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1. AARP

General, 1995

Introduction

AARP is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with a membership that helps people over 50 years of age have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to either political campaigns or candidates. The organization produces *AARP: The Magazine*, the definitive voice for Americans 50 and older and the world's largest-circulation magazine with over 35.1 million readers; *AARP Bulletin*, the go-to news source for AARP's millions of members and Americans over 50; *AARP VIVA*, the only bilingual U.S. publication dedicated exclusively to the members of the Hispanic community aged 50 and over; and its website, <http://www.AARP.org>. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection and empowerment to older persons in need, with support from thousands of volunteers, donors and sponsors. The organization has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.

Aims and purposes of the organization

AARP is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all as persons age. The organization leads positive social change and delivers value to members through advocacy, service and information.

Significant changes in the organization

New leadership: Addison Barry Rand is Chief Executive Officer of AARP.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

AARP, in cooperation with the United Nations Programme on Ageing, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and United Nations University (UNU), organized a series of luncheon briefings on key global ageing issues during the period 2007-2010.

The annual AARP United Nations briefing series is organized in conjunction with the Commission for Social Development. The purpose is to inform the discussions of the Commission, share innovative ideas in combating poverty and discuss the opportunities and challenges of global ageing. The series brings together government representatives, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), foundations and academics.

AARP has sponsored the travel and accommodations of the experts who attend the meetings and the Commission for Social Development. The organization also provides the venue and luncheon for the United Nations participants.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

AARP has worked with the United Nations for over 35 years, including working in partnership with the United Nations Programme on Ageing.

Additional information

Older people across the world are living longer and more productive lives, and their contributions are making them a recognized and significant resource for their societies and economies. At the international level, AARP works to strengthen that trend by identifying and sharing the best ideas and practices on key policy issues that would help people live longer, healthier and more financially secure and productive lives. In pursuit of those goals, AARP has developed relationships with a number of international governing bodies such as the United Nations to help build a cohesive voice among nations in the dialogue on global ageing.

AARP has been involved with the United Nations for over 35 years, and has been represented at the United Nations in New York through dedicated staff and volunteers since 1985. AARP works in partnership with the United Nations Programme on Ageing, government representatives, and non-governmental organizations. AARP joined the NGO Committee on Ageing in New York in 1985 to promote consideration of ageing issues in the United Nations. AARP currently serves as its chair.

In addition, AARP has published policy-relevant materials for use by representatives, other NGOs, and the general public to positively influence the rights of older persons, particularly older women, persons with disabilities and older workers.

2. Citizens' Rights Protection Society

Special, 2003

Introduction

The Citizens' Rights Protection Society was founded in Calabar, Nigeria in 1996 by Nigerian lawyer, civil rights activist, writer, humanist and philosopher Michael Nkanu Isang Emori. Upon inception, its membership was barely 15, mainly professionals and university academics. But by 2010, it had spread through major areas in Nigeria, with now over 1,900 members (both individuals and associations) in affiliates across the country.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims and objectives of the organization are as follows:

- (a) To enlighten the general Nigerian public on the rights of her citizens in all spheres of human endeavour, including but not restricted to politics, the rule of law, educational attainment, commercial engagement and creative dispositions;
- (b) To promote peaceful coexistence between people of different countries, races, communities, villages and interests in Nigeria. The organization's main course of action is on human rights protection and peace and conflict resolution.

Significant changes in the organization

The Society subscribed to *UN Wire*, the e-journal of the United Nations Foundation.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

On 9 May 2008, the Society collaborated with the Investors Business School and organized a workshop/seminar on non-profit organizations to further the task of advancing the ideals of humanity. The Executive Director presented a lecture on the legal registration of NGO corporate formations under the Nigerian Company & Alfred Matters Act.

On 21 October 2010, the Society briefed the press on the criminal justice system in Nigeria and the abuse of the power of detention by the police and magistrate courts. Of particular note, it indicated its intention to propose a bill for the amendment of the criminal procedure law of Cross River State on the unjustifiable arraignment of suspects before magistrate courts that lacked jurisdiction to hear certain matters.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

It will be noticed that between 2003 and now, the Society has not attended any of the meetings of the Economic and Social Council, or conferences and sessions in New York, London, Geneva and Vienna. However, it has been indicating its interest in doing so for some time now by forwarding the particulars of five prospective representatives through the forms sent to it by the non-governmental organizations section of the United Nations, in New York. This non-attendance is predicated on the huge costs involved; the visa problems in Nigeria; the timing of some of the activities; and the lack of a sponsor.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Society is, nonetheless, interested in continuing to belong to the Economic and Social Council family and would like to collaborate with NGOs there to bring their works to Nigeria. All things being equal, the Society is trying to see how it can make it to all four venues — New York, London, Geneva and Vienna — between now and next year.

3. Environmental Women's Assembly

Special, 1999

Introduction

The Environmental Women's Assembly is an interregional NGO created by decision of the international congress on women for environmental protection, held in Moscow from 23 to 26 November 1993 at the Russian Academy of Administration, under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The Assembly unites environmental scientists of various fields: biologists, doctors, philosophers, economists, teachers, sociologists, historians and lawyers working in the areas of science, education and public administration.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its main fields are scientific research work, with participation in all-Russia and international organizations; programmes for environmental education of women from various professional groups; and developing cooperation with foreign national and international organizations.

Significant changes in the organization

The interregional NGO, Women of Our City, joined the Assembly as a collective member (119 members, Moscow, 2007). A regional organization of the city of Ufa, Bashkortostan, Environmental Safety Supplies, joined the Assembly as a collective member (20 members, 2008).

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

For the past five years, once a month members of the Assembly have offered lectures for students, scientists and young people in the Centre for Traditional Medicine, a school in Ufa, Bashkortostan, and at the Peoples' Friendship University, Moscow, on the following topics: environmental safety supply; drug addiction and AIDS; obstacles to the development of a healthy generation; "We are happy, healthy family"; and medical and psychological assistance to children. Each year in June, members of the Assembly hold charity events in schools and orphanages in Moscow and the surrounding region. The members of the Assembly are regularly invited in February to the annual meeting of the activists of the Moscow committee of public relations, attended by the leaders of more than 100 non-governmental organizations of Moscow.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Vice-Presidents of the organization took part in the work of the fiftieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held in Vienna, Austria from 6 to 12 June 2007; and at the eleventh session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 May 2008, presented a report on protection of the health of women occupationally exposed to unfavourable ecological factors: a national task of Russia. Four members of the Assembly took part in the work of the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York from 2 to March 2009.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization met with national entities on questions relating, inter alia, to the following: interactions between public ecological organizations and the Ministry of Nature Management of the Russian Federation; the Forestry Code of the Russian Federation; women under conditions of war and armed conflicts; the integration of women's non-governmental organizations of Moscow; the meeting of the Committee on Ecological Policy of the International Union Public Chamber (Russian Federation and Belarus).

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

Two members of the Assembly took part in a global peace convention on peacebuilding for the twenty-first century, held in Manila from 10 to 14 December 2009, at which the Vice-President presented a report on international cooperation on problems in relation to the status of women in extreme situations. From 12 to 14 May 2007, representatives participated in an international symposium on the complex safety of Russia, organized by the Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Natural Disasters of the Russian Federation; on 16 and 17 January 2008, members participated in a round table on the green movement of the Russian

Federation, held at the House of Public Organizations, under the government of Moscow; from 20 to 23 April 2009, members attended a civil forum on the interaction of society, power and business in improving the positions of a contemporary woman (Moscow House of Public Organizations; from 17 to 19 May 2010, the Assembly participated in the all-Russian social council on the problems of the quality of life of the citizens of the Russian Federation (Moscow Russian Academy of State Service at the President of the Russian Federation).

Additional information

The members of the organization took part in drafting a collective monograph on the women of Russia in extreme conditions: their historical experience, problems and ways of solving them (Moscow, 2007).

4. Federation for Women and Family Planning

Special, 1999

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Federation for Women and Family Planning acts on behalf of women's sexual and reproductive health and rights. The organization believes that guaranteeing women's right to decide freely about their sexuality and fertility is essential for achieving gender equality.

The Federation advocates for State policy to conform to international reproductive rights and health standards and to meet the final conclusions addressed to the Government of Poland by United Nations human rights bodies.

During the reporting period (2007-2010) the Federation actively worked, through various programmes, towards the prevention of unsafe abortion, full accessibility to all medically accepted family planning methods, and gender-sensitive and comprehensive sexuality education. Through the outreach and education programmes, the Federation has mobilized women at the community, city and national levels in support of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

2007. Shadow report on Poland, prepared and presented at the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in New York

2008. The President of the Federation participated in a consultative meeting, held at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, regarding a WHO publication on sexual health

2009. Submission of the report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in connection with the fifth periodic review of Poland; submission of the report to the Human Rights Committee in connection with the sixth periodic review of Poland.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2007. The President participated in the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and two representatives

presented the shadow report on Poland; the President participated in the fourth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

2008. The President participated in the first session of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review in Geneva.

2009. The President participated in the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York.

2010. The President participated in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York; in the fourteenth session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva; and in the 100th session of the Human Rights Committee in Geneva.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Projects in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to support advocacy and networking activities in Poland on reproductive health and rights (2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010); cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Paul Hunt, with regard to his visit to Poland and the final report of the mission in 2007-2008; cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, Anand Grover, with regard to his visit to Poland and preparation of the final report of the mission in 2009-2010.

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

During the reporting period, the Federation for Women and Family Planning engaged as a partner organization in a project on true development through health, financed by the European Commission, which focused on the strong connection between health, development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

From 2008 to 2010, the Federation for Women and Family Planning realized as a partner organization a project on reproductive health for all, funded by the European Commission, which concentrated on advocacy and awareness-raising in order to promote universal access to sexual and reproductive health as a key means to reaching the Millennium Development Goals.

Two representatives actively participated in the eighteenth International AIDS Conference, organized by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), held in Vienna in 2010. The representatives conducted a panel on fighting gender stereotypes to overcome HIV/AIDS in Central and Eastern Europe. Monitoring, advocacy activities and media events were conducted regarding the official statement of Poland at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals in New York in September 2010.

5. Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry

Special, 2003

Introduction

The Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry is an association of community-based organizations. It is apolitical, dynamic and remarkable for its flexibility and capacity to adapt to the accelerated changes that rural communities in Central America are facing.

This adaptive capacity is focused on seeking local socio-productive integration, promoting eco-development and community empowerment for indigenous peoples and farmers, on the basis of their experiences, as a hands-on solution to socio-environmental and cultural vulnerability in Central America.

The organization's focus is on communities' social, cultural, productive, economic and environmental development in their communal ecosystems, on the basis of their experiences, aiming to generate empowerment and local sustainability, which has been called "community eco-development". The organization's approach to working in the communities and its organizational practices are based on a work philosophy in which gender and equity are key for development.

The above-mentioned approach has allowed the building of work methodologies that integrate, as a cornerstone of all activities carried out, features from every participant community. Such integration is possible because the organization is the base from which multiple communities operate; therefore, its specificity is a reflection of the member communities' multi-ethnic and multicultural composition.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of the organization is that it will be the Central American leader in community agroforestry, agroecology and political advocacy to support human, social, economic, and environmental development for indigenous peoples and local communities.

The organization's mission is as follows: the Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry is a non-profit community-based organization that works to facilitate responsible use and management of natural resources, in order to contribute to socio-productive development, respecting the cultural dynamics of indigenous peoples and local communities in Central America.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Politically, the organization supports the participation of local and indigenous peoples, who are forest dwellers, in international meetings, making their voices heard by the high-level politicians who are involved in policymaking that affects local peoples.

On a local level, the organization channels funds and makes them available to local organizations from all over Central America, who benefit from that support through productive projects, such as food security and conservation projects. This work is of special importance in Central America, since many of the countries suffered wars in the 1980s. All of the activities take into account women's participation. The work of the organization is closely related to the United Nations aims of development,

governance (especially forest), economic and social development; and, indirectly, the organization contributes to peacekeeping in vulnerable countries (El Salvador and Guatemala, for example) with an agenda that also takes into account the advancement of women.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the organization have participated as observers at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2008, 2009 and 2010; in particular, in 2009 and 2010, delegations with over 40 representatives of indigenous and local peoples from Central America attended the Conference. In 2010 the Coordinator organized side events positioning and visioning the participation of indigenous and local peoples in the creation of policies on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and also focusing on how these forest dwellers have contributed to conservation and have therefore contributed to avoiding climate change.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

By participating with delegations of local peoples at meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the convention on climate change, the organization has contributed to the diversity that can be found at those meetings. In addition, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has provided funds for forest governance in Central America and local capacity-building development.

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

The organization is committed to actions related to environmental sustainability: specifically, with a programme at the local level that aims at improving water quality and availability in Central America, the organization has tackled the goal of halving the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015. The organization also integrates the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes, lobbying with Central American Governments on recognizing local peoples in conservation, especially in Costa Rica and Honduras. Through productive food projects, the organization supports the goal of ending hunger and poverty.

6. International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida

Special, 1991

Introduction

The International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus was created in 1979. Although based in Brussels, the Federation is the worldwide umbrella organization for spina bifida and hydrocephalus, consisting of 43 national and regional organizations in 41 countries worldwide. At least four new organizations have formed and are seeking membership in the Federation. Through the Federation's networks, contacts are available in more than 50 countries.

Spina bifida is a congenital malformation, primarily, but not solely, owing to a lack of the micronutrient folate. Hydrocephalus can result from spina bifida, or from tumours, haemorrhage or other causes. In developing countries it is caused primarily by maltreatment of meningitis.

The Federation is one of the few organizations with its own projects on treatment and rehabilitation in developing countries. More information is available from the website, <http://www.ifglobal.org/en>.

Aims and purposes of the organization

No significant changes, except the board defined clearly the following four priority areas: (a) prevention; (b) network development; (c) human rights; and (d) international solidarity.

Significant changes in the organization

Since 2007, the organization has been growing fast and collaborating with more partners in a larger geographical area.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is crucial in the work of the Federation, in particular article 10 on the right to life; article 25 on health; and article 32 on international cooperation. The Federation has been building capacity in its members to use the Convention as an effective tool for defending the rights of persons with spina bifida and hydrocephalus. Since 2008, the Federation has been recognized as the key European Union network on disability, and has been funded through the European Commission with tasks including the following: mainstreaming the Convention through capacity-building in the network; networking with other NGOs; involvement in the European Disability Forum; and taking part in work forums on implementation of the Convention, as well as building its own capacity, building the capacity of its member organizations and mainstreaming gender as well as other issues.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Federation has not participated directly in meetings of the United Nations: owing to the small size of the organization between 2007 and 2010, attendance at such meetings was delegated to European Disability Forum. The Federation is also pursuing membership of the International Disability Alliance to use the Convention to greater advantage in relation to its member organizations. The Federation meets annually with representatives of United Nations agencies in Geneva, including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), WHO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and related organizations and networks.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation works closely with WHO on the flour fortification initiative and related meetings. The Federation contributed to the World Report on Disability by nominating experts. Through consultations, the Federation contributed to resolution

WHA63.17 on birth defects, adopted by the sixty-third World Health Assembly on 21 May 2010.

The Federation also works closely with UNICEF on the flour fortification initiative and on child protection. In 2010, the Federation had regular meetings relating to violations of the rights of children with spina bifida and hydrocephalus in Eastern European States, in particular on denial of health-care services.

The Federation has a close working relationship with the European regional representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Jan Jarab.

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

The Federation is active in the network for prevention of birth defects and collaborates closely with UNICEF and WHO, which contributes to the Millennium Development Goal on child and maternal health. Networking and developing its own members contributes to global networks supporting the Goals.

The provision of services also reduces child mortality, as a child with a disability who has adequate care and follow-up has a life expectancy similar to that of the average population. However, without access to such care, the under-five mortality rate is nearly 90 per cent.

Additional information

The Federation is pursuing official recognition of a world spina bifida and hydrocephalus day. Its first (unofficial) will be held on 25 October 2012. The Federation is networking with permanent representatives in New York and with United Nations agencies for support.

In the future, the Federation will also have a more regional approach: Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas, each with its own focus, contacts and networks.

7. International Institute of Humanitarian Law

Special, 1983

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

2007. Seminar on international humanitarian law and religion, held in San Remo, Italy, 18-19 June.

2007-2010. Training courses on the Law of Armed Conflict, for military and civilian experts, held in San Remo 12 times a year; annual round table on current problems of international humanitarian law, held in San Remo, 6-8 September 2007, 4-6 September 2008, 11-13 September 2009 and 9-11 September 2010; training courses on refugee law, held in San Remo four times a year from 2007 to 2010; training courses on migration law and internally displaced persons, held in San Remo twice a year from 2007 to 2010.

2007. Seminar on weapons of mass destruction and international humanitarian law, held in San Remo, 16 November.

2008. Seminar on the Chemical Weapons Convention, disarmament and international humanitarian law, held in Rome, 11-12 April; Rome seminar on international peace operations and international humanitarian law, 27 March; international migration law and migration policies in the Mediterranean context, held in San Remo, 15-16 December.

2008-2010. Training courses on international humanitarian law and international human rights law in Iraq, held in Baghdad from 20 April to 1 May 2008, 12 to 23 July 2009 and 14 to 25 March 2010.

2009. International conference on childhood spoiled by war: child soldiers, held in Turin, Italy, 16 November; Round table on international migration law and policies: responding to the challenges of migration in West and Northern Africa, held in Dakar, 8-9 December; workshop on non-State actors, international humanitarian law and the responsibility to protect, held in Turin from 10 to 11 December; international meeting of experts on the regime of international protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, held in San Remo, 14 December.

2010. Migration flows from Latin America: law and policies, held in Rome, 22-23 November; conference on terrorism, democracy and human rights, held in Turin, 18 November; international conference on new conflicts and the challenge of the protection of the civilian population, 14 December.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2007-2010. The organization participated in the sixth through fifteenth sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

2008. The President and the Assistant to the Secretary-General represented the organization at the Academic Council on the United Nations System European Centre opening conference, held in Marseille, France, 22 September.

2009. The President of the organization participated in the stakeholders meeting on maritime piracy on the Somali Coast: a global approach, organized by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, held in Turin, Italy, 28 January.

2010. The Assistant to the Secretary-General represented the organization at the consultation of non-governmental organizations at UNESCO, which aimed at involving NGOs by hearing and taking into account their comments and suggestions in the UNESCO draft programme and budget for 2012-2013, held in Paris, 30 June.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

2007-2010. Training courses on migration law and internally displaced persons, organized in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM); and on refugee law, organized in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

2009. Workshop organized in cooperation with the United Nations System Staff College, from 28 September to 2 October.

2010. The President of the organization and the Director-General of IOM signed a memorandum of cooperation in Geneva on 18 March.

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

The organization did not support directly the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. However, the action of the organization in promoting and reinforcing respect for human rights, international humanitarian law, and refugee and migration law through its training courses, seminars, workshops and round tables, has indirectly contributed to the achievement of the Goals, particularly by fostering the idea of equality among the civilian population and strongly promoting the enhancement of the protection of vulnerable persons in situations of armed conflict.

8. Peace Action

Special, 1999

Introduction

Peace Action is the largest grass-roots peace organization in the United States, with affiliates in all fifty states. It has been in existence for over 50 years and has been affiliated with the Economic and Social Council for over 20 years.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its aims and purposes are to promote peace and disarmament, both in the United States and across the world stage. Peace Action organizes its network to place pressure on Congress and the Administration through write-in campaigns, Internet actions, citizen lobbying and direct action. Through a close relationship with progressive members of Congress, the organization plays a key role in devising strategies to move forward peace legislation. As a leading member of various coalitions, the organization lends its expertise and large network to achieving common goals. It is working to promote a new foreign policy for the United States of America that is based on peaceful support for human rights and democracy, elimination of the threat of weapons of mass destruction and cooperation with the world community. Peace Action organizes against pre-emptive war and calls for a full withdrawal of American troops, bases and contractors from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Significant changes in the organization

A recent significant change is that our representative to the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations Associated with the Department of Public Information has been elected as its chair.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The International Committee of Peace Action at the United Nations has been active in keeping its representatives and members informed of United Nations activities and issues by attending briefings and other significant meetings. The Committee holds meetings with its representatives twice a month to disseminate information. The organization is constantly sending out e-mails and newsletters that contain summaries of its activities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

For the past four years, the organization has participated actively with the United Nations. Representatives have attended Department of Public Information annual conferences every year. The conference held in Mexico was chaired by the organization's NGO representative. Representatives also attend weekly briefings by the Department. Representatives attend the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women every year, and Peace Action partners with other organizations to hold meetings that deal with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the culture of peace.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization collaborates with other NGOs to hold meetings at annual conferences, such as the Department of Public Information conferences and the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women. Its representatives are part of the Department's NGO Executive Committee, which helps with fund-raising for the Department's annual conference.

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

The organization has co-sponsored various meetings that pertain to the topic of the Millennium Development Goals and how to achieve them. One particular meeting was held during the Department's annual NGO conference that took place in Melbourne, Australia, focusing on global health and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Additional information

Peace Action has been working hard to bring more young persons to the meetings. It has been working with the Department of Public Information and its new youth initiative. There are two youth representatives in the organization's group, and it has helped other NGOs to enlarge their youth groups.

9. Rural Women Environmental Protection Association

Special, 1999

Introduction

The Rural Women Environmental Protection Association is a non-governmental organization with member subgroups in Central and West Africa and in the United States that is promoting sustainable livelihoods and sustainable development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association is a people-centred organization working towards the promotion of environmentally friendly farming methods; promotion of the education of marginalized communities, especially the Fulani girl child; empowerment of the rural woman through the encouragement of income-generating activities; promotion of best health practices; and in general the promotion of sustainable livelihoods. The Association also promotes the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

Significant changes in the organization

The Association has grown tremendously since 1996, when it was created, to a very large network with over 7,000 registered members.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The aims of the organization are realized through subgroup common projects and income-generating activities. The Association has formed a very fruitful partnership with Play Soccer International to fill the gap in elementary linguistic and numeric skills among underprivileged children aged 5-15 years. It has also created a large farming plantation in Abo-Mamfe covering a surface area of over 50 hectares. The plantation produced tons of plantains and cocoyams that were sold both nationally and internationally. In 2010, the Widikum Association of Women Oil Farming Association produced 5,000 tins of palm oil.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the Association attended the following meetings around the world:

(a) An international conference on multilateral agreements and compliance organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection of Cameroon, held in Yaoundé in March 2008;

(b) The preparatory process for the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, at UNESCO headquarters in 2009;

(c) A workshop for the Central African subregion to train the indigenous peoples (Pygmies and Bororos) on their rights with respect to their cultural heritage and beliefs, organized by the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa in Yaoundé in 2008;

(d) The Association took part in the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee that took place in Nairobi from 13 to 20 November 2010. The secretariat of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage sponsored the participation of representatives of the Association in the session.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association works with UNEP, the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Committee, the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Human Rights Council, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, UNESCO, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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

The Association organized the following:

- Training in leadership skills for 90 women from 30 subgroups of the Association from all over Cameroon in August 2008
- Two seminars in 2009, for 56 traditional rulers of Momo Division, and 175 Aldos in Sabga to sensitize them to the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage in Cameroon and on the practice of safe farming methods
- On-the-spot seminars with all 30 subgroups of the Association, sensitizing the women on the negative impacts of desertification of the environment
- Every summer, cultural weeks to sensitize the public on burning issues such as children's rights and dignity, early marriages, school dropouts and the spread of HIV/AIDS

The Association is working towards the realization of many Millennium Development Goals:

- Through the encouragement of many women and well-wishers to come together as common initiative groups. This has enabled the over 7,247 registered members to improve on their livelihoods, health situation, children's education and habitats
- Through the promotion of the creation of microcredit loan schemes
- Through the encouragement of the use of environmentally friendly farming methods, thereby reducing land degradation and depletion of the natural resources
- Through the promotion of the education of children from marginalized communities, children with special educational needs, children who are emotionally depressed and those who are abandoned

Additional information

The Association lacked the necessary funding support to enable its representatives to take active part in most international meetings, and difficulties in obtaining the necessary entry visas to United Nations meetings in New York. Difficult access to information was another serious impediment to the timely application to participate in meetings and conferences.

10. Sudan Association for Combating Landmines*

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Sudan Association for Combating Landmines is a Sudanese non-governmental organization. It was initiated to contribute to peacebuilding in the Sudan through

* In a letter submitted on 3 April 2012, the Sudan Association for Combating Landmines has conveyed to the Committee its request that its name be changed to "JASMAR Human Security Organization".

mine action as well as supporting mine victims in the Sudan. The Sudan Association for Combating Landmines expanded its mandate and mission in 2009.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Organization vision: All people of Sudan should enjoy peace, safety, security and sustainable livelihood.

Organization mission:

- (a) Implementation of the community, personal and other relevant human security components such as food security, health and economic rights;
- (b) Advocacy for inclusion of all vulnerable groups as well as ensuring political and human rights of all Sudanese;
- (c) Response to emergency humanitarian needs whenever feasible while linking them to rehabilitation development.

Significant changes in the organization

While the organization is still committed to its mission on mine action, new fields of human security have been added to its mandate. It is now serving as well in the areas of HIV/AIDS, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, disability, and advocacy with respect to the international related treaties. The name of the organization has been changed to "JASMAR Human Security Organization". The necessary legal procedures took place including the update on national registration certificate. The General Assembly of the organization led this initiative.

The organization started, through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UNFPA and UNICEF partnerships, to deliver its services on HIV/AIDS. It has continued its advocacy for the rights of people with disabilities. The organization, in cooperation with other NGOs in the field of disability, helped to attain the ratification by the Sudan of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in April 2009. Many new partnerships were initiated and strengthened with United Nations entities (UNDP, the United Nations Mine Action Office, UNICEF, UNFPA, the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)) in the areas of mine action, HIV/AIDS, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and disability. With UNDP, the organization worked in the area of reintegration of the ex-combatants. Moreover, new partnerships with many international organizations were built, such as the Mine Advisory Group, DanChurchAid and the Exploration Logistics Group. The organization became a key advocate for the prohibition of cluster munitions and held many advocacy events with the related authorities and stakeholders.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In collaboration with UNDP, the organization is a leading Sudanese NGO in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes (through reintegration of 3,000 ex-combatants). With UNICEF, the organization managed to sustain its partnership on mine risk education for the sixth year. Coordination continued with the United Nations Mine Action Office on the Sudan Mine Action Programme. Furthermore, HIV/AIDS partnerships were initiated with UNICEF and UNFPA in East Sudan. The organization managed to sustain its mission and its partnerships

with United Nations entities (the United Nations Mine Action Office, UNICEF, the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and UNAMID) on mine action in Kassala State, Blue Nile, Darfur, Abyie area and South Kordofan.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following events:

- (a) Meetings of the States parties to the mine ban treaty, held in Switzerland, 29 November-3 December 2010;
- (b) The sixty-first session of the Department of Public Information non-governmental organization conference, held in Paris from 3-5 September 2008;
- (c) The Convention on Cluster Munitions Signing Conference, held in Oslo, 2-4 December 2008;
- (d) The All Africa Cluster Munitions Conference, held in Kampala, 29-30 September 2008;
- (e) The Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Dublin, 19-30 May 2008;
- (f) The Africa Cluster Munitions Coalition Conference, held in Zambia, 31 March-1 April 2008.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The partnership with UNICEF on mine risk education in Kassala, Blue Nile, South Kordofan, Abyie area and Darfur states entered its sixth year. The coordination with the United Nations Mine Action Office on mine action programmes in the Sudan is still strong. In addition, promising partnerships have been initiated with UNFPA and UNICEF in East Sudan on HIV/AIDS. The organization is a key national partner to UNDP on the programme of reintegration of the ex-combatants as part of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme in the Sudan.

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

The organization has engaged the issues of gender equity and equality and environmental protection as cross-cutting issues throughout its programmes. Furthermore, females in the areas of conflict have been empowered through their engagement in mine risk education messages. Moreover, HIV/AIDS has been addressed as a human security issue and included in the organization's five-year plan. A great contribution has been observed in terms of the formulation of global partnerships.

Additional information

The organization has issued its annual performance and audited reports. Available from its website, <http://www.jasmar.net>.

11. Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped

Special, 1999

Introduction

Thakur Hari Prasad Institute is a leading NGO that has been dedicated to the cause of the mentally handicapped for over four decades and has grown on the firm foundation of a multidisciplinary approach to the rehabilitation of persons with mental handicaps. It aims at promoting the quality of life of persons with mental handicaps and associated disabilities through the delivery of multidisciplinary qualitative services. The Institute is a recipient of national and international awards in recognition of its outstanding performance in the field of handicapped welfare. The faculty are drawn from different disciplines. The beneficiaries are thousands. Training of human resources at different levels, research, advocacy and policy development are major pursuits. The services are available to all strata of society in both urban and rural areas.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- (a) To identify the rehabilitation needs of persons with mental handicaps through multidisciplinary interventions;
- (b) To contribute to human resource development and develop service models;
- (c) To enable persons with mental handicaps to develop independence and achieve social integration through education, training, employment and linkages with various sectors for maximum utilization of their residual capabilities;
- (d) To protect the human rights and dignity of persons with mental handicaps;
- (e) To promote field-based research with implications for national level applications.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has human resource development programmes (both regular and distance mode) and is recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India and affiliated universities. The organization provides community programmes in 254 centres, including survey, identification, assessment and screening, awareness camps, health camps, sensitization of community members, resource mobilization, referral services and facilitating access to various schemes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- (a) National workshop on management of communication speech disorders and challenging behaviours in mental retardation with eminent scientists, clinicians and psychiatrists from the University of Leicestershire, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in September 2007;
- (b) Workshop on the Dousa-ou-Japanese psychological rehabilitation method, in September 2007;

- (c) Workshop on continuous medical education programmes on orthopaedic manual therapy in November 2007;
- (d) Workshop on sensory integration therapy in April 2007;
- (e) Celebration of World Disabled Week in December of every year;
- (f) Continuous rehabilitation education on social security — legal aspects in mental retardation in March 2008;
- (g) Multidiagnostic health camp, held every year in November;
- (h) Pulse polio immunization — scheduled dates;
- (i) National workshop on multidisciplinary and functional management of cerebral palsy in March 2009;
- (j) National workshop on the holistic approach in management of autism in May 2009;
- (k) Workshop on inclusive education in October 2009;
- (l) National learn-to-live-together camp, with the participation of 18 states in May 2010;
- (m) National painting competitions in September 2010.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

A. K. Mukherjee, Advisory Council Member of the Institute and President of Rehabilitation Coordination-India, participated in the ninth European Conference on Rehabilitation, presented within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held in Copenhagen in November 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- (a) Humanitarian activities: the uplifting of the underprivileged through a multidisciplinary approach;
- (b) Operational projects covering urban and rural populations by survey and identification of the disabled to extend rehabilitation services and follow-up;
- (c) Technical and professional assistance in community-based rehabilitation programmes;
- (d) Distribution of aids and appliances.

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

- (a) All India course coordinators met (special education) on the role and responsibilities of the Rehabilitation Council of India in the implementation of the Convention, 4-5 February 2009;
- (b) National workshop on stocktaking of endeavours towards implementation of the Convention in India, 8-9 March 2010;
- (c) Under the auspices of the State Human Rights Commission, the Institute organized a seminar on the rights of the disabled, 9 March 2010.

Additional information

Over a period of four and a half decades, the Institute has grown as a rehabilitation centre, with strategies, innovations and scientific approaches developed under the leadership of the late Thakur V. Hari Prasad. The Institute advocates for the convergence of services, resources and community participation to provide equal opportunities and full participation for the welfare of disabled persons through quality services and programmes and the promotion of inter- and multidisciplinary coordination, the dissemination of knowledge and effective interpersonal skills. The Institute is a full-fledged rehabilitation centre, having barrier-free infrastructural facilities and a full-time faculty catering to its beneficiaries through its myriad approaches to rehabilitation.

12. Transform Drug Policy Foundation**Special, 2007****Aims and purposes of the organization**

(a) The overall vision of the Transform Drug Policy Foundation is to end the war on drugs and establish effective and humane systems of drug regulation;

(b) The organization's mission is for Transform to play an important role in bringing together a coalition of countries calling for drug policy reform on the international stage by 2015.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization's funding in 2011 was approximately 230,000 pounds (£), having been approximately £100,000 in 2007. Transform's funding continues to be provided by a mixture of charitable foundations and individuals.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Transform has participated in a range of United Nations meetings and conferences including:

(a) A range of activities at the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna in 2008, 2009 and 2010, including the following:

(i) Inputs to numerous sessions at all the meetings of the Commission through asking questions, or making interventions;

(ii) Attending and participating in civil society organization liaison meetings with senior staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including successive Executive Directors and the staff responsible for drafting the World Drug Report, and actively helping to draft or support NGO declarations;

(iii) Organizing side events for delegates, staff of the Office and NGOs, including on impact assessments of drug policy (2010);

(iv) Active participation at civil society organization events organized by other NGOs, including the "Beyond 2008" process with the Vienna Non-Governmental Organization Committee on Narcotic Drugs (see http://www.vngoc.org/details.php?id_cat=8&id_cnt=56);

(v) Arranging for staff of the Office to attend external events, for example the drug policy event of the International Institute for Strategic Studies;

(b) Corresponding with or meeting staff from the Office, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNAIDS and other programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to brief them on drug policy issues relating to their areas of expertise.

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

(a) Leading of the global Count the Costs initiative (see <http://www.countthecosts.org>), including a major strand exploring how drug policy negatively impacts on international development. The project has produced online and hard copy resources in English, Spanish and Russian, and involved outreach and advice to development organizations and United Nations agencies. The project has been backed by groups in Eurasia, Africa, Latin America and South-East Asia as well as in Europe and North America;

(b) Transform provided peer review and contributed to the International Drug Policy Consortium briefing paper on drug policy and development: how action against illicit drugs impacts on the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) Transform, in cooperation with the Consortium, organized the drug policy networking zone at the eighteenth International AIDS Conference, held in Vienna in July 2010.

13. Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Special, 2007

Introduction

The Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry was established solely to promote and develop women entrepreneurship in Pakistan. Its mission is to establish an organization whereby women entrepreneurs belonging to all tiers of society will find a forum to voice their concerns and seek assistance for purposes of research and further development. For both potential and established women entrepreneurs, the Chamber aims to provide a one-window facility whereby they will be able to receive the opportunities to interact with both local and international personnel as well as facilities for research and development.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- Training for skill development of women artisans
- Training business women in marketing and selling skills
- Facilitation of bank loans on easy terms to increase women's businesses
- One-window operation to facilitate women's businesses
- Establishment of display centres (shop incubators) and purchase of houses for products made by women

- Promotion of products made by women through exhibitions and conferences, both locally and internationally
- Arrangement of public functions for fund-raising
- Establishment of an in-house advisory cell for legal and taxation issues
- Surveys conducted to provide advice on health, welfare and well-being policies for women
- Dissemination of information through seminars, and workshops on women issues for public awareness

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(a) The organization started the health environment action for life project to recycle waste paper and produce products with value added, for example paper boxes, scrap books and the like;

(b) Another project by the name of “Rag shop” has been started in which used household items with some refinishing are sold. The refinishing is done by women artisans who produce such items as a bottle that they convert into a lamp by painting it and adding electric fittings. Under the project, women artisans also cut down used textile fibre into long pieces and converted it into rugs on the Khaddi machines. The organization is trying to get these products onto the shelves in department stores;

(c) The organization signed a memorandum of understanding with the Pakistan Readymade Garment Technical Training Institute for training of young girls as internees in different courses, thus ensuring confirmed jobs in textile stitching units. So far 25 girls have benefited;

(d) The organization assisted the Alliance Against Sexual Harassment in promoting the display of the harassment ordinance in places where women workers were in the majority, such as medical colleges and hospitals;

(e) Repeated appearances on radio and television programmes, interviews, discussions on women’s empowerment, microfinance and poverty alleviation policies;

(f) Dengue awareness programmes in villages and vocational training institutes;

(g) Supported the movement of the supply of drinking water to government schools for children;

(h) Awareness programme on women’s heart health by the name of “Red dupatta” for the masses in an open house question and answer session;

(i) Organized fund-raisers for internally displaced persons and earthquake and flood victims;

(j) Arranged meetings with women entrepreneurs to develop networking with them to encourage the supply of handicrafts to bigger cities, and invited them to attend the organization’s exhibitions;

(k) Helped to organize a large-scale seminar on entrepreneurship at the base of the pyramid;

(l) Organized training sessions on entrepreneurship in the twenty-first century: young students of entrepreneurship were connected with experts from business, Government and private sector organizations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The representatives of the organization in New York, under the leadership of Roma Stibravy, attend United Nations meetings, training activities and conferences on a regular basis.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

(a) Worked with UNDP on promoting solar cooking technology in rural areas. Presented the same project to Sui Northern Gas;

(b) The organization attended a training programme organized by UNDP on value chain analysis;

(c) Worked on developing the Entrepreneurship Development Institute in collaboration with UNDP;

(d) Worked with Homenet, which was part of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, on microhealth insurance;

(e) Conducted WHO-certified training with members of the WHO dengue action committee in eight cities in Pakistan in the face of the disastrous epidemic;

(f) Helped to organize polio immunization programmes with UNICEF in two cities.

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

Most of the projects undertaken by the organization helped to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

14. World Society for the Protection of Animals

Special, 1971

Introduction

The World Society for the Protection of Animals is an international animal welfare organization whose vision is a world where animal welfare matters and animal cruelty ends.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Society seeks to ensure that the principles of animal welfare are universally understood and respected, and protected by effectively enforced legislation. The organization's priorities are to focus resources on the scale and intensity of animal suffering and to tackle root causes and thus achieve lasting and sustainable change, including the following:

- Disaster management
- Ending inhumane culling of dogs
- Promoting humane and sustainable agriculture
- Ending cruelty to bears in captivity
- Ending the trade in live wildlife
- Saving small cetaceans

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Through the delivery of its programmes to improve animal welfare worldwide, the Society has contributed to the work of the United Nations in relation to the following:

Livelihoods. About 1 billion of the world's poorest people rely on animals for their income. The welfare of those animals is essential to supporting human livelihoods — animal health improves productivity and creates stability, leading to sustainable development and protecting livelihoods.

Environmental protection. Responsible animal management has positive impacts on land use, climate change, pollution, water supplies, habitat conservation and biodiversity.

Health. Good animal care reduces the risk of food poisoning and diseases that are transmissible from animals to humans. Healthy animals also secure food supplies, helping protect people from malnutrition and hunger.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2007-2010. Representatives took part in meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York.

2009. Representatives attended the World Bank/International Monetary Fund (IMF) annual meeting with civil society organizations, held in Istanbul, 2-7 October.

2010. A representative attended the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council, held in New York, and provided a statement to the Council on the direct and indirect impacts the care and welfare of animals have on the livelihoods of people, especially women in rural areas in developing countries, and on the environment.

2009, 2010. A representative attended the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen, and the sixteenth session, in Cancun.

2010. A representative attended the Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the UNEP Governing Council, held in Bali, 21-26 February.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2008, the Society's Asia-based team liaised with the veterinary ministry of Myanmar and FAO to source and plan the delivery of emergency animal feed and veterinary medicines across Myanmar to help farm animals to survive; and the Society's international animal welfare education efforts were supported by the local

education authority of Bangkok, the national Office of the Basic Education Commission and UNESCO.

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

The organization did not participate in initiatives undertaken in support of the Millennium Development Goals during the reporting period as it focused its activities on the development and implementation of programmes promoting good practices in animal welfare, working mainly with governmental bodies.

Additional information

As of 2010, the World Society for the Protection of Animals was taking an active role in the preparation of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

15. World Society of Victimology

Special, 1987

Introduction

The members of the World Society of Victimology have been brought together by a mutual concern for victims. Its worldwide membership includes the following: victim assistance practitioners, social scientists, social workers, physicians, lawyers, civil servants, volunteers, university academics of all levels and students.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The purposes of the organization are to advance victimological research and practices around the world; to encourage interdisciplinary and comparative work and research in this field; and to advance cooperation between international, national, regional and local agencies and other groups who are concerned with the problems of victims. The organization accomplishes those purposes through its United Nations Liaison Committee, whose objectives are to support victim issues at all United Nations activities, including the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the congresses on crime prevention and treatment of offenders to ensure victims' issues are represented; to participate in the activities of other bodies, such as the Human Rights Council; and to work with other non-government organizations on victims.

Significant changes in the organization

The major change in the organization during the period has been the creation of the United Nations Liaison Committee to facilitate and support interactions with the United Nations.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The contributions of the organization to the United Nations have been supportive and consultative in nature. During the period it has focused primarily on the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power

(General Assembly resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985, annex), and on helping the United Nations to monitor the implementation of its principles by providing lectures, publications, symposiums, conferences and special training courses that explain its principles and content. Furthermore, in the spirit of that same document, the organization, in collaboration with the International Victimology Institute Tilburg in the Netherlands, has created a draft convention on justice and support for victims of crime and abuse of power which it has promoted to represent a significant updating of information in keeping with new research findings, new legislation and the wisdom from 25 years of experience by practitioners working directly with victims.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well the side events and parallel meetings in Vienna during the period. The organization also attended all International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council meetings in Courmayeur, Italy, from 2007 to 2010. In 2009 the organization's main event was the thirteenth International Symposium on Victimology where the draft convention was the focus of one panel; discussion of the theme was supported by the publication *Raising the Global Standards for Victims: the Proposed Convention on Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Proceedings of the TIVI Fourth Symposium in 2008*. In 2010, 13 members of the organization also attended and actively participated in the twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. During that event a resolution was written to encourage countries to bring the draft convention to the attention of the Commission. The resolution was only a proposal and not accepted for the agenda. It was distributed at that Congress in anticipation of the May session of the Commission. At the Congress the organization prepared a formal recommendation which was approved by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for distribution to the Congress. Another highlight was the organization's participation in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World, including words supporting world victims' rights. Furthermore, the Society's team succeeded in obtaining 21 signatures on a petition from States, NGOs and individuals supporting its resolution initiative.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Over the course of the meetings attended during the period, the World Society of Victimology provided expertise from numerous victimologists who are members of the society as well as the services of its two supporting institutes, the International Victimology Institute Tilburg, the Netherlands, and the Tokiwa International Victimology Institute in Japan.

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

Related initiatives are outlined above.

Additional information

The role of the organization is to continue to address the key principles set out in the 1985 Declaration. Additionally, some of its efforts within the scope of that Declaration and the proposed draft convention significantly touch on human rights, security, the empowerment of women and the protection of children, all special areas of concern for the United Nations.
