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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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



1. International Association of Soldiers for Peace

Special, 1995

Introduction

Established in 1988, the International Association of Soldiers for Peace has enjoyed consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1995, and has commemorated the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers every 29 May since 2002.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association brings together all former United Nations peacekeepers who have served in peacekeeping operations. It works to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and is active in peacekeeping, as well as in development and humanitarian efforts. Aware of the role it has to play in the international system as a major non-governmental organization, the Association has identified five areas of action:

- Source of proposals for the international community
- Establishment of associations in various countries
- Social action
- Humanitarian action
- Conflict resolution

Significant changes in the organization

There has been little change since 2018. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis restricted our development. We prioritized consolidating our action and areas of commitment. Nevertheless, we have continued to grow and to carry out humanitarian work, in particular by forging closer links with the World Health Organization.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

We contribute to the organization of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, which is commemorated every 29 May. We cooperate with the Peacekeeping Service, and seek to expand our Association by bringing together delegations of former United Nations peacekeepers from around the world. We also seek to highlight the work carried out by the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Our non-governmental organization has taken part in human rights conferences. For years, we have been following the conferences on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, as well as the work towards a disarmament treaty, while collaborating with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

We co-organize the commemoration of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers in Geneva with the Department of Public Information and other non-governmental organizations. We have met the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix.

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

We work to educate young people through an international programme called Jeunes faiseurs de paix (Young Peacemakers), which operates in four countries (France, Russia, Ukraine and India). The programme serves to raise awareness of peace, the United Nations and human development. We contribute to a humanitarian programme that addresses emergencies and development by sending containers to Lebanon, Chad and Ukraine. We are also planning trips to distribute this humanitarian aid to the people who are suffering. In addition, we contribute to the training of environmental police in order to protect natural areas. Lastly, the Académie internationale de la paix (International Peace Academy) works on conflict resolution and raises awareness of the issue in academia.

2. Ligue marocaine de la citoyenneté et des droits de l'homme

Special, 2015

Introduction

Firstly, we apologize for the delay in submitting our fourth report, which is the result of technical and objective factors. For example:

- Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic crisis and the reduction in support and partners, the number of employees responsible for the technical aspects of our work has been reduced;
- The President of the Ligue marocaine de la citoyenneté et des droits de l'homme, who directly oversees organizational matters, was arrested for his participation in a demonstration in honour of women (on 8 March 2021) and sentenced to eight months, and then six months.

However, our firm belief in human rights and the determination of our activists have enabled us to overcome those difficulties, and we are now on the right track.

The Ligue marocaine pour la citoyenneté et les droits de l'homme is an independent non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms in Morocco. It has close to 9,000 members in Morocco and in Europe. Women, young people and intellectuals organize most of its activities.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Advocacy for:

- Fundamental and non-fundamental rights
- Individual and collective rights
- Civil and political rights
- Economic and social rights
- Environmental and cultural rights
- The environmental, cultural and development rights known as third-generation rights
- The Sustainable Development Goals

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has joined the Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

It has established several partnerships with African human rights non-governmental organizations aimed at exchanging experiences and enabling them to benefit from our experience with international human rights mechanisms.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has partnered with the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry for Human Rights to organize several university courses and training events at the national level.

It has also prepared annual reports on economic, social and cultural rights in Morocco and observes most world days.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization has participated in several important activities and sessions of the United Nations, in particular those relating to human rights, universal periodic reviews of States and the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 12 to 23 March 2018.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization regularly submits alternative reports to United Nations bodies; for example, it submitted an alternative report to the periodic report in connection with the universal periodic review of Morocco in 2022.

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

The organization is firmly committed to promoting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in such areas as violations of the rights of women, the restriction of democratic space, peace, security, respect for individual freedoms, health and the environment. The organization has prepared a socioeconomic study on Indigenous women in Morocco that included more than 27,000 women. The organization organizes events in a number of cities throughout Morocco in observance of the following world days: World Habitat Day, World Health Day, International Day of Forests, International Literacy Day, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and World AIDS Day.

3. Parlement africain de la société civile

Special, 2015

Introduction

It is with great pride and deep gratitude that we present our organization's quadrennial report for the period 2019–2022. This document reflects our concerted efforts, the challenges we have overcome and the significant achievements we have made over the past four years.

We have been delayed for reasons beyond our control, for which we apologize.

Since its inception, Parlement africain de la société civile has been committed to promoting education, health, sustainable development, human rights, democracy, good governance and environmental protection, with the ultimate goal of strengthening the resilience and well-being of the communities we serve. This report provides a detailed overview of our initiatives, impact and lessons learned.

We would like to thank the United Nations system, in particular the Economic and Social Council and all our partners, for their unwavering support and commitment to our mission. Together, we have been able to transform lives and create lasting opportunities for a better future.

As we look to the years ahead, we remain committed to continuing our work with the same passion and determination. We hope this report will encourage you to continue to support us on this humanitarian journey.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Our organization's goal is to promote human rights, democracy and good governance. It contributes to the work of the United Nations and the African Union as it relates to the promotion of socioeconomic cohesion, development, protection of the environment, education, health and various sustainable development programmes. It works to consolidate a peaceful society guided by values through awareness-building, dialogue and consultation, while also participating in programmes to combat poverty and all forms of social injustice. It supports the State in its ongoing quest for the well-being of its entire population and participates in initiatives designed to allow Africa to shine on the international stage.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes in the organization's functioning. However, it is planning to change its status to become an organization with special status with the Economic and Social Council. It is also worth noting that the organization now has its headquarters in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The organization's Secretary-General has been replaced by Mr. Bleu Nawa Pierre.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Like the Council's other member entities, the organization went through a difficult period that distanced it from the work of the United Nations. This was not least because of the long period of crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and a protracted illness suffered by its President. Nevertheless, it organized meetings on migration, in Algeria, North Africa, with the participation of United Nations human rights experts, as well as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Development Programme. The organization also sent a delegation to take part in the sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the latter of which was held from 6 to 17 March 2023 in New York.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Cooperation with IOM and the Human Rights Commission in Algiers from 27 to 29 November 2018, and then in 2019 and 2022.

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

Promotion of democracy and human rights: organization of biannual conferences and recognition of individuals and organizations that have contributed to these causes. Participation in the monitoring of the presidential elections in Benin on 11 April 2021, in Burkina Faso on 22 November 2020 and in Nigeria on 25 February 2023. Biannual conference on birth control in Man, Côte d'Ivoire on 22 April 2021.

Protection of the environment: Parlement africain de la société civile has launched environmental protection awareness campaigns, through which it has highlighted the importance of ecological sustainability and encouraged environmentally-friendly practices. Organization of the "Clean City" operation in Banfora, Burkina Faso on 28 June 2019; participation in the commemoration of World Environment Day in Daloa, Côte d'Ivoire, on 5 June 2020; and participation in the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2–13 December 2019 in Madrid.

4. Réseau des plateformes d'ONG d'Afrique de l'ouest et du centre (REPAOC)

Special, 2015

Introduction

Réseau des plateformes d'ONG d'Afrique de l'ouest et du centre (REPAOC) has strengthened the capacities of its members, advocated better public policies for equitable and sustainable development, promoted forums for exchanges and partnerships, and implemented projects. Its projects include the provision of technical assistance to the Organization for Strengthening Health Systems and Vaccination of Francophone Africa; monitoring of the implementation of the interim economic partnership agreements between the European Union and Côte d'Ivoire, and the European Union and Ghana; and support for national civil society platforms in their monitoring of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Concerned by the security crisis in the region, in 2022 REPAOC took the initiative to develop a civil society response entitled "Community Resilience and Peacebuilding Project in West Africa". To date, it has not found funding to implement the response. The project was presented to the West African Development Bank and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Bank for Investment and Development in the context of the partnership between public development banks and civil society organizations advocated by the Finance in Common Summits, but no action has been taken, while the attacks continue to claim victims (dead, wounded, internally displaced persons and refugees). The period 2019–2022 was marked by the current Regional Coordinator of REPAOC, Mr. Comlan Julien Agbessi, taking office on 9 September 2019; the strengthening of the organization's institutional framework; the effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the functioning of civil society organizations; the expansion of the security crisis towards the countries with coastlines on the Gulf of Guinea; and the drying up of funding sources for civil society organizations.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Our aim is to support collective civil society action in West Africa by strengthening national platforms for civil society organizations to enable them to effectively contribute to sustainable development and the promotion of human rights. Our objectives are to:

1. Strengthen regional dialogue and the collective action of national platforms by facilitating the operation of the organization and revitalizing its work;
2. Promote strategic thinking, present common positions and ensure greater representation of West African non-governmental organizations in regional and international governmental and non-governmental forums;
3. Strengthen the organization and capacities of national platforms for non-governmental organizations by developing services for members and promoting exchanges with other civil society actors;
4. Support the involvement of civil society organizations in public policy development.

Significant changes in the organization

Elaboration of a new strategic development plan for the period 2023–2027, a code of ethics and conduct (in English and French), and a manual on human resources management to complement the existing manual on accounting and financial procedures.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has contributed to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3 by providing technical assistance to the Organization for Strengthening Health Systems and Vaccination of Francophone Africa to promote immunization for all children and access to healthcare for all people in disadvantaged and hard-to-reach communities; to Sustainable Development Goal 5, by recommending, at the Girls' World Summit held on 21 and 22 October 2021 in Lomé, the adoption by all African States of laws criminalizing rape and paedophilia, along the lines of the law adopted by Senegal on 10 January 2020; by participating in the initial validation of an advocacy study report on the state of gender equality and women's rights, on 11 February 2020 in Dakar; and by issuing a statement from the organization following the 20 November 2021 death of Guinean M'mah Sylla, a victim of rape by a medical employee; to Sustainable Development Goal 16+, by collaborating with the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding and the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and State-building; to Sustainable Development Goal 10, by participating in two workshops aimed at enabling civil society organization platforms to share their experiences monitoring the implementation of the interim economic partnership agreements, held in Abidjan (14–16 December 2020) and Accra (15 and 16 November 2021), including issuing recommendations for reducing inequalities and promoting equity in trade between the European Union and African countries.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No actual meetings with the United Nations, owing to a lack of support.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Exchanges with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel as part of the dialogue on violent extremism in the coastal countries.

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

Development of a draft civil society response to the security crisis in West Africa (Goal 16); appeals and recommendations relating to Goals 3, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

5. Union des peuples autochtones pour le réveil au développement

Special, 2019

Introduction

Union des peuples autochtones pour le réveil au développement (UPARED) is an association of the Indigenous Batwa people of Burundi whose mission is to awaken the Batwa by promoting development, formal education and knowledge of their rights, building the capacity of Batwa leaders and working to protect the right of the Batwa to social and economic services in a clean environment.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's twin objectives are to help strengthen respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and to improve their living conditions in Burundi. Those objectives encompass the following aspects: strengthening the protection and promotion of the rights of the Indigenous Batwa people; doing more to address extreme poverty among the Batwa in our country; improving the health of the Batwa community; improving the development of the education and healthcare systems in Burundi; strengthening support for poor women, orphans and abandoned children in the Batwa community; increasing the earnings of the Batwa with income-generating activities; strengthening environmental protection; and enhancing adaptation, mitigation and resilience in the face of climate change.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization's objectives are focused on health, gender equality and the environment, areas which affect the daily lives of the Batwa of Burundi in particular. Improvements in those areas contribute to the sustainable development of the Batwa community. In terms of gender, the organization contributes to the promotion of equal opportunities for men and women in Batwa development and promotes respect for the rights of, and the economic independence of, Burundian Batwa women. UPARED has put in place a strategy and a specific approach to promoting Batwa women in the organization's leadership, encouraging the education of Batwa girls, promoting Batwa women's rights and strengthening their economic role within their households. In terms of the environment, UPARED has supported the participation of the Batwa community in the management of environmental biodiversity in Burundi.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

UPARED has contributed to the work of the United Nations through several mechanisms and international organizations with the aim of accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for the Batwa. In collaboration with Caritas Burundi, the organization has been involved in improving the health of the Batwa, in particular by working to combat communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria. With AmplifyChange, UPARED has been able to boost the capacity of Batwa women to combat domestic violence.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, UPARED has attended meetings of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, at which it made oral statements and submitted written statements, in New York. Members of the organization have participated in several sessions of the treaty bodies of the United Nations system and of the General Assembly in New York, as well as in meetings of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, and of the Human Rights Council and the Forum on Minority Issues in Geneva. Having had observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization since 2019, UPARED participates in its meetings and makes recommendations in support of Indigenous Peoples.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

We are involved with United Nations mechanisms such as the United Nations Global Compact, to which we submit communications. We keep abreast of United Nations meetings and other events. We have participated in meetings of FAO in Rome, as well as of the Human Rights Council and the Forum on Minority Issues in Geneva. We are also in contact with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to which we send questions. All the United Nations treaty bodies share new information with us so that we can stay up to date.

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

UPARED has carried out activities that support the Batwa in connection with the Millennium Development Goals/Sustainable Development Goals. With the support of AmplifyChange, 160 Batwa women received training that built their awareness and capacity to combat gender-based sexual violence. In addition, the Government of Burundi has integrated the Batwa into decision-making bodies as a result of lobbying and advocacy led by UPARED. Today, there is a Batwa minister, three Batwa officials in State committees and Batwa staff in the Burundian armed forces.

6. Union nationale des femmes marocaines

Special, 1999

Introduction

Union nationale des femmes marocaines is a public-interest association in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. Established in 1969, it now has more than 60 regional associations, 43 learning centres, 5 vocational training centres and 25 counselling centres.

Aims and purposes of the organization

- Enhancement of the image of Moroccan women and their participation in civic and social life
- Provision of mutual aid and solidarity, provision of assistance and promotion of family spirit
- Empowerment and social development of women and girls through education, training, culture, sport, coaching, social integration, humanitarian aid and social and cultural mediation

- Promotion of sustainable development through support for microprojects, women's activities in the informal sector and women's participation in combating violence, harassment, illiteracy, etc.
- Awareness-raising for women regarding their rights and duties as full citizens

Significant changes in the organization

Union nationale des femmes marocaines has incorporated into its strategy measures to strengthen its relationships with African civil society organizations through the establishment of a network of African women's organizations.

In the light of institutional and legislative developments in Morocco, Union nationale des femmes marocaines has decided to modernize and adapt its governance structures and purpose to enable it to operate in compliance with the rules of sound management and of accounting and financial transparency, adopting a modern and efficient management culture.

To that end, new governance structures have been put in place and women's empowerment activities and programmes have been implemented.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are now development goals and strategies.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Union nationale des femmes marocaines participated in the work of the sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters.
- To mark Human Rights Day, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Union nationale des femmes marocaines launched "NajatBot", the first chatbot dedicated to providing guidance to women and girls who are victims of violence. NajatBot is accessible free of charge through Facebook Messenger.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Union nationale des femmes marocaines participated in the work of the sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

To mark Human Rights Day, UNFPA and Union nationale des femmes marocaines launched "NajatBot", the first chatbot dedicated to providing guidance to women and girls who are victims of violence. NajatBot is accessible free of charge through Facebook Messenger.

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

In 2019, Union nationale des femmes marocaines took part in diplomacy training, attended the sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women and was elected head of Union générale des femmes arabes. It also provided school buses to combat school drop-out.

In 2020, a mobile multidisciplinary campaign was organized to raise awareness and provide medical care in rural areas. Union nationale des femmes marocaines also launched a digital campaign to combat violence against women and released NajatBot, a chatbot providing guidance to victims of violence.

In 2021, Union nationale des femmes marocaines launched “UNFM Market”, a space for local cooperatives, and awarded the Princess Lalla Meryem Innovation Prize. Furthermore, the Lalla Meryem scholarship programme was created to support girls in rural areas.

In 2022, Union nationale des femmes marocaines enhanced its training centres, organized campaigns to combat digital violence and rewarded innovative projects through the Princess Lalla Meryem Innovation Prize. It also launched the “Dalil Hayati” application to raise women’s awareness in relation to health-related topics.
