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**Quadrennial reports for the period 2012-2015 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31\***

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## **1. African Women's Development & Communication Network (FEMNET)**

Special, 1996

### **Introduction**

The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) is a feminist, Pan African organization with over 500 members in 43 countries in all regions of Africa; mobilizing African women and facilitating sharing of information, ideas, strategies and experiences to promote gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment.

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

The objectives for which FEMNET is established include:

- i. To strengthen the role and contribution of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) focusing on women's development, gender equality, women's human rights and women's empowerment and the integration of women;
- ii. To initiate, develop, coordinate and maintain close working contacts with United Nations agencies, the African Union (AU) and other national, regional, or international bodies and NGOs having objectives altogether or in part similar to the objectives of FEMNET.
- iii. To initiate, develop, provide and maintain channels and means of communication on matters relating to African women's development, particularly to advise members of the Network on national, regional and international initiatives which are relevant to African women's development.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

In 2012, at CSW56, FEMNET amplified African women's voices and priorities, influenced actions on rural women's empowerment. 2014, FEMNET organized women's rights organizations in the ICPD Beyond 2014 review, both the African process that led to the Addis Ababa Declaration and the global thematic conferences. October 2014, FEMNET,

UN Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA) and UN Women Liaison Office to the African Union organized an experts meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for CSOs and Regional Economic Communities e.g IGAD for the Beijing +20 review. In 2014 FEMNET mobilized African Women's rights organizations from 42 countries to contribute to the post-2015 Agenda at the High Level Panels. 2015 FEMNET mobilized African women around 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development goal 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment. FEMNET was focal point at Women's Major Group to ensure Beijing+ 20 commitments are included in Post 2015 agenda towards a stand-alone Gender Goal. FEMNET, UNFPA and other agencies did SRHR Action campaigns influencing SDG targets 3.7 and 5.6 The 9th African Ministerial Regional Conference on Beijing+20 Review- FEMNET documented key recommendations from CSOs which were included in the Outcome document and used for advocacy at the global level during the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2015. March 9th -20th 2015, at the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women: FEMNET developed a CSO Regional Shadow report on the implementation of Beijing. FEMNET mobilized and supported the participation of 07 FEMNET Members to the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) that took place in New York, USA.

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

FEMNET Mobilized African women's participation in the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW): i) Supported (20) twenty women to 56th CSW Session in New York (February 27 - March 9), 2012. Co-convened 04 sessions of the African Women's Caucus with NGOCSW/Africa and side events. FEMNET Submitted African Women's Written Statement to the 56th Session of CSW, presented African Women's Oral Statement (4 to 15 March 2012). ii) At the 57th CSW (4 to 15 March 2013) FEMNET. Co-Chaired NGOCSW/Africa, mobilized African women to influence the theme of CSW57, "The Elimination and Prevention of All Forms of Violence against Women and Girls." iii) FEMNET mobilized African women to attend CSW58 (7th-14th March 2014) engaged in advocacy and evaluation of impact of MDGs for women and girls. iv) At the 59th CSW (9th – 20th) March 2015 in New York, FEMNET Executive Director represented Africa region at panel discussions on "Voices from the Regions" at NGO/CSW Forum Consultation Day.

v) FEMNET co-chairs NGOCSW/Africa sessions of the African Women's Caucus (AWC).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

No cooperation was specified.

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

No cooperation was specified.

## **2. Alulbayt Foundation**

Special, 2004

### **Introduction**

AlulBayt Foundation is the London office of the international centres of the Office of Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani. Founded in 1991, the organisation is registered in the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Ireland with the Charity Commission of England and Wales.

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

Strengthening the ties of the diverse cultures of the Islamic community, programmes to instil greater civic collaborations, women oversight committees as well as localized community activities, initiatives have expanded with other regional centres, public offices, ministerial organisations and civil society organisations. We also work towards enhancing relationships with local state enforcement authorities, medical foundations and academic institutes to establish better working practices.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

The Foundation works with local governments and NGOs in conjunction with local bodies, services providers, civic institutions and amnesty driven relief organisations. Playing a strong role in establishing robust relationships including many Middle Eastern Consulates, Al-Khoei Foundation as well as institutes of further learning and charitable sector bodies.

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

Participation in the Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva: the 30th session, 31st session and 32nd session.

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

No cooperation was specified.

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

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals; the Foundation has established education centres, congregational places of worship, a mortuary service as well as providing an advocacy office for the support and care of bereaved families and members of the armed forces. We also provide a platform for those leaning towards uncivilized forms of freedom of expression by supporting the efforts of the international community to dispel those forces that seek to disrupt the development goals of regional administrative organizations.

### **3. Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped, The**

Special, 2000

#### **Introduction**

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped (LWAH) is a non-governmental, not for profit organization established in 1984 and has special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council since the year 2000. LWAH has, since then, come a long way, to become a prominent rehabilitation foundation serving more than 340 patients per day, and has over 39,000 registered patients.

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

Loyal to its mission to improve the quality of life for people with special needs, and enhance their dignity, independence and productivity, LWAH provides full medical and rehabilitation services that are constantly updated to incorporate the latest technological advancements: (a) Primary Healthcare; (b) Physical Rehabilitation; (c) Occupational Therapy; (d) Psycho-Social Rehabilitation; (e) Educational Rehabilitation; (f) Vocational Rehabilitation; and (g) Recreational Rehabilitation.

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

LWAH expanded its scope of work in areas of education and primary healthcare.

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

LWAH, in its mission, vision, objectives and day to day activities, aims to contribute to the work of the United Nations, promoting good practice and better life opportunities for persons with disabilities.

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

LWAH attended local meetings involving United Nations agencies, namely the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in relation to the Syrian Refugee crisis in Lebanon. It also attends meetings involving the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and cluster meetings on disability and integration.

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

In cooperation with the Lebanese Mine Action Center, LWAH regularly conducts awareness lectures on the hazards of landmines in risky areas. These lectures are funded in part by UNICEF. LWAH also implemented a World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) project funded the by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), fitting prosthesis, corrective devices and hearing aids for disabled Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

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

Goal 1 - Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger: (i) Rehabilitation and fitting of prosthesis, corrective and assistive devices for persons with disabilities, giving them a new start at life, providing them with necessary autonomy to follow individual income generating careers. (Ongoing); (ii) Income generating activities for 7 landmine survivors suffering from permanent disability to help them support their families (2014-2015); (iii) 9 months intensive vocational training available for applicants. Certificates in typing and computer programming, chef assistance, aesthetics and maintenance of wiry and wireless equipment will help disabled and non disabled students acquire skills for better job opportunities. (Ongoing);

Goal 2 - Achieve Universal Primary Education: (i) Believing in the basic role of education in the process of integration, LWAH has launched a special education department in the year 2004, which became a licensed registered school in 2013, LWAH School of Excellence (LSE). LSE Classes comprise different programs according to the type and level of disability that varies from physical disability, hearing disability or minor mental retardation. It currently reached 249 enrolled students, with many still on waiting lists, and had expanded its services to reach down syndrome and autistic children.

Classes are equipped as per international standards and students attend, in addition to the special academic program, rehabilitation sessions in different departments, each according to his rehabilitation protocol, ensuring all students are attending classes using their full abilities to achieve academic requirements and eventually integrate in regular schools.



LWAH also offers special classes for drop-out children, comprising literacy courses, computer skills, painting, sports and music.(Ongoing); (ii) LWAH also offers school registration fees and school materials for children whose father or mother suffer from a severe disability.

Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: (i) Awareness campaigns on disability, early intervention and other health issues. (ii) Primary Healthcare: LWAH believes in a comprehensive and holistic approach to rehabilitation, and gives ultimate importance to a first step diagnosis and treatment. LWAH currently has 28 specialized clinics run by most renowned doctors with free of charge services for disabled persons and minimal fees for non-disabled.

Goal 8 - Ensure Environmental Sustainability: (i) LWAH provides agricultural guidance to farmers improving their planting techniques.

Activities in support of Global Principles: LWAH encourages disabled sports: wheelchair basketball, mini football for landmine survivors, swimming, weight lifting, etc. LWAH also commemorates Child's day, the International Day against Cluster Munitions/Landmines, the International Women's Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, etc.

### **Additional Information**

LWAH will always expand the scope of its services to reach the largest number of persons in need.

## **4. Rehab Group**

Special, 1996

### **Introduction**

Rehab is a charity that champions the value of diversity and inclusion for people with a disability or disadvantage in their communities. Over 20,000 people use Rehab's services - children and adults with disability, people on the autism spectrum, people with mental health difficulties and people who are disadvantaged in some way in the labour market. More than 3,200 employees deliver Rehab's services in over 170 locations in Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales and Poland.

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

Rehab's mission is to help the people to be more independent and to contribute to and be more included in their communities; empowering them with the skills and confidence to be active in the workforce, and supporting them to be in charge of their health and wellness.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

In 2014, Rehab Group made a submission to the Irish Seanad's (the Upper House of Ireland's parliament) Public Consultation Committee on Ireland's Performance in relation to Civil and Political Rights. Both written and oral submissions were made in relation to Ireland's record under the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). People using Rehab's services spoke about the impact of specific policies and laws on their lives. Comments were provided to the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs in relation to the development of its Fourth Periodic Report under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Rehab made a submission to the Irish Department of Justice and Equality in respect of the repeal of the Section 5 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 1993 and its replacement

with a more modern law which better reflects the rights of people with disabilities to engage in relationships and to found a family.

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

A written and, a proposal for, an oral statement on the theme of promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty were submitted to the ECOSOC High Level Segment held in 2012 in the United Nations Headquarters in New York. A Rehab Group representative attended the United Nations conference in New York - Disability and development -- "The way forward: a disability inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond", 23 September 2013.

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

In July 2012, Rehab Group co-sponsored a side event as part of the 2012 Annual Ministerial Review of the substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in New York. The side event was delivered in partnership with the NGO Branch of the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination/Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The theme of the Annual Ministerial Review was "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals". This side event focused on the theme "Employment – the key to social inclusion" and considered issues relating to employment for people with disabilities. Speakers discussed interventions that States and NGOs can implement in order to support people with disabilities and others who are disadvantaged to get and keep jobs. The event was chaired by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), Chief of the NGO Branch, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, a representative of the Human Resource Development Fund (HRDF), Saudi Arabia, and the Secretary General of the European Platform for Rehabilitation.

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

Each year Rehab Group's services mark the 3rd December, International Day of Disabled Persons through local events. All of the Rehab Group's activities support the

implementation of the Millennium Development Goals as they support children and adults with disabilities, older people, people who are unemployed and others who are marginalised to live more independent and prosperous lives. The Group regularly advocates for change in national and international policies of relevance to people with disabilities.

## **5. SustainUS, Inc.**

Special, 2008

### **Introduction**

The Lebanese Welfare Association for the Handicapped (LWAH) is a non-governmental, not for profit organization established in 1984 and has special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council since the year 2000. LWAH has, since then, come a long way, to become a prominent rehabilitation foundation serving more than 340 patients per day, and has over 39,000 registered patients.

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

Loyal to its mission to improve the quality of life for people with special needs, and enhance their dignity, independence and productivity, LWAH provides full medical and rehabilitation services that are constantly updated to incorporate the latest technological advancements: (a) Primary Healthcare; (b) Physical Rehabilitation; (c) Occupational Therapy; (d) Psycho-social Rehabilitation; (e) Educational Rehabilitation; (f) Vocational Rehabilitation; and (g) Recreational Rehabilitation.

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

LWAH expanded its scope of work in areas of education and primary healthcare.

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

LWAH, in its mission, vision, objectives and day to day activities, aims to contribute to the work of the United Nations, promoting good practice and better life opportunities for persons with disabilities.

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

LWAH attended local meetings involving United Nations agencies, namely the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in relation to the Syrian Refugee crisis in Lebanon. It also attends meetings involving the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and cluster meetings on disability and integration.

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

In cooperation with the Lebanese Mine Action Center, LWAH regularly conducts awareness lectures on the hazards of landmines in risky areas. These lectures are funded in part by UNICEF. LWAH also implemented a World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) project funded the by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), fitting prosthesis, corrective devices and hearing aids for disabled Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

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

Goal 1 - Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger: (i) Rehabilitation and fitting of prosthesis, corrective and assistive devices for persons with disabilities, giving them a new start at life, providing them with necessary autonomy to follow individual income generating careers. (Ongoing); (ii) Income generating activities for 7 landmine survivors suffering from permanent disability to help them support their families (2014-2015); (iii) 9 months intensive vocational training available for applicants. Certificates in typing and computer programming, chef assistance, aesthetics and maintenance of wiry and wireless equipment will help disabled and non-disabled students acquire skills for better job opportunities. (Ongoing).

Goal 2 - Achieve Universal Primary Education: (i) Believing in the basic role of education in the process of integration, LWAH has launched a special education department in the year 2004, which became a licensed registered school in 2013, LWAH School of Excellence (LSE). LSE Classes comprise different programs according to the type and level of disability that varies from physical disability, hearing disability or minor mental retardation. It currently reached 249 enrolled students, with many still on waiting lists, and had expanded its services to reach down syndrome and autistic children. Classes are equipped as per international standards and students attend, in addition to the special academic program, rehabilitation sessions in different departments, each according to his rehabilitation protocol, ensuring all students are attending classes using their full abilities to achieve academic requirements and eventually integrate in regular schools. LWAH also offers special classes

for drop-out children, comprising literacy courses, computer skills, painting, sports and music.(Ongoing); (ii) LWAH also offers school registration fees and school materials for children whose father or mother suffer from a severe disability.

Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: (i) Awareness campaigns on disability, early intervention and other health issues. (ii) Primary Healthcare: LWAH believes in a comprehensive and holistic approach to rehabilitation, and gives ultimate importance to a first step diagnosis and treatment. LWAH currently has 28 specialized clinics run by most renowned doctors with free of charge services for disabled persons and minimal fees for non-disabled.

Goal 8 - Ensure Environmental Sustainability: (i) LWAH provides agricultural guidance to farmers improving their planting techniques.

Activities in support of Global Principles: LWAH encourages disabled sports: wheelchair basketball, mini football for landmine survivors, swimming, weight lifting, etc. LWAH also commemorates Child's day, the International Day against Cluster Munitions/Landmines, the International Women's Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, etc.

## **6. Tabitha Cumi Foundation**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

Tabitha Cumi Foundation is a faith based non- governmental organization, which was established in 2007 to promote basic education for the girl child, reduce illiteracy among women, create good health seeking behaviors while delivering health services. It works in partnership with the state actors in achieving the Millennium Development Goals in three thematic areas; Education, Service delivery and Advocacy within underserved communities in North Central Nigeria with a view to expand to the North East.

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

Its aim is to give women and girls in underserved communities a new lease of life by raising their standards of living from adverse circumstances through adult literacy, health education & service delivery, vocational/ financial training/empowerment, peace/conflict resolution and psycho-social support, mental health, raise awareness on emerging issues as it affects women and girls engaging them in tackling issues that concerns them. It coordinates humanitarian actions. engage in productive dialogues with policy makers on areas of concern.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

The organization has constantly raised awareness on the emerging issues of Girls safety in communities in view of the insurgency through community dialogues, programs and publications. It has engaged in productive dialogues with policy makers on the maternal and infant mortality rate in some parts of the North Central which have yielded positive impacts as more primary health centers have been built in some underserved communities with resident staff in place. Annually, the foundation hold events to commemorate the international day of the girl child, international literacy day, World humanitarian day. It has



submitted written statements to the Economic and Social Council.

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

Representatives attended the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW57) at the United Nations Headquarters New York from the 4th to the 15th of March 2013, it attended the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58) at the United Nations Headquarters New York from the 10th to the 21st of March 2014, it held a parallel event with the theme (Reducing maternal and child mortality in rural Nigeria; challenges and successes in the FCT) it attended the 59th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59) at the United Nations Headquarters New York from the 9th to the 20th of March 2015, it held a parallel event with the theme (Adult/Non Formal Education a Panacea to Poverty Reduction among Women and Girls in Developing Economies). Representatives attended the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) at the United Nations Headquarters New York from the 14th to the 24th of March 2016, it held a parallel event with the theme (Mentoring Adolescent Girls: an approach to achieving gender equality by 2030) Representative attended the UN General Assembly in 2013, Representatives attended the 65th annual UN/ DPI conference which held from the 27th -29th August 2014. The foundation has through its parallel events, shared experiences as well as learn other innovative approaches to achieving the Millennium Development Goals/Sustainable Development Goals on from other organizations. It has also submitted written statements to the United Nations on emerging issues. E/CN.6/2016/NGO/62

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

The foundation is implementing a project in collaboration with the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO) Empowerment of girls and women through the use of ICTs in Literacy and skills Development in Nigeria. This project is funded by Procter&Gamble. The foundation also implemented a project (creating Safe spaces for girls in underserved communities in North central Nigeria in partnership with UN women Nigeria, who served as resource persons on the project.

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

The organization contributed to MDGs4&5 in Nigeria, providing 3Primary Health centers for 3 hard to reach communities through the support of the US PEPFAR Funds. These centers have given ante/post-natal care to about 5109 women and immunization to 6117 children (Help Mama Keep baby). It contributed to MDG 1&2 by providing skill acquisitions to 213 women & girls It conducted an enrollment drive of about 1340 out of school children it has fostered retention and seen to completion of basic education for out of school girls, while also ensuring basic education for women. With support from the GGP of the Embassy of Japan it built 3 Schools for 3 communities.

The foundation is presently building a skill acquisition center supported by the GGP of Embassy of Japan which would be handed over to government for women in underserved communities to achieve functional literacy for economic self enhancement.

## **7. Talented Girl Students Trust (TGST)**

Special, 2008

### **Introduction**

Talented Girl Students Trust was set up in May 1984 in Sibi, Baluchistan, one of the most backward areas of Pakistan where female literacy rate was around 3% at that time. After a few years the territorial jurisdiction of the Trust was enlarged to the entire province of Baluchistan and gradually to other parts of the country. The Trust also set up a Renewable Energy Research & Training Centre at Sihala, Islamabad to promote solar and wind energy as a non-profit organization.

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

The primary purpose of the organization is to promote female education especially among poor and destitute families belonging to tribal and obscurantist segment of the society with a view to empower women to act as catalyst of change. The Trust is proud that many of these girls are now holding responsible positions in the government as well as the private sector as civil servant, doctors, college lecturers, school teachers and bankers. A Bloch girl educated by the Trust has now the distinction of becoming the first female Inspector General of Prisons in Pakistan. The Trust also undertake activities for alleviation of poverty by providing sewing machines, push carts and tools etc., to encourage men and women to stand on their own feet. There are persons who are too old or too sick to undertake any work are provided cash grants on monthly basis. A small project to provide subsidized bread to the poor is also working in the rural suburb of Islamabad.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

No contribution was specified.

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

Because of lack of resources the NGO was unable to participate in discussions and meetings.

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

The organization submitted a project for generation of electricity through self-rectifying water turbine which was approved by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The turbine developed by our Renewable Energy Research & Training Centre was partially successful and was tried in Upper Jhelum Canal in Punjab. Recently the NGO is working on a project under the Pakistan Education Innovation Fund supported by the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom.

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

Almost all the activities of the Trust contribute towards the MDGs. A very important activity undertaken by the Trust is to undertake tree plantation activities in the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

## **8. The Bread of Life Development Foundation**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

Bread of Life Development Foundation (BLF) is a National, faith based non-governmental organization specifically working to promote access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), as well as policies for sustainable development.

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

Bread of Life Development Foundation supports efforts to achieve universal access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in Nigeria, particularly taking cognizance the needs of the urban and rural poor, women, children, and other marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Its purpose is to advocate for policies, programmes and projects that ensure everyone has access to safe and affordable Water supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services.

It seeks to achieve this through the following strategies: campaigns and advocacy; project management; studies and reports; knowledge management; and communications and Information dissemination. Its main activities are:

- WASH in Schools-Hygiene promotion including Handwashing with Soap;
- Construction of Sanitation facilities in Schools;
- Establishment of Water Consumer Associations in small towns;
- Capacity Building on WASH for stakeholders;
- WASH policy analysis and development;
- WASH assessment studies and reports;
- WASH and Climate change; and - WASH and HIV/AIDS.

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

There is no significant change in the orientation, scope, or programme of the organization.

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

Bread of Life Development Foundation with the support of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in 2012 organized a High Level Panel Discussion on Climate Change, and Water supply and Sanitation, in Lagos Nigeria. Bread of Life Development Foundation made a presentation at the World Water Week 2015, on “Smart Solutions for Climate ready Water Utilities”. The organisation organised campaigns to ensure duty bearers implement the Right to Water and Sanitation in Nigeria.

The Organisation organised yearly activities to mark WASH milestones including World Water Day, World Toilet, Global Hand washing Day, and Menstrual Hygiene Day.

Bread of Life Development Foundation through its eWASH blog started a media advocacy project to draw local and international attention to the deplorable living conditions, particularly poor access to safe water and sanitation services in Makoko, a slum in Lagos state, Nigeria.

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

Our organisation presented a paper on Post 2015 WASH Targets at the National Consultation on Post 2015 Development Agenda organised by Gobar Water Partnership Nigeria, and held in Abuja Nigeria on 3rd April 2014.

Our organisation presented a paper on 'Proposed SDG WASH Targets and Indicators' in the Environment and Sustainable Development thematic workshop during the National Post 2015 National Consultations organised by UNDP Nigeria, held in Abuja on 18th and 19th February, 2013

We contributed position paper on 'Proposed SDG WASH Targets and Indicators' to the Africa CSO Working Group on Post-2015 as part of the preparatory process for the 3rd HLP CSO Outreach on post-2015 that was held between 28 and 30 January 2013 in Monrovia, Liberia.

Bread of Life Development Foundation made a presentation on 'Water Integrity in Nigeria' at the Good Governance Session organized by the Water Integrity Network, the UNDP Water Governance Facility and Transparency International at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France.

Bread of Life Development Foundation Presented a paper on “Next step: Moving Forward to Achieve Water for a Consultation with Civil Society” at Civil Society/Government dialogue at the 6th World Water Forum in France, March 12-15, 2012

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

Bread of Life Development Foundation undertook a study on “Impacts of Climate Change on Water Supply and Sanitation in Nigeria” financed by Government of Japan under the Japan-UNDP Joint Framework for Building Partnership.

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

The organisation published a report in 2015, that reviewed why Nigeria and several other nations failed to achieve WASH MDGs.

## **9. The Federation of Women Groups**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

Federation of Women Groups (FWG) was founded 1997 by like-minded women who saw a need to fight injustices against women in the Gusii community of Nyanza Province in Kenya. This community, among others, practice Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) among other injustices. Federation of Women Groups (FWG) is a National non-governmental organization formed out of a coalition of 250 women self -help groups. FWG has a successful track record, and is run by a firmly committed members and volunteers.

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

The aim of FWG is to be the leading organization in the region that supports women's rights to realize their full potential and contributions to the society without prejudice. The organization empowers women participate in decision making, poverty alleviation and advocate for their rights. It also promotes a democratic society in which women enjoy their rights by eradication of customs, cultures and traditions which undermine their participation in the political, social and economic sphere hence becoming an agent of positive change, and pillars of development. Other purposes includes mobilizing women, the youth and self-help groups for development, promote women's rights and women's property inheritance rights awareness, eliminate all forms of discriminative practices against girls and women, empower women, the youth and self-help groups economically, socially and politically, conserve the environment and support sustainable utilization of natural resources.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

In 2012, the Organization partnered with the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs (MOJCCA) to carry out Civic Education on the new constitution through Kenya National Integrated Civic Education



Programme (KNICE) in Nyamira County between October – December 2012 where by the objectives was to enhance knowledge of the New Constitution, changes in Governmental structure and emerging opportunities for women, youth and persons with disabilities.

FWG partnered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and PATH Kenya to lobby and campaign against Female Genital Mutilation and other injustices against women and girls in the Abagusii and Abakuria communities in Nyanza province. Other injustices against women and girls that FWG found itself fighting against included early marriages, sexual and gender based violence, wife inheritance and reproductive health issues in the two communities.

The Organization partnered with the Ministry of Planning, Kenya, Government of Finland and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in implementation of the Localization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) in Kisii District, Nyanza Province, Kenya.

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

Representatives attended the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women which was held from 14 to 24 March 2016 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The priority theme was “Women’s empowerment and its link to sustainable development”. One of the representatives gave a speech on this session on "Advancing Women's Inclusion Emerging Democracies."

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

The Organization implemented a mentorship programme through specialized agencies in the field of Women and Girls Lead Global and International Republican Institute (IRI), young female leaders from the Universities were identified and mentored to become potential women preparing them for leadership. They were trained on how to raise, mobilize and disburse funds and other resources for the promotion of women in leadership, capacity building initiatives for potential women leaders. The participants were selected from FWG’s membership list.

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

The Organization implemented the programme on localization of the MDGs through the Ministry of Planning, Government of Finland and UNDP. The activity was done in Nyamira and Kisii counties. Goals and objectives were translated to Ekegusii language to make the local people understand the meaning well. In line with MDG 7 of ensuring environmental sustainability by providing safe drinking water and improved sanitation in rural and slum areas (Kibera) of our country, the organization provided clean, safe drinking water storage and sanitation facilities and products in partnership with KENTAINERS Ltd to all its members, individually or in groups.

## **10. The International Legal Foundation, Ltd.**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

The International Legal Foundation (ILF) assists post-conflict and transitional countries to establish public defender systems that provide quality and effective criminal defense services to the poor, and has represented over 40,000 people through its public defender programs in Afghanistan, Nepal, the West Bank, and Tunisia. It also performs high-level advocacy on legal aid as a fundamental human right.

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

The ILF is driven by the belief that defense lawyers are indispensable to any fair system of justice. By providing the indigent with access to legal representation, the ILF's work results in reduced instances of corruption, torture, arbitrary detention, and other abuses. The ILF's lawyers are recognized for their zealous and proactive representation. The ILF also provides mentoring, assistance, and training to other members of the justice sector, and has succeeded in changing many illegal practices.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

The work of the ILF is closely aligned with the missions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), both of which have worked extensively with the ILF.

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

- 24 September 2012, attended United Nations General Assembly's High Level Meeting on the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels in NYC and contributed to outcome document. Also cohosted side event "Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems."

- 25 April 2013, hosted side event at 22nd session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna: “Building public defender systems in post-conflict and transitional settings: providing high-quality and cost-effective legal representation.”
- 10 September 2014, at 27th session of United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, joint oral statement partially drafted by the ILF delivered on the issue of overcrowding in detention.
- 19 March 2015, ILF's executive director spoke at side event entitled ‘Human rights impact of the overuse of detention’ at the 28th Regular Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva.
- Co-hosted three side events at Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha: 14 April 2015, “Implementation of the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems: Follow-up on the Johannesburg Declaration;” 15 April 2015, “Guiding Principles in Drafting Legal Aid Laws;” 15 April 2015, “International Cooperation between Legal Aid Providers in Criminal Matters.”

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

Contributed expertise to UNODC/UNDP publication *Early Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Investigations and Proceedings: A Handbook and Training Curriculum for Policymakers and Practitioners* at expert group meetings in Budapest on 16 – 17 October 2012, Vienna from 27 – 29 May 2013.

Developed and jointly published with UNDP *Juvenile Justice in the West Bank: Analysis and Recommendations for Reform*, officially launched on 20 November 2014.

Organized first International Conference on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems in Johannesburg, South Africa from 24-26 June 2014, hosted by the Government of South Africa and co-hosted by Legal Aid South Africa, UNDP, and UNODC.

13 November 2014, presented panel discussion at United Nations Headquarters in NYC: “Enhancing Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems.”

June 2015, attended expert group meeting in Vienna to contribute to and finalize draft UNODC publication Model Law on Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems.

13 November 2015, hosted panel discussion at United Nations Headquarters in NYC “Access to Legal Aid as a Measurement of Access to Justice under SDG Goal 16.3.”

Participated in two-day expert meeting in NYC revising the draft study UNDP/UNODC Global Study on Legal Aid in November 2015. UNDP then requested ILF join publication steering committee.

Submitted official comments to Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) twice in 2015.

1 December 2012 – 30 July 2013, received \$48,557 from UNDP for project “Assess the Problems and Needs of Juveniles in the Palestinian Criminal Justice System and Provide Reform Recommendations.”

15 January – 15 April 2013, received \$70,170 from UNDP for “Criminal Legal Aid in the West Bank.”

1 February 2014 – 31 July 2016, received \$568,727 from UNODC for “Increasing Access to Justice to Strengthen Democracy in the West Bank Occupied Palestinian Territories.”

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

Though the ILF’s mission was not directly related to any of the MDGs, its work indirectly contributed toward MDGs 1 and 3.

## **11. The Sant Nirankari Mandal, Delhi**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

The Sant Nirankari Mandal is world-wide religious, socio-spiritual and charitable organization, which preaches the concept of One Formless God.

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

Mandal has three key objectives: 1) Transforming the Individual through spiritual awakening to spread humanity; 2) Serving the society through mass socio-charitable activities; and 3) Social Reformation with focus on elimination of superstitions, pomp-show, economic race and social tortures.

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

The focus of on socio-charitable activities has increased tremendously. The organization received the Sewa Medal in 2013 and Peace Award in 2014 from Gandhi Global Family and Queen's (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Award in 2015.

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

Mandal contributed in mass-scale to blood-donation camps (600 camps annually), cleanliness drives (railways, hospitals, monuments, water-bodies across India), go-green drives (tree-plantations) and rehabilitating victims of natural calamities (Uttarakhand floods, Nepal Earthquakes, Jammu Kashmir Floods, Kutchh earthquake etc). Approximately 70 million rupees were spent on such activities during the four years.

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

Mandal has been giving comprehensive statements on gender equality and Status of Women. Mandal's delegates participated in CSW57, CSW58, CSW59 and CSW60, highlighting, "Gender Equality Through Spirituality". Written statements and survey participations were made as and when asked by United Nations such as:

- 25 March 2013, Science Technology and Potential of Culture for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals, for discussion in 2013-ECOSOC (Geneva 1-5 July 2013);
- 11 June 2014, it participated in the UN event on “Tourism and Peace” as potential tool for peace building;
- 31 July 2014, participation in Survey-Evolution of contribution of global and regional Human Development Reports;
- 28 January 2015, Mandal participated in the campaign “He for She” story and sent a story on, “Spirituality cures every cures” giving heart wrenching account of drug addicts;
- Mandal sent views on 24 January 2015 on Transforming the mindset in pursuing a Transformative Development

Mandal participated in various forums by sending delegates:

- 22 July 2014 it participated in the 68th Session on HLF Culture of Peace and Stock-taking.
- 400 Nirankari Devotees and 75 volunteers from New York Metro participated in March for Gender Equality and Women’s Rights on 8 March 2015.

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

No cooperation was specified.

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

World-wide Socio-Spiritual and charitable activities of Mandal are a continued process in support of Millennium Development Goals. Its efforts are to spread women’s empowerment through nirankari vocational centres, children’s education through schools and charitable hospitals and dispensaries and helping the needy.

## **12. The Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

The Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance (WHPCA) is an international Non-Governmental Organization dedicated to increasing access to palliative care worldwide. Our members are regional and national hospice palliative care associations and affiliated members in 83 countries.

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

To be a strong, sustainable, and efficient global membership organization focused exclusively on hospice and palliative care. To be an effective global voice, to promote integration into country health systems, to promote integration in health professional training, & to support implementation of hospice & palliative care services.

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

With the passage of a World Health Assembly resolution on palliative care in 2014 our focus has shifted more to palliative care development on the ground in focus countries. In 2014 we changed our name from Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance to Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance to emphasize the important role of hospice in palliative care.

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

WHPCA has official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and jointly published the "Global Atlas of Palliative Care at the End of Life" with WHO in 2014. This document was used as a basis for the passage of a World Health Assembly (WHA) resolution on palliative care and has been a very successful education and advocacy tool downloaded more than 30,000 times. It also participated as a member of the Global Coordination mechanism for Non-Communicable Disease (NCD's) at WHO, attend meetings of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and United Nations general assembly sessions. The organization is part of the Stop TB coalition at WHO, and has assisted in developing guidelines for cervical cancer and the International Atomic Energy Agency



(IAEA) Breast Health Global Initiative.

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

WHPCA attended the following meetings of:

- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) 18-24 March 2014, 9-13 March 2015, & 14-17 March 2016 in Vienna, Austria.
- WHA meetings 21-24 May 2012, 20-25 May 2013, 19-24 May 2014, 19-24 May 2015.
- WHO Executive Board Meetings in Geneva Switzerland 20-25 January 2014 and 27-30 January 2015.
- A Technical Advisory Group meeting at WHO Headquarters in Geneva Switzerland for Cervical Cancer Guideline development 23-27 April 2012.
- 3 meetings of the Global Coordination Mechanism for NCD's 14 August 2013, 20-21 April 2015 & 30 Nov - 1st December 2015 in Geneva Switzerland at WHO.
- WHO Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health in Geneva 29-30 October 2015.

It provided oral or written interventions at all of these meetings.

The WHPCA executive director and several Board members are members of the WHO Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Group on Palliative and Long Term Care, which has held meetings in Barcelona Spain 9-11 December 2014, 9 May 2015 in Copenhagen Denmark, and 13 October 2015 in Dublin Ireland.

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

- Consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2012
- In official relations with WHO since 2012
- Participation in the Committee on Ageing in New York
- Membership in the Global Coordination Mechanism for NCDs
- Participation in UNODC, INCB, and CND meetings
- General Assembly special session on the World Drug Problem. Assistance in

drafting and passage of WHA Resolution 67.19 Strengthening of Palliative Care as a Component of Comprehensive Care Throughout the Life Course.

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

WHPCA participated in the development of palliative care educational materials for care of those with HIV and drug resistant Tuberculosis (TB). Along with WHO it hosted a first global summit on palliative care for TB patients in 2012. The organization worked extensively on improving access to essential palliative medicines globally, especially in low and middle income countries.

### **13. Thin and High**

Special, 2012

#### **Introduction**

Thin and High is a non-profit, non-governmental organization founded in 1997; it is headquartered in the United States but implements most of its projects in China.

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

Thin and High's mission is to cultivate its members to contribute and to serve, to respect and be proud of their heritage, to improve Sino-American relations, as well as to appreciate nature and to protect the environment.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Thin and High has been an advocate for issues in rural China that require urgent attention in order to achieve sustainable development in the country. The organization has submitted three statements to the United Nations based on its extensive interactions with the underprivileged in rural China, where poverty is rife, primary education is inadequate, and women empowerment is an ongoing endeavor; these reports provided insights into the dire conditions faced by the vulnerable children and young women, as well as proposed realistic solutions to help them build a more productive future for themselves and their communities.

In addition, Thin and High has sent several Chinese women from rural backgrounds to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) sessions in New York. By attending these sessions, the participants were able to obtain valuable insights into the workings of the United Nations, as well as to gain a better understanding of the concept of gender equality, women empowerment and the Millennium Development Goals. This knowledge and understanding of advocacy and outreach programs have in turn had a multiplier effect on other rural women in China as these participants share their experiences with their

counterparts after they returned home.

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

- Submitted the statement "Creating more Chinese nightingales: prevention and elimination of violence against rural Chinese women and girls through higher enrollments in nursing schools" in October 2012 for the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW57).
- Two representatives attended the CSW57 in New York in March 2013.
- Two representatives attended the CSW58 in New York in March 2014. Submitted the statement "Mobile medical teams for girls in rural China" in October 2014 for the CSW59.
- Three representatives attended the CSW59 in New York in March 2015.
- Submitted the statement "The Bonds that Hold The Family Together" in October 2015 for the CSW60.
- Five representatives attended the CSW60 in New York in March 2016.

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

The attendance of the Commission on the Status of Women sessions in New York enabled Thin and High representatives to meet and network with other NGO representatives. Even though the interactions mainly involved sharing of experiences as well as advocacy and outreach methods on an informal basis, it is very likely that other forms of formal and more institutionalized collaboration will be undertaken in the future.

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

Initiatives taken by Thin and High from 2012 to 2105 supported four of the Millennium Development Goals:

1. To help eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the organization sent needed supplies to China's poorest regions; in addition, its volunteers visited some of China's most impoverished ethnic regions to better understand the difficult living conditions faced by the destitute villagers and to formulate upcoming programs to alleviate the extreme poverty and

deprivation in rural China.

2. To promote universal primary education, Thin and High provided volunteer-teaching programs and free summer camps to rural children. The organization also helped village schools set up libraries through the donation of books and reading materials; in addition, it granted scholarships to needy students and helped rural teachers win national recognition for their contributions.

3. To promote gender equality and empower women, Thin and High provided the necessary assistance and funding to help young rural women obtain vocational training, especially in the fields of nursing and paramedic training; the organization also helped several young women seek desperately needed medical attention.

4. To facilitate a global partnership for development, Thin and High co-hosted an event in 2015 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and to honor the contributions of Americans in China during the war. The 200+ Chinese and American attendees, including the U.S. Ambassador to China, shared the belief that by connecting to their collective past, they had strengthened the bonds between nations and generations as well as created the possibility for a better future.

## **14. Tlachinollan; Grupo de Apoyo a los Pueblos Indios de la Montaña**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

The Human Rights Centre Tlachinollan (hereinafter Tlachinollan) has been working for the last two decades in the South of Mexico, focusing its work in the promotion and defence of indigenous peoples' human rights. While its work is focus locally, it portrays its work at the national, regional and international level.

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

Tlachinollan's mission is to promote and defend – with a cultural diversity perspective – the rights of indigenous peoples, to jointly construct legitimate and pacific paths to guarantee the exercise of their human rights. Our main activities are encompassed on a “comprehensive defence” strategy which place the communities and victim's needs at the centre and prioritises their participation with a methodology that includes legal actions, national and international advocacy, strategic communication and community strengthening.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Tlachinollan continues to work in relation to the promotion and defense of human rights in Mexico. Our activities are related to four main groups of violations: gross violation of human rights – including cases of extrajudicial executions, enforce disappearances and torture – as well as cases of violations to the right to defend rights; in addition to economic, social and cultural rights – focusing on right to food, adequate housing, and health; rights of women to a life free from violence; and collective rights of indigenous peoples.

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

Tlachinollan has contributed in the last past four years in different United Nations foras of human rights, among others:

- Tlachinollan attended the 49th session of the Committee Against Torture (CAT) to review the Mexican 5th and 6th report under the Convention, in Geneva, Switzerland, on 30th October 2012, and presented a shadow report.
- Tlachinollan submitted a shadow report to the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), for the periodic review of Mexico of CERD for its 16th and 17th periodic report, during the 80th session, on 15th February 2012, at Geneva, Switzerland.
- Furthermore, Tlachinollan submitted a shadow report for the review of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) for the Mexican 7th and 8th periodic report, in the 52nd session, at New York, on 17th July 2012.
- Tlachinollan attended the 25th Session of the Human Rights Council during the adoption of the report of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Mexico on 20th March of 2014, and presented a statement, in Geneva, Switzerland. In addition it presented two joint reports for the UPR evaluation.
- Tlachinollan was invited to attend the Dialogue between Chairpersons and Civil Society at the 27th meeting of Treaty Body Chairpersons in San José, Costa Rica to the 25th June 2015.
- Furthermore, Tlachinollan attended the 8th session of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, on 2nd February 2015, in which the Committee reviewed the 1st report of Mexico and the list of issues identified by the Committee. Tlachinollan accompanied victims to the session.

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

Tlachinollan works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) in Mexico, for example during the visits of the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Arbitrary and Summary Executions to Guerrero, and of other mandates to Mexico, such as Torture, on Food and on Enforced Disappearances, among others.

In addition we hold different meetings with United Nations bodies such as the Board of Trustees for the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights designated by the Secretary General to advise the OHCHR in matter of rationalization and

simplification of the methods and procedures of its working programme on technical cooperation, on 17th February 2014; a meeting to review the “Work Programme” of the OHCHR in Mexico, on 30 January 2015 to provide input for a self-evaluation to identify results, opportunities and strategies for the Office in the country; and with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Rad Al Hussein, on 2nd October 2016 during his visit to Mexico, all the above took part in Mexico City.

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

Tlachinollan has not focused its activities in special events regarding the fulfilment of the MDGs; however, we have supported specific issues of the MDGs with our defence of cases regarding, violence against women and the empowerment of the survivors; education; and maternal health (MDG 2,3,5).



## **15. Training for Women Network**

Special, 2012

### **Introduction**

Established in 1996, Training for Women Network (TWN) is Northern Ireland's leading Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for the promotion of women's training and development, through policy, training, networking and education. Since then, TWN has provided resources within the community to empower women across the public and voluntary sectors, the trade unions, education and training in taking a more active and informed role within a changing Northern Ireland requiring new capacity, knowledge, skills and experience.

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

The main aims of TWN are to:

1. Promote, develop and co-ordinate the provision of high quality vocational and prevocational education and training for women leading to sustainable employment and the empowerment of individuals and groups.
2. Promote good practice in training for women.
3. Promote, develop and co-ordinate the provision of high quality training designed to advance Peace and Reconciliation, 'Good Relations' and Equality of Opportunity.
4. Facilitate vertical and horizontal integration of women into the labour market.
5. Encourage women to take up leadership roles and become involved in decision making and public life.

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

In 2015 TWN acquired the Women into Politics Project from Downtown Women's Group who have now closed.

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

TWN have undertaken the following activities to advance the development agenda of Economic Social Council (ECOSOC):

- Delivery of TWN's accredited active citizenship Programme (2015) to 200 women encouraging them to become involved in politics in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325).
- Submission of Shadow Report (2013) to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee on performance of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) including consultation with 21 women's organizations in Northern Ireland.
- Submission of written statement for Ireland's Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2014).
- Participated and contributed to the UK All Party Group on Women, Peace and Security Northern Ireland Inquiry Evidence Session (2013).
- Contributed to and facilitated transnational research (2013) led by Austrian NGO Women without Borders into the role mothers play in combating violent extremism.

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

TWN has contributed through report submissions to the following meetings:

- Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) 57 – The elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls.
- CSW 58 – Annual Ministerial Review on science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.
- CSW 59 – Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, including current challenges that affect its implementation and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women.
- CSW 60 – Women's Empowerment and its link to sustainable development.

TWN had also planned/registered to attend both CSW 58 and CSW 59 however due to lack of funding available, were unable to make the trip from Northern Ireland to New York, United States of America to attend and thus had to cancel their registration.

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

TWN has contributed to the intergovernmental fora of the Council and United Nations (UN) through the following means:

- Completion of UN Women survey on the implementation of UNSCR 1325.
- Contributed to ‘World we Want’ e-discussion on implementing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development on the topics of ‘national implementation’ and ‘scope and implication’.

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

TWN have taken part in the following initiatives in support of Millennium Development Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Promote Women:

- Contribution to the Northern Ireland Women’s European Platform consultation on violence against women and girls and how this relates to the Beijing Platform for Action and Post 2015 agenda as well as submission to the UK Joint Committee for Human Rights inquiry into Violence against Women and Girls (2015).
- UNSCR 1325 Dialogue Events with 200 women in 10 areas throughout Northern Ireland.
- Positive Relations Project (2014) funded under the PEACE III Programme which was designed to help 3000 women develop peace and reconciliation skills as well as dialogue skills designed to encourage them to become active voices in policy making.
- Gateway to Success Project funded under the European Social Fund 2007-2013 which was designed to help 2000 women enter/re-enter education and the labour market to address the high level of gender inequality in the Northern Ireland labour market.