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**Note by the Secretary-General**

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## **1. Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

The Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary (RSHM) is an international apostolic institute of Catholic women religious serving in 14 countries on 5 continents. RSHM's mission is to know and love God, to make God known and loved, - so that all may have life.

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

RSHM promotes the life and dignity of those who are marginalized, especially women and children, focusing where life is vulnerable and helping people to work effectively for their own development. Mission is expressed through educational programs at all levels, social projects, legal assistance and pastoral / spiritual ministries.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

RSHM contributed primarily through work on the ground with women and children in vulnerable situations, providing educational and related support services and empowerment opportunities. Members worked to eradicate poverty and promote environmental sustainability, took initiatives to end trafficking in persons, and advocated for a just, equitable socio-economic order.

At the UN, RSHM collaborated actively in the work of NGO Committees on Social Development, Financing for Development, Mining Working Group, Migration Committee, Working Group on Girls and the Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons. RSHM networks channeled grassroots voices to prepare joint submissions, co-organized side events and used social media.

RSHM raised awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), producing monthly thematic newsletters circulated to collaborators including faculty and students of RSHM Network of 19 schools in 9 countries. Workshops / presentations were given in six countries.

Examples include four day-long sessions engaging 500 faculty and staff of RSHM Institutions in Portugal and a week-long Social Forum on Sustainable Development engaging 800 students and faculty in Brazil.

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

RSHM representatives have participated extensively in the following meetings:

- 58th, 59th and 60th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)
- 52nd 53rd and 54th sessions of the Commission on Social Development (CsocD). RSHM co-sponsored 9 Side Events side events during CsocD and CSW sessions; three featuring best practices from the grassroots. They collaborated in submitting several written statements.
- Sessions 6 – 12 Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), contributing through joint submissions of NGO Committees.
- The High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2016, and co-authored a publication featuring best practices from a survey of community based economies which was launched at a joint side event.
- HABITAT III Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development in Quito, Ecuador 17 – 20 October 2016.

14th and 15th Sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

RSHM presented Oral Statements at the High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development - 7th October 2013; the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, 5 December 2013 (2nd Session) and the High level Political Forum – 20 July 2016.

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

RSHM cooperated with United Nations bodies globally through their campaigns and observances of international days including International Women’s Day, 16 days of Activism against Gender based violence, Earth Day, Day of the Girl and International Day of Peace. Cooperation in the field included UNICEF (schools in Portugal; Social projects in Brazil), UN AIDS (Zambia) and IOM (Mexico). Drawing on RSHM field experience, RSHM submitted a paper on child-headed households to UNICEF, contributing to a report.

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

MDG2 and SDG4 Education provided to more than 7,500 children at risk of being left behind in marginalized settings of 8 countries. Services included basic education, tutoring and social inclusion programmes for immigrant children as well as literacy and language programmes for parents. MDG 2 & SDG 17 Partnerships through “twinning” RSHM institutions in the North and global South have helped to offer scholarship support, upgrade school facilities and provide library resources, benefitting 2,500 needy children in Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Timor Leste. A school for 250 children with disabilities in Choma, Zambia was upgraded to secondary level.

MDG 6 SDG 5 Through RSHM partnership with Diocese of Mutare Community Care Programme, funding and administrative support was accessed to run outreach and women’s empowerment programmes serving more than 10,000 people living with HIV AIDS in Manicaland, Zimbabwe.

SDG 13 An RSHM school in Paris, France, co-organized and hosted a “Mini COP 21”, involving children from international schools in learning and action on climate change during COP21. Solar panels were installed in many RSHM institutions.

## **2. Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights**

(Special; 1993)

### **Introduction**

The Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights (RFK Center), established in 1968, is dedicated to advancing human rights by engaging in long-term partnerships with its laureates: activists who have won the RFK Human Rights Award.

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

RFK Center staff work with laureates to initiate and support sustainable social justice movements, using innovative tools including: litigation; technical initiatives; advocating with governments, the United Nations and other international entities and NGOs; and launching consumer awareness campaigns aimed at fostering corporate responsibility.

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

In 2015, the organization changed its name from “Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights” to “Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights” (RFKHR).

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

RFKHR hosted and helped facilitate an expert meeting and consultation with the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and organizations across the world on the main challenges that human rights defenders face while working on land rights and the environment. (Florence, Italy 5-6 July 2016).

In coordination with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), RFKHR held a consultation by the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (10-11 December 2015)

RFKHR hosted and coordinated meeting on the use of litigation to develop the human rights to water and sanitation in the Americas, which included experts from the United Nations. Later that day, RFKHR also hosted a meeting for civil society with UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment, John Knox (Washington, DC, United States, 6 April 2015).

RFKHR organized an international conference on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, which brought together Gambian civil society actors to discuss human rights (New York, United States, October 2015).

RFKHR organized a two-day consultation with human rights organizations from Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, Israel and New Zealand, on the situation of the Human Rights Defenders Globally with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), producing a document that was included in the final report of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders presented to the UN General Assembly in October 2015 (Florence, Italy 22-23 June 2015).

RFKHR convened 20 experts from the different countries, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations working group for discrimination against women and via teleconference from Pakistan the UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Culture Farida Shaheed (Florence, 2-3 December 2015).

RFHR staff participated in a workshop in Guatemala that was convened by Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) as a result of the urgent need for Guatemalan HRDs to analyze and develop a joint strategy to address the threats and obstacles they face in their work defending human rights and particularly with regard to the exercise of their rights to peacefully protest (Guatemala, 16 September 2014).

In partnership with Mr. Frank La Rue, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Information convened an expert meeting, in preparation for his report on children's rights (13 June 2014).

Participated in the 3rd Annual Jakarta Human Rights Dialogue, organized with the support of the European Union and the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights on Jakarta, Indonesia. November 10-11, 2013

RFKHR developed the curriculum for a course along with President of the United Nations Committee against Torture. The participants for the training included Frank La Rue, United Nations special rapporteur on promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and Martin Scheinin, former United Nations special rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism (Florence, September 2013).

Representatives from RFKHR went to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at the invitation of United Nations special rapporteur on promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, Frank La Rue, to participate as an expert on a panel regarding the freedom of expression and political communication, to the Dominican Republic to share his views before the First International (Rio de Janeiro, 2013).

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

Submitted report to UN Human Rights Council for Morocco's UPR review (2016) and to the UN Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights for Morocco's state review (2015). Worked with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Guatemala on a report on the human rights impacts of hydroelectric projects on indigenous communities (2016).

Pressured the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights to recognize Morocco's human rights abuses against the people of Western Sahara. Submitted a detailed report to the Committee laying out numerous ways that Morocco is failing to live up to its commitments under the treaty (2015).

Filed five petitions before the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) during this period.

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

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

### **3. Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung - Gesellschaftsanalyse und Politische Bildung e.V.**

(Special; 2013)

#### **Introduction**

The Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung – Gesellschaftsanalyse und politische Bildung e.V. is a progressive non-profit institution for civic education affiliated with Germany's "Die Linke" (Left Party), which runs 20 offices worldwide and is active in more than 80 countries.

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

The organization works on democratic and social participation, empowerment of disadvantaged groups, alternatives for economic and social development, conflict prevention, and peaceful conflict resolution by means of academic analyses, public programs, etc.

#### **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 published studies on the United Nations, including "The Struggle for a UN Treaty," (August 2016), "Reinventing Development. Reforming the UN for People and Planet" (June 2016), "We the Peoples? The United Nations on Its Seventieth Anniversary" (October 2015), and "Confronting Development. A Critical Assessment of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals" (December 2014).

The organization initiated Trade Unions for Energy Democracy to address climate change.

The organization initiated Urban Convergences, bringing together housing justice advocates and present/former UN special rapporteurs on adequate housing to share visions of a socially just city.

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

The organization has brought representatives to these meetings and has sponsored side events:

- The 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th Sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (New York, United States, 20-31 May 2013, 11-16 May 2014, 19-



24 April 2015, and 8-13 May 2016).

- The 21st and 22nd Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris, France, 30 November-12 December 2015 and Marrakesh, Morocco, 7-18 November 2016).
- The 58th, 59th, and 60th Session of Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 10-21 March 2014, 7-13 March 2015, and 14-24 March 2016).
- The second session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights (Geneva, Switzerland, 24-28 October 2016).
- The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III, Quito, Ecuador, 17-20 October 2016).

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

With the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Southern Africa Trade Union Co-ordination Council, the organization co-sponsored a workshop on statelessness in the Southern African Region, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 11 – 12 July 2016.

The organization sponsored a conference in collaboration with UNRISD, the International Labour Organization, and the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service on “The Potential and Limits of Social and Solidarity Economy in Geneva, Switzerland, 6-8 May, 2013.

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

The organization’s activities outlined above contributed to MDG 3 and 7 as well as SDG 5, 7, 11, 13.

## **4. Rotary International**

(General; 1993)

### **Introduction**

Rotary is an organization of 1.2 million business and professional leaders in more than 34,000 clubs around the world united to provide humanitarian service and promote goodwill and peace. Operating in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, Rotary clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

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

Rotary's top philanthropic goal is the global eradication of polio. Since 1985, Rotary members have contributed more than US\$1 billion and committed countless volunteer hours to help immunize more than 2 billion children in 122 countries from the wild polio virus. In addition to polio eradication, all Rotary clubs implement at least one local and one international service project annually. Through these projects, Rotary members volunteer their time, expertise, and financial support to address local and global challenges such as illiteracy, disease, hunger, poverty, and environmental concerns.

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

Rotary changes its leadership annually.

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

A network of 30 Rotary leaders is appointed annually to serve as Representatives to the United Nations and Other Organizations. The RI Representatives facilitate communication between Rotary and United Nations entities at the highest levels, while encouraging collaboration on joint projects locally. Representatives to the UN in New York, United States, annually organize Rotary-UN Day which brings more than 1200 Rotary members and guests to United Nations Headquarters for a day of discussions and presentations between key UN officials and Rotary leaders. Similar events have been organized at UNESCO in Paris, France and the United Nations Institutions in Rome, Italy. in 2017 Rotary Day at the UN will be in Geneva, Switzerland.

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

To support the work of the Economic and Social Council Rotary participated in many United Nations conferences and meetings as panelists, moderators, presenters, and exhibitors, including:

- UN Global Compact Leaders Summit
- Un Global Compact Private Sector Forum
- UNICEF Annual Meeting
- World Health Assembly
- Department of Public Information/Non-
- Governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO) Annual Conference FAO Regional Conferences Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Council

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Rotary's highest-level relationships are with the other spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI): World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Additionally, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals as they relate to children and address the underlying social and infrastructural barriers to literacy and educational achievement Rotary has been working on an initiative with UNICEF called WASH in Schools.

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

Rotary's six areas of focus closely align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Rotary's Economic and Community Development area of focus relates to Goal 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere. The Rotary Foundation invests in people to create measurable and enduring economic improvement in their lives and communities through micro-finance.

Our Disease Prevention and Treatment area of focus relates to SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being at all ages. Rotary supports activities and training that reduce the cause and effect of disease.

The Maternal and Child Health area of focus also relates to SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being at all ages. Rotary supports activities and training to improve maternal

health and reduce child mortality for children under five.

Rotary's Water and Sanitation area of focus relates to SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Rotary supports activities and training to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Peace and Conflict Prevention and Resolution area of focus relates to SDG 16 -- Rotary supports the training, education, and practice of peace and conflict prevention and resolution.

## **5. Rural Health Care Foundation**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

Rural Health Care Foundation (RHCF) is a Not-for-profit Organisation based out of Kolkata, India, offering low cost, high quality primary healthcare to the poor community residing in remote rural villages and urban slums of West Bengal, India. The service delivery model of RHCF is sustainable, replicable and scalable. The sustenance of each centre depends on the number of patient's footfall per month. When a centre achieves a monthly footfall of 4000 patients then a centre reaches its break even and can attain self-sustenance and no longer dependent on any external aid or funding. Our first centre was set up in Mayapur in the year 2007. In its first year of operation the centre witnessed a staggering footfall of patients which led to the formation of RHCF. The successful model of our first centre was then replicated to our other centres.

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

RHCF aims to eradicate the lack of healthcare services in rural India by creating a chain of primary health units that offer high quality, affordable outpatient care in low income, densely populated regions, where alternative medical services are sparse. The purpose is to make basic healthcare accessible to all the remotely located poor households. The Organisation offers OPD facilities through 4 departments namely General Medicine, Optometry, Dentistry and Homeopathy. Each department is headed by a doctor and support staff. Each centre distributes spectacles and facilitates Cataract Surgery, Pterygium Surgery, cleft lip and pediatric surgeries at a subsidized rate, in association with renowned hospitals and clinics.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

- Started with only 1 PHC in 2009, in 8 years, RHCF has already set up 17 new PHCs and are spread across 8 districts of West Bengal including Kolkata. Our centres are at Nadia, West

Midnapore, South 24 Pargana, North 24 Pargana, Birbhum, Burdwan, Hooghly and Kolkata.

- Won “Most Effective Healthcare NGO – Innovations in Service Delivery” 2017 Award, Apollo-Healers of India Award 2017, “Social Innovation and Iconic Leadership Award”, “Corporate Citizenship” Award 2016 ,East Zone Winner of Spirit of Humanity Award 2016, FICCI Healthcare Excellence Award 2016, Rashtriya Swayamsiddh Samman 2015, Rotary Shreshtha Samman 2015, Mother Teresa International Award 2015 and many more.
- RHCF was shortlisted as a panelist to speak on “Is Healthcare Ready for the Start-Up Culture?” at Yale Healthcare 2016 program, Shortlisted as the new innovator and was invited to attend Innovations in Healthcare's 2016 Annual Forum at Washington D.C., USA. 2 case studies on RHCF’s service delivery model published by Harvard Business School and NUS Singapore. RHCF also got empanelled with TISS(Tata Institute of Social Sciences) since January 2015.

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

No participation was specified.

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

No cooperation was specified.

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

Starting from 2007 till April 2017, 1585901 patients have been treated in our 17 primary health care centres. Besides catering to varied basic healthcare problems, our centres arrange cataract surgeries in association with Rotary Eye Hospitals. 9611 successful eye surgeries have taken place thus far and 411 Cleft lip/palate surgeries for children have been conducted free of cost in association with Smile Train Foundation at CMRI, Kolkata. RHCF is also involved in providing spectacles at extremely subsidized rates. Till date, 36478 spectacles have been distributed among needy patients. Furthermore, to support the poor, needy and physically challenged patients, about 150 Wheelchairs have been distributed, along with 2000 blankets. We provide 200+ types of generic medicines and possess well equipped pharmacy in each centre.

## **6. Sadguru Sadafaldeo Vihangam Yoga Sansthan**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

Sadguru Sadafal Deo Vihangam Yoga Sasthan 'SSDVYS' is an organisation not only teaches the principles of all round wellness but also carries a host of activities and projects for the upliftment of the socially and financially backward sections in rural India. Some of our initiatives include Youth Vocational programmes, handicraft development program, women empowerment program, health consultations and environment protection programmes.

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

Our reach in rural areas of the country is quite large with a total of over 5 million members and the parent organisation has a history of imparting spiritual education dating back to the early 1920s. Our current goal is to create a wave of social upliftment for the poverty-stricken people of the rural areas by providing them with adequate training and education and empowering them with the right tools to help find gainful employment. Our Social development programmes focus on Vocational programs and courses, handicraft workshops and training in cottage industry skills and healthcare.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Since our affiliation with the ECOSOC, the member of the organisation continue to improve their awareness and support for the goals and activities of the United Nation. In addition, two members of the organisation in the Chattisragh area are active on various NGO committees where the top delegates from UN-Habitat visited Raipur, India in 2014. The main representative is responsible to disseminate information about the United Nation and to encourage members participation in United Nations activities and Global Advocacy. Individual Members are responsible to report on the best practices and advise the NGO office of continuing needs in their areas of expertise and work, and to advocate, at least monthly for

United Nations issues affecting the most-needy and the disadvantaged.

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

Submitted Written Statement in 54th session of Commission for Social Development (3-12 February 2016) on December 01, 2015-Letter no. E/CN.5/2016/NGO/69.

Submitted Written Statement in ECOSOC High Level Segment 2016 (18-22 July 2016) on 14th April 2016. UN-Women HQ UN 2014. World Urban Forum, Medellin, Colombia 2014. Habitat -3, Quito, Ecuador 2016.

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

Organised a Youth Val Prgm with UN-Habitat in 2013.

A symposium on Youth with UN-Habitat on 29th 2014.

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

Training & Skill development courses Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Cooking, Yoga. Pursuing our goals of eradicating poverty from the rural and under-privileged communities, 'SSDVYS' established a Vocational Training Provider programme in the state of Chattisgarh with state government. The 4 groups of students in various skills have successfully completed have been placed in employment through our support. 'Sadafal Education' established and organically emerged as a 'Channel' of our platform which focuses purely on the provisioning of Education pathways to those who are impoverished of opportunities in society. 'Sukrit Life' is a new channel and organisation which finds its roots in the bringing about the awareness among masses about social issues. The platform with its powerful message and with the involvement of ambassadors of genuine selfless service, has established itself as a source of inspiration to those who interact with it. at present, Sukrit life has conducted interviews of many established members of the global community. Through the inclusion of experts in the activities and structures of the organisation are a great tool for creating awareness about issues and learning how to address them at an individual level and become an ambassador for change locally.

De-addiction and Health Diagnosis Camp at Chhatisgarh, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh and Lohardaga (Jharkhand) held regularly since 2014 and benefited over 4000 individuals and



their families.

Planting of Trees by our Volunteers across India total 2500 each year since 2014 and advocating awareness of MDGs through our months published magazine 'Vihanagam Light' along with 'Sukrit Life' which delivers a platform for global discussion and tackle social issues through the following focus areas. 1.Health and Wellness. 2. Equality for all. 3.Emotional Intelligence. 4. Environmental Issues. 5. Universal consciousness and Spirituality.

## **7. Save the Children International**

(General; 1993)

### **Introduction**

Save the Children is the world's leading independent organization for children, working in 120 countries to give children a healthy start, the opportunity to learn and be protected from harm in both humanitarian and development contexts. In 2016, Save the Children helped more than 185 million children worldwide.

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

Save the Children inspires breakthroughs for children by ensuring access to health services, securing quality basic education, protecting children from violence, helping children escape the cycle of poverty, and supporting access to decision-making processes.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Save the Children contributes to the work of the United Nations:

- Partners with the *Every Woman Every Child* movement and co-sponsoring events;
- Contributed to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants.
- Participates in the adoption of the Rights of the Child resolutions, Children and Armed Conflict Open Debates, and at the Human Rights Council, providing technical advice in support of children's rights.
- Serves as an implementing partner for FAO, OCHA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, IOM, WHO at the country level.

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

Save the Children hosts child delegates and country experts to speak to United Nations policy makers on a variety of issues and participates in United Nations fora, such as:

- High-Level Political Forum on the SDGs

- Commission on the Status of Women
- United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- World Health Assembly
- NGO Committees for UNICEF, Migration, and the Girl Child - And more.

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

Save the Children signed a global Letter on Collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund in 2012. Together, they co-lead the Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Education Cluster, and implement programs in numerous countries. In addition, Save the Children is a member of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, along with United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund, and UN Women.

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

Save the Children's "Every Last Child" campaign urges policymakers to ensure children are healthy, educated and protected, including a focus to end the practice of child marriage. Programming and advocacy in education, health, nutrition, and gender equality supports SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. In addition, programs and advocacy ensure inclusive, equitable quality education for children in emergency and humanitarian settings, supporting the Safe Schools Declaration and Education Cannot Wait fund. Furthermore, Save the Children co-leads the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty, which supports actions to alleviate children living in poverty.

## **8. Scholars at Risk Network**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

The Scholars at Risk Network (SAR) is an international network of institutions and individuals whose mission is to protect scholars and promote academic freedom.

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

SAR promotes academic freedom and university values through: directly assisting scholars facing grave threats; monitoring and responding to attacks on higher education around the globe; and promoting university values through workshops, conferences and other learning opportunities.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Through advocacy, SAR exposes academic freedom violations, including attacks on the right to education and freedom of opinion and expression. SAR also holds frequent events promoting university values. These efforts promote equitable, long-term global economic, social, and scientific progress.

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

SAR Staff regularly participate in meetings of the United Nations and State missions, including:

- Universal Periodic Review pre-sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, in October 2016, including meetings with multiple State Missions.
- A “refugee listening event” with the Office of the Special Adviser on the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants, prior to the September 2016 United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants.
- An event at the United Nations in New York regarding July 2015 Human Rights Council

(HRC) elections.

- Pre-meetings in Geneva regarding the annual HRC resolution on the Right to Education, May-June 2015.

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

SAR's cooperation with United Nations bodies includes:

- Submitting two shadow reports on attacks against academic freedom in countries undergoing Universal Periodic Review before the HRC. - Submitting a letter in support of a candidate for SR on the Right to Education.

- A 2015 submission regarding HRC Resolution 24/16 on the role of prevention in promoting and protecting human rights. - Sharing data on attacks on higher education for the reports of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, whose members include SAR, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization and United Nations Children's Fund, among others.

- Providing information to the Civil Society Section of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

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

By supporting a safe, free higher education space generally, SAR contributes to SDGs (and previously MDGs) by laying the foundation for equitable, quality higher education, and ensuring that societies have greater access to the benefits of scientific progress generated in the university space.

## **9. Science of Spirituality, Inc.**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

Science of Spirituality (SOS) is a world-wide, spiritual organization dedicated to transforming lives through meditation, under the guidance of Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj. The organization spearheads Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj's global effort to help humanity discover unity at the level of the soul. It regularly responds to natural disasters with financial assistance, food, clothing and volunteer relief workers.

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

Science of Spirituality is committed to Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj's multi-faith meditation technique enabling people to transcend individual racial, cultural, national, religious, and economic differences. His peace paradigm is an achievable construct to help heal the world one soul at a time. The organization holds meditation retreats, workshops, talks and classes all over the world, free of charge.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Working in collaboration with UNSRC clubs and with other NGOs:

May 2, 2016:– Sant Rajinder Singh Ji's talk, sponsored by the UNSRC SaluS Well Being Club in collaboration with Science of Spirituality was telecast live on United Nations web television and watched across the globe.

December 20th, 2016:– “The Benefits of Meditation for Positive, Peaceful and Healthy Living,” was presented in collaboration with Salus Wellbeing Club.

February 19, 2015:– "Food for the Soul," was organized by UNSRC, Society for Promotion of Indian Culture and Experience (SPICE–Indian Club).

October 24, 2013, Science of Spirituality participated in the Spiritual/Ethical Dialogue for a New Development Paradigm–The Spirit of the UN,” underscoring the importance of

spirituality in education, with NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns.

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

Representatives attended the 58th and 59th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women for gender equality and inclusion for the years 2014 and 2015 and presented a written submission for 2014.

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

No cooperation was specified.

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

SDGs 3 and 4: Twenty Darshan Academies in India and South America provide an education enabling students to lead lives with a knowledge supported by wisdom, ethical values, and a respect for all life. In addition to a rich academic curriculum, students meditate and follow a daily lesson from a non-denominational spiritual curriculum. They are encouraged to see themselves as citizens of a global community whose prosperity and well-being depend on harmony and co-operation. They are being educated to be the peace-keepers of tomorrow.

## **10. Shushilan**

(Special; 2013)

### **Introduction**

Since 1991, Shushilan, a national non-governmental development organization in Bangladesh, has been working on socio-economic development, education, health, human rights, good governance, sustainable resource management and people's organizations in 42 districts of all divisions to achieve its goal "A society congenial to economic and socio-cultural development for the socially underprivileged community".

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

Shushilan's mission is to create opportunities and enable the society for sustainable resource management, adaptation to climate change, education, health, livelihoods, good governance and gender equality through empowering the community with people's initiative and democratic participation.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

- Built 514 cyclone resilient houses in coastal districts during 2013-2015;
- Trained 24832 participants on income generating activities, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, homestead gardening, resilient agriculture farming, women entrepreneurship development and youth leadership development during 2014-2016;
- Installed 15516 sanitary latrines in poverty-stricken areas in Bangladesh during 2013-2016;
- About 3,894 metric tons biscuit distributed among the poverty-prone areas' school students;
- Rehabilitated 100 hectares mangrove forest through forming 20 village forest management committees in coastal district Satkhira in 2016.

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

No participation was specified.



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

During 2013-2016, Shushilan implemented eleven projects, funded by the UN bodies, included:

- ‘Maternal and Neonatal Mortality Reduction Project’ in Barguna district during 2014-2016 funded by United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.
- ‘SWAPNO’ project funded by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) during 2014-2016 in Sathkhira district to create employment for vulnerable women.
- ‘Improving Maternal and Child Nutrition Project’ in 2013 in Barguna district funded by World Food Programme.
- ‘Shrimp Project’ in Khulna division & Bangladesh Skills Employment Productivity project’ funded by International Labour Organization in 2016.
- ‘Water Supply Project’ in Khulna district funded by UNDP during 2013-2014 to ensure sustainable water supply.

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

- The organization contributed to MDG 3 in Sylhet district by providing computer training to 400 female participants in 2015.
- Contributed MDG 2 by supporting 100 schools for sharing best practices in teaching and learning in Bangladesh in 2014.
- Contributed SDG 3 during 2014-2016, by assisting 5106 pregnant mothers & 4970 lactating mothers in Barguna district for reducing mortality rate.
- Contributed SDG 5 by assisting 5080 families for diversification of livelihood in 2016, in Patharghata sub-district.
- Contributed SDG 6 by assisted 1050 households for improved community water management in coastal zone in Bangladesh in 2016.

Moreover, Shushilan observes International Women’s Day, World Environment Day, and so on.

## **11. Sign of Hope e.V. - Hoffnungszeichen**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

Hoffnungszeichen (Sign of Hope) is an interdenominational human rights and relief organisation. Helping those in distress is the focus of our work across the world. The organisation is based in Konstanz, Germany.

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

Sign of Hope campaigns where human rights are being abused or threatened. It provides humanitarian aid in the form of disaster relief and emergency aid and is involved in sustainable development cooperation based on the principle of 'Help People to Help Themselves'. It sees itself as a bridge of love developing a relationship between those who give and those who receive, who take part. This relationship is built on empathy, charity and solidarity. The organisation helps people in need, supports sustainable development and makes it possible for those who want to help, to do so. South Sudan is the geographic focus of the organization for the period under report. The organization also supports activities in Africa, Asia and South America.

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

Sign of Hope changed its main geographical area of activity from Sudan to South Sudan and the location of its offices from Singen to Konstanz, Germany, in 2013.

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

The organization contributed to Agenda item 4 of the Twenty-sixth Session of the General Assembly's Human Rights Council by submitting a written statement (A/HRC/26/NGO/72) dated 5 June 2014 concerning Human Rights situations that require the Council's attention. The statement is entitled "Legal System, Conflict and Human Rights in South Sudan". The organization observed International Days within the scope of its mandate.

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

The organization took part in the Twenty-sixth Session of the General Assembly's Human Rights Council by submitting a written statement (A/HRC/26/NGO/72) dated 5 June 2014.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Sign of Hope implemented two projects with the United Nations Development Programme - Common/Pooled Humanitarian Fund in 2015 and 2016. The projects focused on improving access to and on strengthening of primary healthcare services in South Sudan. In collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the organization implemented a project increasing the supply of urban piped water in South Sudan in 2015.

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

The organization contributed to the MDGs and SDGs in South America, Africa and Asia. MDG 1, 4, 5, SDG 2, 3: The organization carried out or supported child nutrition and general nutrition projects to fight hunger and to address child and maternal health. For example, it provided nutritional care to children above five years and prenatal care to expectant mothers in the two clinics the organisation operates in South Sudan. MDG 2, SDG 4: The organization supported primary education projects, for instance, by constructing classrooms for a primary school in South Sudan. MDG 3, SDG 1, 5, 8, 10: The organization supported activities for women, fostering their employment and training, and contributed to reducing economic poverty and inequalities, for example, by supporting income generating activities for women in Bangladesh.

MDG 6: Sign of Hope fought malaria and tuberculosis by operating two clinics in South Sudan where tropical diseases are particularly addressed.

MDG 7, SDG 6, 7, 9, 12, 14: The organization contributed to advance the use of renewable energy and a sound waste management by addressing the contamination of ground water resources by oil companies in swamplands of the river Nile in South Sudan. Moreover, it supported infrastructure developments and sustainable access to portable water by constructing deep bore wells providing beneficiaries with access to clean drinking water in South Sudan.

MDG 8: Addressing the issue of good governance is a cross-sectional task for the

organization's projects in South Sudan. In exchange with Government authorities, Sign of Hope raised awareness for the topic.

SDG 11: The organization supported inclusive development of urban settlements by setting up water distribution points in Rumbek, South Sudan.

SDG 13, 15: The organization contributed to resilience to effects of climate change and to combat desertification by supporting the rehabilitation of Ethiopian pasture land.

SDG 16: The organization contributed to ensuring participatory decision-making on all levels by providing South Sudan public with information on public health. SDG 17: To pursue the statutory purposes of the association, the organization spent in total 4,436,204 Euros in the fiscal year 2013, 4,307,792 Euros in the fiscal year 2014, 4,664,510 Euros in the fiscal year 2015, 5,465,816 Euros in the fiscal year 2016.

## **12. Simply Help, Inc.**

(Special; 2005)

### **Introduction**

To relieve poverty by providing emergency disaster relief, vocational training, and shelter and care for the homeless elderly. In South America, Africa, Asia.

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

We work to empower people living in poverty so they can sustain themselves and their families in their own environment. Values: We believe in providing basic human rights through vocational training, shelter, care, and disaster relief to enable people to take control of their lives and have hope. SimplyHelp Has Built Partnerships Around the World SimplyHelp has developed strong partnerships with First Lady of El Salvador, Honduras, Panama. Domestically SimplyHelp works closely with local nonprofit organizations, churches to ensure the success and sustainability of its projects.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Hosting workshop in CSW team with other NGO.

Shipping 10 containers a year with clothes food and school supplies to Africa, Asia, South America, to countries in need for relief poverty.

Setting up 2 more computer schools in El Salvador to help young poor children in the mountain area.

3 more Senior Homeless shelters building up to take care homeless elderly in El Salvador.

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

Have attend and host workshops for CSW conference 2016.

Have attend the CSW meeting in NY with youth group from Lehigh University.

SimplyHelp has given young people the opportunity to attend United Nations conferences.

And workshops that have been inspired them.

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

attending CSW conference with young leaders in the communities to meet with the CSW different NGO conference in order to work together in the future projects.

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

The SimplyHelp Foundation contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in the following four geographical regions: Central America, Asia, Africa, and North America. Millennium Goal 1 -- Target 2: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger. The following major actions were taken: SimplyHelp provided computer classes and awarded official vocational training certificates to 3,198 Cambodian students between 2002 until 2016. After taking the computer classes provided by SimplyHelp, approximately 70% of the graduates found a job. SimplyHelp provided tailoring classes to 1,686 people living in rural Cambodia since 2002. After taking the tailoring classes provided by SimplyHelp, approximately 95% of the graduates found a job with local manufacturers, and 5% started their own businesses. SimplyHelp provided computer literacy classes to 2,000 El Salvadorans since 2006. SimplyHelp provided cosmetology training classes to 2,440 people living in El Salvador since 2006.. SimplyHelp provided housing, three nutritious meals per day, and access to health services to 100 homeless seniors in El Salvador. SimplyHelp distributed 50 containers with donations -- such as blankets, clothes, toys, medicine, and school supplies - - to those living in poverty all around the world. SimplyHelp hosted 16 donation distributions to families living in the U.S., serving approximately 3,500 people. Millennium Goal 2 - - Target 1: Achieve Universal Primary Education. The following major actions were taken: SimplyHelp volunteers built 10 elementary schools in the Jiangxi, Huizhou and Sichuan provinces in rural China. SimplyHelp delivered 30 computers to four schools in Nicaragua. Millennium Goal 3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women. The following major actions were taken: Our Tailoring School in rural Cambodia has empowered women, raised their social status, and developed a thriving economy in the rural areas in which they are located. Approximately 5% of our graduates set up their own businesses, and are attracting suppliers and distributors from all over Cambodia. About 95% of our graduates have been

able to find jobs with local manufacturers. SimplyHelp donated 30 new computers to El Salvador mountain area for computer school program. SimplyHelp built a new vocational training center for women in La Libertad in El Salvador since 2009. The classes offered include cosmetology, cooking, maid services, baking, tailoring, and bar tending.

### **13. Sisters Inside Inc.**

(Special; 2013)

#### **Introduction**

Sisters Inside Inc. is an independent community organisation that works with women in the criminal justice system, their children and family.

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

Sisters Inside Inc. is an independent community organisation, which exists to advocate for the human rights of women in the criminal justice system, and to address gaps in the services available to them. We work alongside women in prison in determining the best way to fulfill these roles.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Sisters Inside advocated for the rights of Women, particularly Indigenous Women and women from CALD backgrounds for human rights throughout Australia and on an international level.

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

Sisters Inside's Chief Executive Office has participated in all meetings when possible and attended conferences.

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

Sisters work closing with the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, and submitted Recommendations to its causes and effects after it held a National Roundtable on the nexus between violence and criminalisation of women and girls.

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

Sisters Inside held a National Roundtable meeting for the UN Special Rapporteur on violence



against women and Is Prison Obsolete Conference which highlights and advocates for criminalised women.

## **14. Sisters of Charity Federation**

(Special; 2001)

### **Introduction**

The Sisters of Charity Federation includes 12 congregations of women religious founded to support and promote their work with those living in poverty. The Federation currently has 2,700 members working in 37 states in the United States, Washington D.C., 8 Canadian Provinces and 26 other countries.

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

To alleviate and eliminate all forms of poverty through advocacy, witness, systemic change, and direct service.

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

There have been no significant changes.

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

Federation members are engaged in ministries in 26 countries through formal education at all levels and non-formal education to remove illiteracy; leadership and skills training empower women and girls. Microfinancing for the economic empowerment of women takes place in India, Guatemala and Mexico. In Guatemala work is continuing to bring peace and reconciliation among people affected by violence. Counseling, job-training and shelter is provided to victims of trafficking in Canada, India and United States. Direct work with migrants and refugees - to ensure their human rights, through legal assistance, housing, ongoing education, social inclusion - is a major focus for members in Canada, India and United States. The NGO representative has given presentations on UN, Sustainable Development Goals, Climate Change, Trafficking in Persons and Global Citizenship Education, in Brazil, Canada, Colombia, India, Republic of Korea, Thailand and United States. Monthly updates on UN concerns and quarterly newsletter to the membership is published. The NGO Office Provided UN Orientations to 80 members.

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

Members participated in the Commissions for Social Development (co-sponsored side events and submitted written statements), the Status of Women (co-sponsored side events and submitted written statements), Commission on Population and Development, Permanent Forum on the Rights of the Indigenous, ECOSOC Follow up Forum on Financing for Development and High Level Political Forum during the past four years. The NGO representative participated in the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals at the UN (2013), Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (2015), Conference of Parties in Paris, France, (2015) and DPI/NGO Conference in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea.

## **Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Through Non-Governmental Liaison Service, the NGO representative had the opportunity to ask a question during the UN Debate on ‘who will be the next Secretary-General’ moderated by Al Jazeera on July 12, 2016. Members collaborated with UNDP to reconstruct a school in a Nepal village after the earthquake in 2015.

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

Goal 1 – All members of the Federation around the world are involved in this goal. Affordable housing for people living in poverty is going on in Canada. Shared farming, farmer cooperative, and farmer training and sharing produce with people in need are happening in Canada, Nepal and United States. Goal 2 – Education to orphans and vulnerable children in Botswana; formal primary, secondary and non-formal education to rural and slum children in India, Nepal and Peru; head start program to over 1000 children in 28 villages of Puerto Rico; special schools for the mentally/physically challenged children in Nepal (1), India (3) and Ecuador (1). Goal 3 – Self-help Groups to empower women who receive training in adult literacy, leadership, legal aid, entrepreneurial skills, etc. for their Nepal and India. Cooperatives for women and girls in Nepal have brought dignity and transformed their lives. Residential training for young women in India and Nepal in life skills, human rights education, spoken English, Computer literacy, Beauty care, Hair styling, Pedicure, Manicure, knitting and tailoring have provided employment.

Goal 4 – Reduced child mortality in India, Botswana and Ecuador through immunization, clean water projects, HIV/AIDs treatments and accessible health care.

Goal 5 – Rural health clinics in Ecuador and India provide pre-natal, delivery and post-natal cares to women have reduced maternal mortality.

Goal 6 - Day Care for orphans and vulnerable children and Hospice in Botswana and HIV/AIDS treatment in India and Belize.

Goal 7 – Teaching and support for organic farming and maintaining environmental centers, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems in Canada, Nepal and United States. Using LED lighting and installation of geothermal and solar panels in Canada, India, Nepal, Republic of Korea and USA. Water filtration kits have been given to combat water-borne diseases and access to safe drinking water in Mexico, Haiti, St. Lucia, and Jordan.