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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

Special, 2009

Introduction

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, an international service organization, was founded in 1908 at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Its membership comprises 260,000 distinguished women who boast excellent academic records, proven leadership skills and involvement in the global community through advocacy and service.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization devotes its talent and resources to promoting the principles of basic human rights. Awareness, advocacy and action are the primary vehicles for the worldwide delivery of services through its programme initiatives under the theme “Global leadership through timeless service”. The initiatives of the organization include such areas as emerging young leaders, health, environmental stewardship and sustainability, global poverty, economic security, social justice and human rights, and internal leadership training for external service.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The initiatives of the organization incorporate themes widely discussed at the United Nations, including violence against women, global poverty and health concerns.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held at United Nations Headquarters from 1 to 12 March 2010, marking the fifteenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(b) Sixty-third annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference, held in Melbourne, Australia, from 30 August to 1 September 2010, entitled “Advance global health: achieve the Millennium Development Goals”. The organization held a workshop entitled “Code red: the Aboriginal health crisis in Australia”, at which African-American leaders shared lessons learned and best practices with Australian-Aboriginal leadership;

(c) High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010;

(d) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 22 February to 4 March 2011 on the priority theme “Access and participation of women and girls in education, training, science and technology, including for the promotion of women’s equal access to full employment and decent work”;

(e) Sixty-fourth annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 5 September 2011, on the theme “Sustainable societies: responsive citizens”;

(f) Side events during the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 27 February to 9 March 2012, on the priority theme “The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication”;

(g) Fifty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, held in New York from 9 to 27 July 2012;

(h) The organization submitted a written statement on the theme “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments with regard to education” for the high-level segment of the 2011 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, held in Geneva from 4 to 8 July 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

On 23 September 2012, the organization co-hosted with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Sirleaf Market Women’s Fund a reception for Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and a “friendraising” event for the Fund, featuring a premiere screening in the United States of America of the UNDP-funded film, “The Story of the Liberian Market Women”.

The organization gave financial support to the Non-Governmental Organizations/Department of Public Information Executive Committee’s first networking event, held in New York on 25 October 2012 to facilitate greater exchange among members.

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

The organization works towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals through service projects, most of which coincide with its programme initiatives. It strives to promote universal primary education through its initiative on emerging young leaders and its educational advancement foundation, which ensure the ongoing support of the organization for education, its oldest programme of service.

2. American Association of Jurists

Special, 1989

Introduction

The American Association of Jurists was founded in 1975 and has chapters and individual associates in Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Other affiliated organizations are the National Lawyers Guild, the Unión Guatemalteca de Juristas, the Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba and the Asociación de Abogados de Buenos Aires.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The principles of the organization are:

- (a) Supporting the self-determination of peoples and full economic independence and sovereignty of the State over its wealth and natural resources;
- (b) Opposing imperialism, fascism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racism, and discrimination against women, indigenous peoples and national minorities;
- (c) Defending peace on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence between States of different social and economic systems;
- (d) Defending and promoting human rights and the realization of better and more effective guarantees for their protection;
- (e) Denouncing and opposing repressive legislation in American States that contradicts and deviates from the principles and objectives of the organization;
- (f) Establishing fraternal relations and common actions with jurists and their organizations throughout the world committed to objectives similar to those of the organization;
- (g) Mobilizing jurists on the American continent to develop joint activities to ensure the active contribution of the juridical sciences to social and economic change in their respective countries, consistent with the principles and objectives of the organization;
- (h) Defending and protecting the legal profession and supporting jurists who are persecuted because of their efforts to uphold the principles of the organization.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- (a) Seminar held in Chile on 27 September 2012, on universal justice in reference to the universality, interdependence and indivisibility of human rights;
- (b) Seminar held in Costa Rica on 26 September 2011 on the functioning of the inter-American system, co-sponsored by the Instituto Interamericano de Derechos Humanos;
- (c) Conference held in Ecuador from 22 to 24 September 2010 on justice, sovereignty, democracy and integration in Latin America, co-sponsored by the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar;
- (d) Fact-finding mission to Honduras from 26 to 30 August 2009, undertaken with the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, International Association against Torture and National Lawyers Guild, to document the institutional and political crisis after the ousting of the constitutional President José Manuel Zelaya Rosales. The mission issued a report and recommended to keep under review the human rights situation in Honduras.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization participated in the following meetings:

(a) Fifty-third to fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, from 2009 to 2012;

(b) Various sessions of the Human Rights Council, at which it presented written and oral statements on a range of themes (see [A/HRC/13/NGO/91](#), [A/HRC/13/NGO/35](#), [A/HRC/15/NGO/5](#), [A/HRC/16/NGO/34](#), [A/HRC/17/NGO/7](#), [A/HRC/19/NGO/33](#) and [A/HRC/20/NGO/68](#));

(c) Meetings of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, at which it made oral interventions on Puerto Rico.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization followed up with the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers on 10 December 2007 with a complaint and a report, filed by Lawyers without Borders-Quebec, regarding the persecution of jurists in Colombia. From 7 to 16 December 2009, the Special Rapporteur, Gabriela Knaul, visited Colombia and met with the jurists' organizations. At the meeting, a representative of the organization summarized the mission report and recommendations. The Special Rapporteur rendered a report ([A/HRC/14/26/Add.2](#)), which included some of the recommendations discussed during her visit.

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

The organization attended the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and co-sponsored a parallel event on 20 and 21 June, on the theme "A new work environment, with socioenvironmental, climatic and environmental justice".

Additional information

There is no additional information.

3. American Bar Association

Special, 1997

Introduction

The American Bar Association, one of the largest voluntary professional membership organizations in the world, works to improve the administration of and access to justice and to build public understanding of the importance of the rule of law.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization seeks to advance the rule of law through the following objectives: to increase public understanding of and respect for the rule of law, the

legal process and the role of the legal profession at home and throughout the world; to hold Governments accountable under law; to work for just laws, including human rights, and a fair legal process; to assure meaningful access to justice for all persons; and to preserve the independence of the legal profession and the judiciary.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The House of Delegates of the organization carried out the following work:

- (a) Urged the United States to ratify and implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (b) Urged the United States to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;
- (c) Encouraged the United States and the United Nations to support the ongoing processes at the United Nations and the Organization of American States to strengthen protection of the rights of older persons;
- (d) Endorsed the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework and similar principles promulgated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;
- (e) Submitted a written statement in connection with the high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the rule of law at the national and international levels. This statement was distributed to all the entities of the organization and published on its website.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings of the United Nations between 2009 and 2012:

- (a) Various working groups of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) held in New York and Vienna;
- (b) Fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 2 to 13 March 2009;
- (c) Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held from 24 to 26 June 2009;
- (d) Forty-second session of UNCITRAL, held in Vienna, from 29 June to 17 July 2009;
- (e) Open debates of the Security Council;
- (f) Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 1 to 12 March 2010;
- (g) Forty-third session of UNCITRAL, held in New York, from 21 June to 9 July 2010;

- (h) Open consultations on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;
- (i) Fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 22 February to 4 March 2011;
- (j) High-level meeting on HIV/AIDS of the General Assembly, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 2011;
- (k) Fifth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held in New York on 7 and 8 December 2011;
- (l) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;
- (m) Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (December 2010-present);
- (n) Sessions of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (September 2009-present);
- (o) High-level meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels, 24 September 2012 (including the consultative sessions leading up to the meeting);
- (p) Forum on Business and Human Rights, held in Geneva, from 3 to 5 December 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Each year during the reporting period, the organization has held a special day at the United Nations to (a) bring about a better understanding among the leaders of the organization about the workings of the United Nations; (b) better position the organization to promote United Nations-related policies; and (c) determine what the organization could do to assist in the continuing improvement of United States-United Nations relations.

The International Legal Resource Center of the organization and UNDP supports and promotes good governance and the rule of law around the world. The mission of the Center is to provide a legal resource capability to serve UNDP global governance programmes and to assist UNDP country offices.

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

No activities were specified.

4. American Jewish Committee

Special, 1997

Introduction

The American Jewish Committee, based in New York, understands the interdependence of the global and local dimensions of its mission of global Jewish advocacy. Through its institutes and affiliates around the world, the organization strengthens links among Jews and other groups worldwide to coordinate advocacy efforts and advance democratic values for all. It has 26 offices throughout the

United States, eight international offices or affiliates and 31 partnerships with Jewish communities in Africa, Europe and the Americas.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization continues to seek a more peaceful, humane and just world; promoting human rights and freedom for the whole world and eradicating intolerance and discrimination, including anti-Semitism. The organization fosters inter-group harmony and understanding.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization participated in and monitored sessions at United Nations Headquarters of the Commission on the Status of Women. During those sessions, the representatives focused on advancing women's equality by repealing laws that discriminate against women, consistent with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the five-year review and appraisal of its implementation.

Representatives of the organization participated in a session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, including the panel on women's political participation and leadership, held on 9 July 2012.

Representatives of the organization attended the proceedings of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, and monitored sessions of the Human Rights Council electronically.

On 20 July 2009, the Secretary-General invited representatives of the organization to meet and discuss his role in advancing human rights.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay, delivered the keynote address at a conference convened by the Jacob Blaustein Institute of the organization in New York, held on 7 and 8 February 2012, assessing the accomplishments of and challenges faced by each United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A representative of the organization participated in expert workshops of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the prohibition of incitement to national, racial or religious hatred, held in Vienna on 9 and 10 February 2011; Bangkok on 6 and 7 July 2011; Santiago on 12 and 13 October 2011; and Rabat on 4 and 5 October 2012. Written statements were submitted for workshops held in 2011; oral statements were delivered at the workshop held in Rabat on article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

On 12 October 2011, a representative of the organization delivered a presentation on gender-related killings of women at an expert group meeting convened in New York by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences.

In 2012, the organization engaged with the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system established by General Assembly resolution [66/254](#); in September, the organization delivered an oral statement on ways to strengthen treaty bodies at a civil society forum convened alongside the intergovernmental process. A text was provided to intergovernmental process co-facilitators.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

On 21 January 2009, representatives of the organization participated in a seminar by OHCHR on the prevention of genocide, held in Geneva. The Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide thanked the organization for identifying legal norms to prevent genocide. In its oral statement, the organization called for a more focused approach to genocide prevention internationally.

On 14 April 2011, the organization convened an expert discussion on genocide prevention and the responsibility to protect with the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The publication, entitled “Compilation of Risk Factors and Legal Norms for the Prevention of Genocide”, was developed at the request of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and sent by his Office in 2011 to every United Nations permanent mission, urging its use. In the end of assignment note on 3 February 2012, the Special Adviser mentioned collaboration on this publication.

The organization participated in educational programmes about the Holocaust and of the United Nations Outreach Programme in New York aimed at instilling the memory of the Holocaust in future generations to help prevent recurrences.

The organization is a member of the Council of Organizations of the United Nations Association of the United States of America. A representative of the organization chairs the Leo Nevas Task Force on Human Rights of the Association, and serves on the United States National Commission for the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.

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

No activities were specified.

5. American Society of International Law

Special, 1993

Introduction

The American Society of International Law was established as an international membership organization in 1906 and was registered as a non-profit corporation by the United States Congress in 1950.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is to foster the study of international law and promote the establishment and maintenance of international relations on the basis of law and justice.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization interacts regularly with the Office of the Legal Counsel and members of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to keep abreast of legal developments and the work of the International Law Commission.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization was represented at the following meetings:

(a) Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010;

(b) Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 19 December 2009;

(c) Twentieth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Vienna, from 11 to 15 April 2011;

(d) Twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, held in New York from 13 to 17 June 2011;

(e) Fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 24 to 28 October 2011;

(f) Fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held from 27 February to 9 March 2012;

(g) United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

(h) Fifty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, held in New York from 9 to 27 July 2012;

(i) High-level meeting on the rule of law at the national and international levels, 24 September 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization interacts regularly with the Office of the Legal Counsel and has supported the work of the International Law Commission.

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

The organization focused on the development and implementation of education programmes on sustainable development issues.

Additional information

The organization regularly publishes and implements public education events relating to or of interest to United Nations activities.

6. American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit

Special, 2009

Introduction

The American Society of the Italian Legions of Merit is a charitable organization founded in 1965.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization maintains fraternal relations with Italy and provides economic and social benefits to the needy through educational, charitable and humanitarian undertakings, primarily in the United States and Italy. The organization sponsors ongoing educational lectures and symposiums and provides material assistance with respect to the appreciation of heritage, the maintenance of cultural patrimony and the preservation of legacy. It collaborates and assists by way of moral identification and the granting of direct financial aid.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Through member briefings, events and its newsletter, the Society has worked to educate its membership about the United Nations and create a greater understanding within its membership of practices recognized by the United Nations for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Between 2009 and 2012, the organization's activities had a particular focus on the provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy and the eradication of poverty and disease. The goals of the organization are closely aligned with those of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations at large, and it intends to enhance its contribution to furthering the United Nations agenda.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

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

During the reporting period, the organization focused on issues closely tied to the success of the Millennium Development Goals through educational, charitable and humanitarian undertakings.

Additional information

There is no additional information.

7. Anglican Consultative Council

Special, 1985

Introduction

The Anglican Consultative Council is the legislative and policymaking arm of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The work of the organization includes advocacy and education on such issues as human rights, economic justice, gender, indigenous peoples, the environment and sustainable development. Since 1992, the organization has maintained a full-time presence at the United Nations through the ministry of the Anglican Communion Office at the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Delegates of the organization attended the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in March 2009. The organization also participated in and submitted reports to the fifty-fourth, fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (2010-2012).

Delegates of the organization attended the forty-seventh to fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development (2009-2011), held in New York, as well as the high-level dialogue on the environment and water and the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, held in May 2009. The organization was also represented at the annual sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development at the United Nations in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The delegates of the organization attended the following meetings:

(a) Fourth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held in New York on 23 and 24 March 2010 on the theme “The Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: status of implementation and tasks ahead”;

(b) Ninth to eleventh sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held in New York in 2010 to 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization undertook activities and liaised with such United Nations bodies as the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for discussions in 2011 in Peshawar, over the floods in Pakistan. In 2012, it held discussions with the Office in Geneva.

Ongoing discussions continue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees over the work of the organization to support people with disabilities in emergencies in London, Geneva and Mayukwayukwa, Zambia.

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

The organization has funded activities relating to achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Afghanistan, Rwanda and the Sudan. Such activities have included events to mark World Food Day on 16 October.

Capacity-building schemes have also been held on education and health, focusing on the relevant Goals. A workshop on economic empowerment was held in November 2012.

A representative from the organization met with the Secretary-General in January 2010 in New York following a day of consultations with heads of executive offices and senior staff from a range of United Nations agencies and Ambassadors to the United Nations. This consultation was in relation to the United Nations and the Goals, in particular promoting gender equality.

Additional information

In 2009, the organization attended a conference in Hong Kong on child trafficking. The environmental network of the organization also engaged representatives from the Provinces of the Anglican Communion on Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals. In 2011, the organization attended a conference in Peru that enabled participants to engage locally with the reality of environmental destruction and severe pollution.

8. Arab Organization for Human Rights

Special, 1989

Introduction

The Arab Organization for Human Rights was established in 1983 as a regional non-governmental organization. It works for the defence, protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Arab region on the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights treaties and conventions. The organization has affiliated organizations and branches in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and the State of Palestine. It also has affiliated organizations among Arab

migrants based in Austria, Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It has a permanent representative in Geneva, who follows the work of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works for the promotion and respect of human rights in the Arab region, focusing on advocacy and the promotion of culture.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization coordinated closely with OHCHR in the establishment of the field observation mission of the League of Arab States in the Syrian Arab Republic, from December 2011 to January 2012. The organization's branch in the Syrian Arab Republic supported that mission as well as the United Nations Mission to Investigate Alleged Uses of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic. In 2010 to 2012, it organized regional events on Human Rights Day in Cairo in partnership with OHCHR and the United Nations Information Centre in Cairo.

The organization has partnered with the relevant entities of the United Nations in the field of transitional justice. It has cooperated with OHCHR, UNDP and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in forums and workshops on transitional justice, and with OHCHR and UNDP on events during Regional Governance Week, held in Cairo in November 2012.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A permanent delegate of the organization regularly attends meetings of the Human Rights Council and sessions of the other human rights treaty bodies. It sent delegates from Egypt, Kuwait and the Sudan to participate in the fourteenth, fifteenth and nineteenth regular sessions of the Council, and to follow the sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. The delegates have made oral interventions regarding the human rights situation in the Arab world, especially in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Iraq and Lebanon, and in Darfur in the Sudan, and have requested the establishment of a fact-finding mission to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen.

During the reporting period, the organization also made an oral intervention at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva in April 2009.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization submitted a complaint to the Human Rights Council, in compliance with Council resolution 5/1, regarding the unlawful trial against one of its activists in Israel. The organization also submitted requests at three special sessions of the Council regarding the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (2009), Libya (2011) and the Syrian Arab Republic (2011).

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

No activities were specified.

Additional information

During the reporting period, the organization changed the contact details of its headquarters.

9. Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization

Special, 2009

Introduction

In the face of the extreme humanitarian crises that have affected a lot of people around the world, especially in the Middle East region, the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization and its members have stood up against these terrifying challenges with tremendous effort and support.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to strengthen cooperation and coordinate efforts among its national societies at the regional and international levels in order to achieve the mission of the organization according to its fundamental principles.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development, held in New York in 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization participated in meetings with the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean to discuss humanitarian issues and study the mechanisms of action.

It also participated in meetings organized by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on humanitarian service and vulnerable people, including the Syrian Humanitarian Forum in Cairo.

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

In its strategy to better support the Millennium Development Goals, the organization undertook to:

- (a) Improve the performance of relief work and health services, thus alleviating the suffering of those affected;
- (b) Develop and ensure the adoption of human services and international humanitarian law;
- (c) Encourage scientific research;
- (d) Share and integrate with components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian organizations;
- (e) Enhance diplomacy and intensify cooperation with donors and financial institutions;
- (f) Reduce the digital divide and enhance the use of information technology;
- (g) Adapt to regional challenges of climate changes, food and water security, natural resources, marginalization, poverty and unemployment when carrying out social and development programmes;
- (h) Encourage volunteerism;
- (i) Build and develop the professional skills and scientific and technological capacity of humanitarian workers.

10. Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center

Special, 2009

Introduction

Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center works at the local, national and regional levels in Japan. In 2012, the organization became a general foundation under Japanese law.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to achieve the following goals:

- (a) Engender popular understanding in Osaka, Japan, of international human rights standards;
- (b) Support international exchange between Osaka and countries in the Asia-Pacific region through the collection and dissemination of information and materials on human rights;
- (c) Promote human rights in the Asia-Pacific region in cooperation with national and regional institutions as well as the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization continued to promote human rights, human rights education and human rights awareness, particularly on international human rights standards. Its main activities were as follows:

- (a) The publication of information in the form of news and other articles on international, regional and local human rights issues on its website and in newsletters, including introductory material on human rights issues;
- (b) The organization and co-organization of symposiums and seminars on human rights issues;
- (c) The organization in 2009 and 2010 of human rights training sessions for local government staff;
- (d) The publishing in 2011 of a leaflet introducing business and human rights for companies and the organization of seminars for corporate staff and executives;
- (e) The organization of study tours on human rights issues;
- (f) Research to assist the institutionalization of human rights education in school systems in North-East Asia, the compilation of human rights education materials in North-East Asia and the publishing in 2010 of results in a report entitled “The State of Human Rights Education in North-East Asian School Systems: Obstacles, Challenges, Opportunities” (2010);
- (g) The translation into Japanese in March 2012 of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization joined other non-governmental organizations in submitting joint statements at the nineteenth and the twenty-first sessions of the Human Rights Council.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization published the outcome of its project to study the application of international human rights standards in domestic laws and jurisprudence in Asia. The project received funding from OHCHR.

The organization participated in the 2011 World Human Rights Cities Forum, held in Gwangju, Republic of Korea, on 16 and 17 May 2011, co-sponsored by OHCHR and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Asia Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding and others.

The organization gave a presentation at the first general assembly of the Asian Consortium for Human Rights-Based Access to Justice, held from 2 to 4 August 2011 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, sponsored by United Nations Democracy Fund, the Asia-Pacific Regional Centre of the United Nations Development Project and other regional networks.

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

No activities were specified.

11. Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary

Special, 2009

Introduction

Founded in 2003, the Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary identified the need for a non-governmental organization to help promote women's equality by working with and fostering the cooperation between organizations dealing with women's issues, by taking an active role in the formulation of a common platform and by helping to promote equal opportunities for women active in all major sectors of life.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The goals of the organization are to advance the dialogue between legislation, Government, the for-profit and not-for-profit spheres, higher education and all potential stakeholders, in order to meet economic, social, cultural and educational challenges. The objectives have been defined in the combined spirit of national development goals, the laws on equality, European Union directives, the corresponding United Nations strategies and recommendations, European employment strategy and promotion of Euro-Atlantic integration.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, a representative of the organization attended:

(a) The Economic Commission for Europe Ministerial Conference on Ageing 2012 as well as the non-governmental organizations and research forum, held in Vienna in September 2012;

(b) Sixty-fourth annual Department of Public Information/ Non-Governmental Organizations Conference held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 5 September 2011, on the theme "Sustainable societies: responsive citizens";

(c) Various meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York and other United Nations gender-related activities.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In November 2012, the organization held an international conference in Budapest on women for sustainable development and the role of women in rural development, at which a representative of UNDP for Central Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States delivered a greeting.

In June 2012, the organization held an international conference in Budapest on the theme "Health, beauty and security" to mark European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, at which the head of the WHO Country Office

in Hungary gave the keynote speech, the Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made remarks and the President of the World Academy of Biomedical Sciences and Technologies, founded under the aegis of UNESCO, made remarks.

In March 2012, the organization held a joint conference in Budapest on the theme “Women’s careers for a lifetime” with two regional publications to mark European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, at which a representative of the International Labour Organization made remarks.

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

During the reporting period, the organization carried out projects in support of Goals 3 and 7 of the Millennium Development Goals.

12. Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Special, 1997

Introduction

The Association of the Bar of the City of New York is a non-profit organization of 24,000 lawyers, judges and law students. While most of its members are located in the New York area, it also has members in other parts of the United States and in over 50 other nations. The organization pursues its goals at the local, state, national and international levels.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and purposes of the organization are to promote reform of the law and the effective administration of justice; maintain high standards in the legal profession; promote social justice, respect for law and human rights; and address unmet legal needs.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization advocates for the rule of law and for human rights worldwide; seeks the adoption of treaties and other international agreements; advocates for the United Nations and United Nations issues at the United States federal level and in New York City; and works with United Nations entities. It also hosts programmes and events featuring United Nations officials.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization attended:

(a) The High-level Meeting of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, held in New York on 24 September 2012;

- (b) Various working groups of UNCITRAL held in Vienna and New York;
- (c) The fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 27 February to 9 March 2012;
- (d) The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;
- (e) The fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 March 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization:

- (a) Worked on various projects with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and made recommendations to UNCITRAL, including revisions to proposed UNCITRAL arbitration rules;
- (b) Testified before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee on legal issues in the Western Sahara dispute;
- (c) Hosted annual receptions for advisers from States Members of the United Nations and United Nations legal staff;
- (d) Issued reports related to the work of the United Nations, including letters to the Security Council regarding the referral of reports on human rights violations by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to the International Criminal Court for investigation and on the impact of the Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community on the United States;
- (e) Recommended procedures for enforcing international arbitration awards under the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States.

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

During the reporting period, the organization:

- (a) Advocated within the United States and internationally for an end to the use of children as soldiers, including the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
- (b) Formed a task force on climate adaptation to focus on legal issues facing nations endangered by rising sea levels;
- (c) Issued a statement on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
- (d) Supported the proposed International Violence Against Women Act in the United States Congress;

(e) Sent a letter to the Global Commission on AIDS on how laws and law enforcement can facilitate or substantially change the trajectory of the AIDS epidemic;

(f) Hosted an address by the Executive Secretary of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(g) Hosted a presentation by the Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Director of UN-Women.

Additional information

The organization distributes a weekly update of developments at the United Nations to its members.

The organization presented programmes related to the work of the United Nations on such themes as the role of the International Court of Justice; international law on freedom of expression and information, including breakthroughs at the United Nations and other significant developments; experience in implementing the United Nations Convention on Persons with Disabilities; and a series of programmes addressing aspects of Islamic law.

13. Associazione Amici dei Bambini (Children's Friends Association)

Special, 2009

Introduction

Associazione Amici dei Bambini is a non-governmental organization formed by a movement of adoptive and foster families. Since 1986, it has worked every day at the side of children living in institutions around the world to prevent abandonment. The organization operates in Italy with a national headquarters and has other offices in 13 regional offices and information points. It is present in 24 countries, with operations in Eastern Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purpose of the organization is to give a family to every abandoned child and guarantee his right to be a son or daughter. The objectives of the organization's actions are to prevent abandonment, through diversified participations in favour of families in difficulty and children in danger of abandonment; to suspend abandonment through foster care and family-type homes; to overcome abandonment through domestic and intercountry adoption; and to offer social integration to youths over 18.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In July 2009, the organization joined the Non-Governmental Organization Committee on UNICEF and working group on children without parental care in July 2009, supporting the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

In July 2010, a representative of the organization made a petition to OHCHR at the United Nations Office at Geneva with regard to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The organization denounced the violation by Italy of various articles of the Covenant through a judgment case by not recognizing an order of Kafalah (Islamic jurisprudence on adoption) and by discriminating against Italian Muslims living in Italy.

Since 2008, the organization has been part of the Italian non-governmental organization group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The network is committed to pursuing a permanent and independent monitoring of the implementation of the Convention in Italy.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In 2009, the organization participated in events in New York, including a meeting of a working group on children without parental care; an event to mark International Day for the Eradication of Poverty; meetings of the children's rights section of the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee; and an event of the Department of Public Information to mark the twentieth anniversary of the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In 2010, the organization participated in the civil society forum; February 3rd: a meeting of the United Nations Commission on Social Development; a meeting of a working group on children without parental care; informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with civil society; and a meeting of the Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Section with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children.

In 2010, the organization participated in a panel discussion entitled "Haiti's Children One Year Later: Challenges and Opportunities" and a meeting of a working group on children without parental care.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In July 2010, the organization and the Regional Office of UNICEF in the Democratic Republic of the Congo organized a round-table discussion in Kinshasa on intercountry adoption in the country.

In 2012 UNICEF Kenya recommended a project of the organization in the Nairobi and Kajiado districts aimed at training and supporting Kenyan institutions in creating a model of de-institutionalization.

In July 2012, the organization joined an initiative of UNICEF Morocco aimed at creating a platform of associations to protect abandoned children.

In June 2012, the organization started a new project in the Plurinational State of Bolivia entitled "Before, during and after institutionalization: family as an answer to abandonment" and involving UNICEF and OHCHR.

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

In June 2010, the organization submitted a written statement to the Economic and Social Council during its 2010 High-level Segment. The statement, delivered to the Development Cooperation Forum on the theme "Development cooperation in

times of crises: new commitments to reach the Millennium Development Goals”, highlighted the relevance of “care leavers”, a critical category of young people who have aged out from child protection systems. The statement was aimed to address the impact of the Goals in supporting and empowering this category of people.

Additional information

In Italy, the organization is a member of the Italian coalition on the rights of the child and the adolescent, coordinated by UNICEF Italy.

14. Associazione Casa Famiglia Rosetta

Special, 2009

Introduction

Associazione Casa Famiglia Rosetta began as a response to the need in Sicily, Italy, for policies in the social health and psychological fields and as an expression of the Christian community’s service to the weak. In almost 30 years, the organization has expanded its sphere abroad, especially in Brazil, where it has been present for the past 10 years, managing a centre for neuro-psycho-motorial rehabilitation, a family home for disabled children, a therapeutic programme for drug addiction treatment, a residential community, a programme to reintegrate drug addicts into the community and a residential shelter for street children. In 2005, the organization opened a centre for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS-affected children in Tanga, United Republic of Tanzania.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The principal objective of the organization is to give concrete answers to the complex world of social alienation suffered by such marginalized groups as handicapped people, drug and alcohol addicts, people living with AIDS, the old, the mentally ill, children at risk and women in difficulty. The organization not only employs more than 200 specialized workers in various professional fields, including management and treatment, but also hires many consultants who are experts at the national and international levels in a variety of fields, ranging from neuro-psycho-motorial rehabilitation, drug abuse treatment and prevention and all the correlated pathologies, problems related to children at risk and high-level professional training. Highly qualified staff work to maintain quality standards in social and health-care services, social planning and international cooperation.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has contributed to combating HIV/AIDS and its social stigmatization through its residential homes. In its homes in Italy, health care and psychological support and assistance for social integration have been provided to 58 adults living with HIV/AIDS, while in its home in the United Republic of Tanzania, 25 children living with HIV/AIDS have been given shelter, health care, balanced nutrition and educational integration in public schools.

In 2011, the organization inaugurated a training and rehabilitation centre in Tanga, where it offered rehabilitative therapy to people with various forms of disability, as well as information and education to poor families of the surrounding villages and to the population at large, in order to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS. Through its residential homes for at-risk minors, child migrants and child refugees in Italy, the organization has helped to achieve Goal 2 of the Millennium Development Goals by providing its 141 residents with a suitable environment for them to continue and conclude their education. Furthermore, the residents have been oriented and assisted in their social and occupational insertion process.

In 2012, in order to mitigate poverty in the United Republic of Tanzania, the organization started a training programme in one of its centres aimed at promoting an economy of solidarity through microcredits. In Italy, the organization has also helped to relieve the increasing poverty in the local territory by operating a meal service for disadvantaged people and people in economic hardship. During the reporting period, approximately 35,040 meals were served.

Through its rehabilitation centres and residential homes for disabled people in Brazil, Italy and the United Republic of Tanzania, the organization has also worked to advance the rights of more than 2,300 children and adults with physical and mental disabilities by fostering their personal autonomy through rehabilitative therapy, family support, psychological counselling and shelter.

In five therapeutic communities administered by the organization, including three in Italy and two in Brazil, treatment has been provided to more than 700 women and men affected by drug addiction, alcoholism and pathological gambling. In 2012, the organization implemented at its headquarters a training programme entitled "Guiding the recovery of women", aimed at 34 Afghan women working in their homeland in treatment programmes for women with drug abuse problems.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

In March 2010, representatives of the organization attended the fifty-third session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, held in Vienna.

In July 2011, representatives of the organization attended the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, held in Geneva, and contributed a written statement on socially disadvantaged children, child refugees and child migrants ([E/2011/NGO/25](#)).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization participated in the UNODC project entitled "Treatnet Phase II". Specifically, it provided technical assistance for the creation of a training package and helped to coordinate the implementation of the capacity-building component in Côte d'Ivoire, Mozambique and Nigeria.

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

During the reporting period, the organization commemorated World AIDS Day and by organizing a special event at the local level focused on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment. It carried out awareness-raising activities in high schools

in Caltanissetta, Italy, local conferences in Partinico, Italy, and theatrical events in San Cataldo, Italy.

15. Australian Catholic Social Justice Council

Special, 1997

Introduction

The Australian Catholic Social Justice Council was set up by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in 1987 as the national justice and peace agency of the Catholic Church in Australia. The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference mandates the organization to promote research, education, advocacy and action on social justice, peace and human rights, integrating them deeply into the life of the whole Catholic community in Australia, and providing a credible Catholic voice on these matters in Australian society.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The work of the organization is based on Catholic social teaching and is a contribution to this living social justice tradition. The organization works in ways that affirm and express these beliefs. Its purposes include:

- (a) Speaking out against injustice, the abuse of human rights, poverty and violence and in favour of change for a more just society and thereby ensuring a credible national Catholic voice on these issues;
- (b) Promoting a spirituality of justice and the integration of concern for social justice into the liturgy, worship and general life of the whole Church;
- (c) Building social justice networks within the Catholic Church, encouraging local action, coordinating action at the national level and maintaining contact with relevant international Catholic agencies;
- (d) Collaborating with national and international agencies with objectives similar or complementary to those of the organization;
- (e) Bearing witness to and promoting unity among Christians through ecumenical action in favour of justice and peace;
- (f) Educating the Catholic and wider community on social justice, human rights, development and peace issues in Australia and overseas by providing guided experience and educational materials.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has actively promoted the work of the United Nations among church and community groups and in national policy debate. Its annual diary entitled "Seasons of social justice" is distributed to 2,000 individuals, as well as community and school groups. This diary has promoted numerous international decades, international years and world days declared by the United Nations as well as the Millennium Development Goals.

In its monthly e-newsletter, distributed to 1,200 subscribers and available online, the organization has given coverage to a range of United Nations forums, including the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen in December 2009 and the eleventh special session of the Human Rights Council, on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka.

A range of United Nations reports and resources have been promoted, including the OHCHR handbook “Working with the United Nations Human Rights Programme”; the report entitled “State of the World’s Indigenous Peoples” and publication entitled *The Global Social Crisis: Report on the World Social Situation 2011* of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the website of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

In its quarterly journal, which has a distribution of 9,500 copies, including every Catholic parish in Australia, the organization gave coverage to the following issues relating to the United Nations: Australia’s treatment of asylum seekers; the rights of indigenous peoples; nuclear non-proliferation and the banning of cluster munitions; the protection of civilians in armed conflict; climate change and biodiversity; religious freedom; and global poverty.

In 2009, the organization issued a paper series on refugees and Australia’s response to 800 subscribers. It related the theological concept of human dignity with the judicial concept of human rights, as seen in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and other human rights treaties.

The organization prepares the Australian Catholic bishops’ annual social justice statement, with a national distribution of 35,000. The 2009 statement, on young people and justice, promoted the Millennium Development Goals. The 2010 statement, on violence in Australia, referred to the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World. The 2012 statement, on the gift of family in difficult times, included promotion of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization attended the following meetings:

(a) Fifty-first meeting of the Standing Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Executive Committee, held in June 2011;

(b) UNHCR annual consultations with non-governmental organizations, held in Geneva from 28 to 30 June 2011, at which it gave a presentation.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2010, the organization submitted a report to OHCHR for the universal periodic review of Australia. This submission focused on Australia’s treatment of indigenous people relative to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; its treatment of asylum seekers relative to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the implementation of anti-terror legislation relative to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.