamlets in 14 municipalities of Namakkal District. The Foundation’s community care centre, Womb of Compassion, expanded free treatment, counselling and community outreach to over 1,000 persons living with HIV/AIDS since 2008. ISHA also facilitates the AIDS Prevention and Control Project “Link Workers Scheme”, sponsored by the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, by training village-based workers to identify and support high-risk groups in over 100 communities. With USAID support, ISHA produced a publication entitled “Compassion cannot choose” raising awareness about people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Additional information**

On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, who have cared for 8.2 million tree saplings since 2005, the Foundation's Project GreenHands received India's highest environmental award, the prestigious Indira Gandhi Paryavaran Puraskar on World Environment Day 2010 in New Delhi. ISHA Foundation projects were portrayed by the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations-sponsored publications "Why People become leaders in AIDS work" and "The billion tree campaign".

**7. Japan Federation of Bar Associations****Special, 1999****Introduction**

There have been no changes.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Federation of Japan Bar Associations provided training for Iraqi lawyers in international human rights law and international humanitarian law, funded by the United Nations Democracy Fund (Prague, March 2009). The Federation held a seminar to raise awareness among Japanese lawyers about human trafficking issues, one of the most crucial agendas of the Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (Tokyo, March 2010). Periodically (three to four times a year) conducts a study on international human rights for lawyers and academics. Provided free representation by a lawyer for asylum-seekers to the Government of Japan, as suggested by UNHCR.

The Japan Federation of Bar Associations has participated by occasionally dispatching delegates, making written and/or oral statements at, and producing reports to, the following conferences and meetings hosted by United Nations bodies:

- Review procedure of the state report on the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, submitting a written report and participating in NGO meetings (Geneva, April 2007).
- The sixteenth and seventeenth sessions (Vienna, April 2007 and April 2008, respectively) of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
- The second Conference of State Parties to the Convention against Corruption (Bali, January 2008).
- The fifty-second, fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions of the Commission of the Status of Women New York, February 2008, March 2009 and February 2010, respectively, making an oral statement at the fifty-second session.

- The second session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group, submitting a written report and making an oral statement (Geneva, May 2008).
- The review procedure of the state report on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and NGO meetings, submitting a written report and participating in NGO meetings (Geneva, October 2008).
- The preliminary session of the working group on the review procedure on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, providing information to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and making an oral statement (Geneva, November 2008). Attended meetings of the Committee on the review procedure regarding the Convention, submitting written reports in July 2009 and in February 2010.
- The pre-sessional working group on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and two optional protocols to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography, submitting a written report (Geneva, February 2010).
- The twelfth Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders and hosted a side event (Salvador, Brazil, April 2010).
- A meeting on the review procedure with regard to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and two optional protocols to the Convention (Geneva, May 2010).

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Federation had discussions with officials of the Committee against Torture, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and held a lecture for the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of migrants and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other senior staff of that Office (UNHCR), the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Organized a series of lectures by these officials. It co-hosted a seminar with Waseda University in cooperation with the Human Rights Committee (Tokyo, November 2010).

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

The Federation established a Committee on Poverty to eradicate poverty and provide free legal consultations for the poor and made various political proposals to the Government of Japan for the reduction of pauperism, including a proposal calling for the expansion of the scope of Legal Aid. It established a Centre for Gender Equality Promotion to promote gender equality and conducted various activities, including formulating guidelines and establishing grievance machinery. It submitted an opinion letter to the Government of Japan calling for the introduction of the principle of energy sustainability.

#### **Additional information**

In order to support its members who want to work at the United Nations, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations: established a special section on its website to

provide those of its staff interested in working with the United Nations with information related to international institutions; held (once or twice a year) a seminar for lawyers, legal apprentices and law school students on the activities of international institutions; held a round table in October 2008 with the participation of legal professionals who had worked at the United Nations or other related international organizations.

## **8. Kids Can Free the Children**

### **Special, 2003**

#### **Introduction**

Kids Can Free the Children is an international children's charity and educational partner that is registered in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The organization's international projects, carried out through its holistic development model, Adopt a Village, operate in seven target countries, namely: rural China, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

Since its founding in 1995, Kids Can Free the Children has grown into the world's largest network of children helping children through education. The organization's mission is to: (a) free children in developing countries from poverty and exploitation, allowing them the opportunity to go to school; and (b) empower children at home and overseas to make a difference in the world. Domestically, the organization operates as an educational partner in seeking to empower young leaders to foster positive local and global change. Internationally, it pursues a variety of development projects, with a particular focus on education, health care, alternative income and clean water.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Through all of its activities, Kids Can Free the Children works to advance the United Nations goal of improving the lives of poor people, conquering hunger, disease and illiteracy and encouraging respect for each other's rights and freedoms. The organization works actively in China, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka through its unique development model to reduce the barriers that prevent children from accessing education. This means ensuring that the communities that the organization works with have access to clean drinking water, comprehensive health care, quality education and access to income-generating opportunities. Domestically and internationally, the work of Kids Can Free the Children is executed in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Kids Can Free the Children has worked extensively with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) and presented to the Mission its

development model and plans for work in Dos Palais and Terre Cassee. Free the Children sought counsel from MINUSTAH with respect to distribution of aid throughout the Central Plateau in Haiti and also dialogues regularly with UNICEF.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Kids Can Free the Children works in partnership with Government organizations in all of the countries where the organization operates. This ensures sustainability of the organization's projects, as they are executed in partnership with local communities with the support of local and national government. Between January and April 2010, the organization worked with MINUSTAH with respect to a significant emergency humanitarian shipment of 10 containers of relief goods to Haiti. Working with the United Nations ensured security for the shipment, and harmonization and coordination of the efforts.

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

Domestically, Free the Children has developed extensive curricular resources which educate young people about the Millennium Development Goals. These resources provide educators with the tools to engage their students in active learning, inspiring young people to find solutions to global challenges. It is the international mandate of the organization to free children from poverty and exploitation. In effecting this change in the countries where it operates, the organization supports Goal 1 through a holistic development model that creates systemic change in rural and marginalized communities around the world. Kids Can Free the Children has contributed to Goal 2 in China, Ecuador, Haiti, India, Kenya, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka by providing access to primary school education to 55,000 children. This has been accomplished through the implementation of the organization's holistic development model, which consists of four pillars: education; clean water and sanitation; health care; and alternative income. Free the Children works in support of Goal 3 to ensure that girl children receive equal access to education; it endeavours to reduce the barriers that prevent girls from attending school. The organization also works with women's groups in the countries where it operates, providing coaching and mentorship in the areas of literacy and basic skills training, microbusiness development, numeracy and business training. The organization has also continued to work in support of Goal 4. Kids Can Free the Children recently opened its first health centre in Kenya, supporting the health of 40,000 people in the Masai Mara. The clinic provides treatment to children and their families, and antenatal care to mothers.



## **9. Korean Institute for Women and Politics**

### **Special, 1999**

#### **Introduction**

There have been no changes.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The Korean Institute for Women and Politics mobilized public opinion for the United Nations and implemented United Nations policies in the field of women's human rights through the following activities:

- Held a grand debate on the theme "Women! Equal rights and equal responsibilities" (2009) and "Women! Beijing + 15" (2010) at the Korea Press Centre.
- Held a debate on women's policies in the presidential election, in November 2007 and a women's political leadership programme.
- Organized a project in August-October 2008 on the monitoring of local assemblies to see how women's policies are implemented. The project was to evaluate and diagnose the achievement of women's development from the perspective of women.
- Provided a 10-week women's political education course in May-July 2009 on the theme "2010 local election women's political academy: my mission, vision, passion" for prospective women candidates.
- Conducted a public opinion survey on political participation of women in May 2010 and an institutionalization and constitutional review to realize gender equality at work and home in July-September 2010, sponsored by the Seoul Metropolitan government.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Participated in the fifty-first to fifty-fourth sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (held in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively); held NGO parallel events on the theme "Empowerment of adolescent girls in Asian countries: violence, education and leadership development" (February 2007); "Financing for the empowerment of Asia-Pacific girls and young women" (February 2008); "Gender inequality vs. sharing responsibility in Asia" (March 2009); and "Climate change and gender responsiveness in Asia-Pacific" (March 2010) at the United Nations Church Centre.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

**October 2008.** The organization jointly held the World Congress of Women Politicians on the theme “Gender in climate change and disaster risk reduction” in Manila, with the Center for Asian Pacific Women in Politics; the event was co-sponsored by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, UNEP and the United Nations Global Gender and Climate Alliance.

**2007-2009.** The organization co-sponsored an event on the theme “Making governance gender responsive” with the Center for Asian Pacific Women in Politics, with funding support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through its Asia-Pacific Gender Equality Network and the Regional Governance Programme for Asia and the Pacific.

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

**2008-2009.** The organization promoted gender equality and empowered a women’s grand debate to commemorate the nineteenth anniversary of the Korean Institute for Women in Politics on political attitudes and the participation of voters in the 20s and 30s (2008) and held a debate to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Institute (30 July 2009) on the theme “The Present and the Future of Korean Women’s Politics”.

**November 2009.** The organization held a round table on “How to realize equal participation in 2010 local election” and carried out a campaign on the theme “Equal number of men and women in local politics”, collaborated effectively with 450 organizations and achieved more than 20 per cent women’s representation.

**2009.** The organization held an eight-week class on the “Next generation of women in politics”.

**August-September 2010.** Representatives participated in the sixty-third annual United Nations Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference on the theme “Advance global health: achieve the MDGs”, held in Melbourne, Australia.

**August 2010.** The organization presented a paper from the perspective of the Republic of Korea and Asia at a seminar on the international dialogue on global health from birth to maturity held by the International Health Awareness Network.

**August 2010.** The organization participated as a discussant in a forum on the theme “Global public health: achieving the Millennium Development Goals in a time of crisis”, held by the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference.

**September 2008.** The organization held a forum on the role of women in response to climate change.

**May-October 2009.** The organization held an event entitled “Women up, green up!: green life politics coordination”.

## **10. Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation**

**Special, 2007**

### **Introduction**

The Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation is an international NGO founded on 7 July 1992 and officially registered with the Government of Spain on 22 November 1993. In 1997, it became accredited with the Department of Public Information.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Foundation is actively committed to the development of a culture of peace and better living for world peace by cooperating in the humanitarian fields of health, education, the environment, spirituality, interreligious dialogue and the preservation of indigenous cultures.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization was engaged in international medical cooperation to promote health projects in India, Nepal, and Tibet, China (including the Directly Observed Treatment Shortcourse tuberculosis programme and mother-and-child clinic of the Himalayan Healing Centre in Kathmandu) in support of the World Health Organization (WHO) programmes and “Health for All ...”; international congresses held in Beijing to promote natural medicines; and the third international conference on the modernization of traditional Chinese medicine, held in Chengdu, China, in November 2010. The Foundation set up the Himalayan Healing Centre in 1993 on the outskirts of Kathmandu. Since then, it has provided minimal cost health care to the poorest and neediest of the local population in the form of: medical consultations; medicine and treatments; blood and urine tests; vaccinations; dental and eye care; and has family planning facilities. It also acts as a base for important community health-awareness programmes. Educational programmes for children in Nepal in support of the decade of a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the children of the world and the International Labour Organization (ILO) convention on child labour.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Foundation representatives participate in the annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations conferences (2007, in New York; 2008, in Paris at UNESCO, on the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and 2009, in Melbourne).

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

See the first part of the above section on **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**.

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

Children educational programmes in Nepal in support of the decade of a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the children of the world and ILO convention on child labour. Owing to the Foundation's Adoptions-at-a-Distance programme, approximately 900 children have been enrolled in school in the Kathmandu area. In 2010, 56 sponsored children sat the school-leaving certificate exam. These young adults were among the first sponsored children.

In connection with the above-mentioned international medical cooperation, in 2007, approximately 12,000 people, the majority of whom were women, were treated. Every year, the clinic hosts western doctors who work voluntarily alongside the full-time Nepalese staff. Since 2008, the Foundation has been helping to support 30 orphans being cared for in a small home run by local Nepalese volunteers.

Over the years, reforestation projects supported by the Foundation have formed several green zones in the area. In 2008, a new green zone was created in the area of Gangchen Village, with the planting of 4,000 saplings, and a further 20,000 trees were planted on the outskirts of Dakshu Village. To date over 60,000 trees have been planted in the area.

In 2007, a large greenhouse was financed in Nye Village and a smaller one was built within the grounds of Nye School. These greenhouses now successfully provide a supply of fresh vegetables for local schoolchildren, as well as for elderly and sick people.

In order to help improve the agricultural yield, in 2008 — at the request of the local population — a small tractor was given to each village which can also be used to transport water, tools, provisions and even sick people in need of medical care.

### **Additional information**

Radio Broadcasting networks for peace with Radio Atlanta FM91.450 city band and the Himalayan Broadcasting Network HBC94 FM and with Lama Gangchen World Peace Media for the preservation of heritage and culture, with headquarters in Shenzhen, China.

## **11. Legião da Boa Vontade**

### **General, 1999**

#### **Introduction**

There have been no changes.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

For over 61 years, Legião da Boa Vontade has provided socio-educational services to individuals in vulnerable social situations in seven different countries, namely: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States and Uruguay. An average of 8 million services are provided annually through schools, community centres and other outreach and network projects in support of all the Millennium Development Goals.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

- Representatives regularly attended the annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters at which the organization submitted two statements.
- Representatives regularly attended meetings of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council either in New York or Geneva, at which the organization submitted three statements. Oral interventions were made in 2007 and 2008. The organization attended and presented recommendations during various ministerial breakfast round tables on scientific knowledge and education as a lever for sustainable development (2007-2008) and poverty eradication through education (2009-2010). In 2008, it organized a high-level segment side event on rainforest preservation and hosted booth presentations during the annual ministerial review in 2007 and 2008.
- Representatives regularly attended the annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organizations conferences, sharing recommendations on the following proposed agendas: 2007, on climate change; 2008, on human rights; and 2009, on peace and development.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

- From 2007 to 2010, the organization regularly held annual sessions of its Solidarity Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum and Innovation Fair, in preparation for the substantive agenda of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council. The conferences had the support of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat; the United Nations information centres in Rio de Janeiro and in Buenos Aires; UNDP in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay; UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Argentina; and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Thousands of leaders from NGOs, academia, the private sector, and local authorities participated. The outcomes of these public consultative dialogues were compiled into recommendations of the organization. In 2007, seven conferences were held on poverty and hunger eradication in the Brazilian cities of Brasília, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, Aracaju and Santos, and in Buenos Aires. In 2008, eight conferences on environmental sustainability were held in the Brazilian cities of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Brasília, Belo Horizonte, Salvador, Porto Alegre, Manaus, and in Buenos Aires. In 2009 and 2010, seven conferences were held in Brasília, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, La Paz, Montevideo, Asunción and Buenos Aires on health and quality of life and on gender equality, respectively.

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

Programmes developed by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals are detailed below. Statistics were compiled from 2007 to 2010 from externally audited reports.

- **Goal 1.** Initiatives included a charity round, that provided non-perishable food, water, clothes, and hygiene materials, in addition to job training courses and social and legal assistance, giving 418,078 people access to basic social rights. Homes for children and elderly provided 1,253 people with daily shelter.
- **Goals 2 and 6.** The project entitled “Children — the future in the present” provided 53,706 children aged 6 to 12 years with daily after-school programmes, quality education and basic social assistance. Basic Education provided full-time educational and social development from nursery school to high school to 9,532 children and their families. Sports is Life provided 6,174 children and adolescents the opportunity to practise sports, which emphasize ethical and cultural values in a healthy, out-of-the-streets and free-from-violence environment. Day Centre provided 8,665 people with sociocultural services facilitated by counsellors and health practitioners.
- **Goals 3, 4 and 5.** Being Woman provided 882 women with support group meetings and workshops, income-generation training and psychological and legal support.

## **12. Life for Relief and Development**

### **Special, 1999**

#### **Introduction**

The headquarters of Life for Relief and Development is located in Southfield, Michigan, United States, and its offices are located in Kabul, Islamabad, Baghdad, Accra, Nazareth, Israel, Amman, Freetown, Port Au Prince, Damascus and Dubai.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization works to advance the achievement of the development agenda through programmes in the following thematic areas:

(a) **Advancement of women.** The organization provides education/training to women, poverty eradication through job creation and microprojects, improved maternal and child health;

(b) **Social development and population.** The organization aims to lower mortality rates of children below the age of 5 and to promote child protection through feeding and health-related programmes, including by building clinics and

hospitals, providing free or reduced rate health care, assisting the disabled through the provision of wheelchairs and other aids, as well as training and job creation, family assistance and orphan sponsorship programmes;

(c) **Sustainable development.** The organization works with refugees and urbanized internally displaced persons to provide training and education.

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

2008 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, 30 June-3 July 2008, United Nations Headquarters. A representative attended the Development Cooperation Forum round table during the session and the thematic discussion on promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development.

### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Activities included:

(a) Participation in the United Nations Office for Project Services forum “Social Status of the Disabled in Iraq”, January 2008, Baghdad;

(b) Attendance in 2007-2008 by a representative at weekly sector meetings in conjunction with the World Health Organization on health issues pertaining to Iraq, held in Amman. Representatives also participated in the activities of UNICEF, UNHCR, UN-Habitat and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

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

- **Computer literacy.** A total of 3,200 persons were trained in East Sudan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan and Yemen.
- Training in sewing/tailoring. A total of 4,000 persons were trained in five centres in Iraq.
- Microprojects. A total of 830 persons were assisted in Ethiopia, Palestine and Somalia.
- Feeding of children/giving of food to impoverished families. A total of 1,156,051 persons were fed in such countries and areas as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kashmir, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, the Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States and Yemen.
- Distribution of seeds and agricultural tools. A total of 500,000 seed packets were given out in Sierra Leone.
- Provision of clothing and other items to the displaced, refugees and needy families. A total of 932,345 persons were assisted in such countries and areas as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine, Sierra Leone, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States and Yemen.
- **Delivery of school materials and backpacks to children.** A total of 2,632 children were given backpacks in Indonesia, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Somalia and the United States.

- **Building or renovation of schools.** Two schools were renovated in Afghanistan; one high school was built in Iraq.
- **Registration of children.** A total of 400 students were registered in education centres in Iraq.
- **Training of teachers.** A total of 200 were trained in Iraq.
- **Books delivered to schools, colleges and universities.** 1,757,000 were distributed in Afghanistan, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the United States and Yemen.
- **Training on women's role in civil society.** A total of 200 were trained in Iraq on the role of women in the constitution.
- **Construction of clinics, hospitals, orphanages.** Four clinics built in Iraq; one hospital built in the Syrian Arab Republic; one orphanage was built in Sierra Leone.
- **Free or reduced rate health care to children and expectant mothers.** A total of 254,000 received free health care in Iraq.
- **Distribution of medical supplies and medicines to hospitals and clinics.** The distribution was valued at \$38,139,201 in such countries and areas as Haiti, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic.

## **Goal 6**

Initiatives included:

- (a) Sewing and distribution of mosquito nets: 39,847 nets were distributed in Iraq;
- (b) Distribution of first aid kits: 21,000 in Bangladesh; 200 in Palestine;
- (c) Provision of medicines to combat cholera: 25,000 were aided in Iraq;
- (d) Distribution of wheelchairs to the handicapped: 200 in Iraq; 567 in Palestine;
- (e) Training of doctors and health-care workers: over 100 trained in Iraq;
- (f) Water wells: 82 wells were dug in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Somalia;
- (g) Water purification: 56,000 tablets were distributed in Iraq; 820 water tanks were installed in Palestine;
- (h) Community centre/school sanitary services established: 12 community centres were constructed in Haiti, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone.

In addition, the organization provided essential drugs to developing countries and areas. Haiti, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic, received a total of \$38,782,046. It also worked to establish new technologies and Internet cafes in East Sudan, Iraq, Jordan and Yemen.



### **13. Link-Up (Queensland) Aboriginal Corporation**

**Special, 1999**

#### **Introduction**

Link-Up (Queensland) Aboriginal Corporation exists to enhance the lives of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by reuniting those over the age of eighteen years who have experienced enforced separation from their families, removal and/or institutionalization.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The Corporation provides:

- Family history research and family tracing to locate family members.
- Financial assistance for family reunion, return to country, community or graveside. Social and emotional support, during and after a reunion.
- Healing activities, for example, camps, support groups, counselling, digital story telling, art therapy.
- Linking up with other organizations — community events and education sessions.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

The National Apology by the Government of Australia made a significant impact in increasing the number of indigenous people reaching out to get help and find family members. The open acknowledgement of the past has legitimized people's experience, which for many was previously kept private.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Support the rights of indigenous people and the Indigenous People's Forum.

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

There was no formal participation in any meetings during the reporting period.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

There was no formal cooperation during this period.

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

There were no initiatives of this type taken during the reporting period.

#### **Additional information**

The Corporation welcomes opportunities to further linkages during the next reporting period.

## **14. Medical Women's International Association**

**Special, 1987**

### **Introduction**

The Medical Women's International Association is an NGO whose membership comprises women physicians from around the world. It has been in existence since 1919 and is non-political, non-sectarian and non-profit making.

### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aims of the Association are: to offer medical women the opportunity to meet, so as to confer on questions concerning the health and well-being of humanity; to promote the general interest of medical women by developing cooperation, friendship and understanding without regard to race, religion or political views; to overcome gender-related differences in health and health care between women and men and girls and boys throughout the world; to overcome gender-related inequalities in the medical profession; to promote health for all throughout the world, with particular interest in women, health and development. The Association works at the international, national and local levels to achieve these aims.

### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The main and alternate representatives attended the weekly Economic and Social Council briefings at United Nations Headquarters. They participated in the planning committee for the annual Commission on the Status of Women. Parallel events were organized in March of each year during the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, on such themes as: "Health of the girl child is global wealth" (2007); "Ready, willing and able to work for gender equality and the empowerment of women but where is the funding?" (2008); "Gender equality and male responsibility and the women doctors of the world" (2009); "Beijing +15: what do the next 15 years hold for women?" (2010). The main representative of the Association is a member of the United Nations NGO committee on ageing. The alternate representative was a member of the planning committee for the workshops held by the Department of Public Information for NGOs and was a member of the team that reviewed the proposals submitted for the workshops at the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference held in Mexico City. The alternate representative was involved in the planning of the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference held in Melbourne, Australia, including being on the workshop review committee and chaired one of the round-table sessions. The Association held a workshop at the Melbourne Conference entitled "Incorporating gender into health care and its effect on global health and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals."

### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In June 2008, the Association participated in the first forum for leaders in the field of HIV-tuberculosis. Held at United Nations Headquarters, the forum was attended

by world leaders, the Secretary-General and other dignitaries. On 20 May 2009, the alternate representative was a speaker on the panel discussion on the theme “Healthy women: gateway to a healthy world: health care and health policy for women and girls”, organized by the Committee on the Status of Women and co-sponsored by the Economic and Social Council at United Nations Headquarters. On 15 June 2009, the alternate representative attended the Secretary-General’s forum on advancing global public health at the United Nations.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The Medical Women’s International Association is working at the country level with UNFPA in their various projects, the latest being mentoring of women in those programmes. Association members in the United Republic of Tanzania have been intimately involved with the work of UNFPA. The Association works closely with WHO on such issues as female genital mutilation, violence against women and cervical cancer prevention through the promotion of the HPV vaccine and continues to educate its members in gender and health and adolescent sexuality through the use of its manuals produced in cooperation with UNFPA.

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

The Medical Women’s International Association was an initial signatory, along with WHO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF and UNIFEM, of the document on the global strategy to stop health-care providers from performing female genital mutilation. The Association, through its Canadian branch, was instrumental in getting the HPV vaccine funded for school-age girls in Canada where the Association has strongly recommended vaccination of boys as well as girls. The President of the Association sits on a WHO committee concerning circumcision as a method of preventing HIV transmission. The organization’s members in the Philippines hold regular circumcision days in order to decrease the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. Through the use of its training manual on gender and health and a second on adolescent sexuality, the Association aims to educate physicians in the management of patients to prevent gender discrimination in health care and also on how to educate adolescents about sexuality.

#### **Additional information**

The alternate representative of the Medical Women’s International Association authored and edited a book on women’s global health and human rights, which was published in April 2009.

## **15. Mercy-USA for Aid and Development**

### **Special, 1995**

#### **Introduction**

There have been no changes.

#### **Aims and purposes of the organization**

There have been no changes.

#### **Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

#### **Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

From 2007 to 2010, the organization focused on nutrition interventions in Kenya and Somalia; mother/child health programmes in Somalia; water, sanitation and hygiene projects in Kenya and Somalia; controlling infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS in Somalia; agriculture and food security in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Indonesia; education and school feeding in Bangladesh, Kenya, Pakistan (Khyber Pashtunkwa) and Palestine (the Gaza Strip); vocational training for orphans and other vulnerable youth in Albania, Indonesia and Lebanon (Palestinian refugees); and disaster response in Bangladesh, Haiti, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan (Khyber Pashtunkwa) and Palestine (the Gaza Strip).

#### **Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

In 2010, representatives attended the International Conference on the theme “From relief and works to human development: UNRWA and Palestinian refugees after 60 years” organized by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), in October in Beirut. In 2009, representatives attended an UNRWA hosts and donors meeting held in Jordan in November.

#### **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

In 2010, FAO provided the organization with vegetable seeds and fertilizer for distribution to 2,050 earthquake-affected farmers on Sumatra, Indonesia. From 2007 to 2008, with FAO support, the organization distributed vegetable seeds, livestock, water pumps and fish-production packages to over 1,560 tsunami-affected farmers in East Aceh, Indonesia. FAO funding also supported training and assistance in forming cooperatives. In 2009, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs helped to fund the organization’s nutrition intervention in Kajiado County, Kenya (15 sites). In 2007, the Office helped to support the organization’s Supplemental Feeding Programme in the Jilib District of Somalia, as well as nutrition and health-awareness campaigns and well-cleaning in Jilib. In 2010, the organization provided grant funding to UNICEF to support the latter’s projects in Haiti. From 2009 to 2010, UNICEF supported the organization’s nutrition intervention in Kajiado County, Kenya; as at December 2010, that programme had treated 4,302 children under the age of five suffering from moderate acute malnutrition and 1,253 children under the age of five suffering from severe acute malnutrition, as well as 701 pregnant women and lactating mothers at 27 sites. From

2007 to 2010, UNICEF provided Plumpy' Nut, UNIMIX and other specialized food items to the organization to support the latter's nutrition intervention in south-central Somalia that treated about 45,000 moderately and severely malnourished children under five years of age. From 2007 to 2010, UNICEF supplied the organization's primary health-care programmes in south-central Somalia with medicines and supplies that treated over 37,000 children under the age of five, as well as over 13,000 pregnant women and lactating mothers. From 2007 to 2008, the organization distributed 21,600 UNICEF-donated insecticide-treated bednets in south-central Somalia. In 2007, UNICEF provided the organization with grant funding to dig 11 new water wells, rehabilitate 9 others and construct 200 latrines in Galgadud, Somalia. In 2010, the organization awarded a grant to UNRWA to provide daily school lunches to approximately 6,200 children attending 8 schools in Palestine (the Gaza Strip). In 2009, the organization gave a similar award to UNRWA to provide daily lunches to 18,900 children attending 22 schools in Gaza and awarded funding to UNRWA to provide over 2,160 families in need (about 10,800 persons) with 10,379 litres of sunflower oil for cooking through the UNRWA General Food Distribution project for vulnerable families in Gaza. In 2009, the World Food Programme (WFP) provided the organization with UNIMIX for moderately malnourished children in Somalia. In 2010, WFP provided the organization with specialized food items for malnourished children in Kenya. Since 1999, the organization has received food from WFP to periodically supply to patients at the organization's tuberculosis centres in Somalia. Since 1994 (including from 2007 to 2010), the organization has worked with WHO to control the spread of tuberculosis in Somalia. WHO provides insecticide-treated nets to the organization's five tuberculosis centres in Somalia, which treat approximately 1,000 patients annually free of charge. These centres also train nursing students.

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

**Goal 1, target 2.** A total of 168,000 children were fed or given nutritional care; 13,200 expectant mothers were given prenatal care; and 15,000 mothers were given nutrition training.

**Goal 2, target 3.** A total of 25,600 students received daily school lunch; 10 schools were built and/or rehabilitated.

**Goal 3, target 4.** A total of 13,900 female primary school students received daily school lunch.

**Goal 4, target 5.** A total of 2,330 children were immunized against measles, polio and other preventable diseases; 9,360 children were given micronutrients, such as Vitamin A.

**Goal 5, target 6.** A total of 800 pregnant women were immunized; 4,370 pregnant women and lactating mothers were given Vitamin A and iron/folate; 2,300 deliveries were done by trained midwives.

**Goal 6, target 8.** A total of 21,600 insecticide-treated nets were provided; 4,650 tuberculosis patients were cured; 5,870 HIV/AIDS patients were tested, treated and counselled.

**Goal 7, target 10.** A total of 327 drinking water systems were established; 636 household sanitary latrines were built; 32 school sanitary services were established.