



# Economic and Social Council

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## Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

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### Quadrennial reports for the period 2016–2019 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31\*

#### Note by the Secretary-General

#### Addendum

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



## **1. Action jeunesse pour le développement**

### **Special, 2016**

#### **Introduction**

We are pleased to transmit our initial mandatory quadrennial report for the period 2016–2019, delayed owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The quadrennial report is a general policy document of the Economic and Social Council. Our report contains an account of our activities as an organization in status with the Council.

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

Action jeunesse pour le développement (AJED-Congo) is primarily involved in the following sustainable development priority areas: combating climate change; protecting the environment; managing forest ecosystems; increasing the effectiveness of the arrangements around protected land, marine and coastal areas; preserving biodiversity; combating corruption; mobilizing further to combat desertification and support mitigation and adaptation measures in order to take advantage of the process of rapid and appropriate replenishment of resources in combating climate change, in the interests of present and future generations; combating poverty by launching microprojects in the agropastoral sector; and integrating and reintegrating unemployed young mothers into trade learning programmes.

#### **Specific aims and purposes:**

AJED-Congo aims to enable civil society actors to strengthen their role as key partners with public authorities and their capacity to execute projects in the areas of agriculture, the environment, the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, climate change, forest and marine biodiversity and ecosystems and tourism development, in the effort to build the economy and fight against poverty.

Expected results: Intended impacts include the improved standard of living and improved protection of the environment and well-being of local and native communities.

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

- 1 – Bahakoula Mabidi Louis, Executive Director
- 2 – Bazebizonza Francis Durand, Deputy Executive Director
- 3 – Nzoumba Louissette, Executive Secretary
- 4 – Boudzoumou Sylvestre Phillipe, Director of Programmes
- 5 – Mahoungou Fred Clovis, Mission Secretary
- 6 – Balandila O. Bastavie Gelvanie, Secretary for Administration and Finance
- 7 – Mpenaya Mr. Jhojoe Pesylva, Secretary for Communication and Information
- 8 – Biantoubila Bernardine, Secretary in Charge of Social Affairs
- 9 – Balandiala Orcia Ruth, Secretary in Charge of Youth Sociocultural Activities
- 10 – Makanga Sidonie, Secretary in Charge of Human Rights
- 11 – Binaki Sirla, Secretary in Charge of Sustainable Development
- 12 – Batiba Grégoire, Secretary in Charge of Agricultural Development
- 13 – Kombo Bouanga Ghislaine, Secretary in Charge of Ecotourism
- 14 – Youkouta Solange, Secretary in Charge of Environment
- 16 – Bahakoula Victor, Secretary in Charge of Biodiversity
- 17 – Badila Beverly Nimrod, Secretary in Charge of Ecosystems

- 18 – N’Songa Reine, Secretary in Charge of Climate Change
- 19 – Biahomba Miguel P. Vinel, Secretary in Charge of External Relations
- 20 – Banza Jonh, Secretary in Charge of Fundraising

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

No activities were specified.

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

- Global Environment Facility (GEF) Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW), 8–10 February 2012, in Bujumbura, Burundi.
- Eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP), 26 November–7 December 2012 in Doha.
- COP19, 11–22 November 2012, in Warsaw.
- COP21, November 30–11 December 2016, in Paris.
- Eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 17–21 October 2016, in Vienna.
- GEF ECW, 5–8 September 2016, in Douala, Cameroon.
- Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, held in Addis Ababa, 17–19 May 2017.
- GEF ECW, 26–30 June 2017, in Brazzaville.
- COP24, 2–14 December 2018, in Katowice, Poland.
- COP25, 2–13 December 2019, in Madrid.

### **Cooperation with United Nations system entities**

No cooperation was specified.

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

No activities were specified.

## **2. Alliance globale contre les mutilations génitales féminines**

### **Special, 2016**

#### **Introduction**

The Alliance globale contre les mutilations génitales féminines (AG-MGF) addresses human rights and health concerns, wherever they arise in the world. Currently, AG-MGF focuses on human rights in Africa, Europe, Asia and South America. The Alliance is affiliated with the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices (IAC) and collaborates with London-based Human Rights Watch.

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

Initial aims and purposes: Join networks against female genital mutilation (FGM), to contribute to the eradication of FGM, to map non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to develop a communication strategy and to create a university

chair on FGM. Currently, the Alliance is focusing its efforts on human rights – civil and political, economic, social and cultural right, including the right to health. AG-MGF mainly participates in the work of the Human Rights Council, its subsidiary bodies and the human rights treaty-based bodies, and it monitors the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

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

In 2019, AG-MGF focused its work on human rights. It amended its statutes and changed its name to “l’Alliance globale pour les droits humains et la santé”, as reported to the secretariat of the Committee on NGOs.

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

Projects are under way to establish an academic chair on FGM and to create a world map of organizations and their activities to eliminate FGM. The organization has collected information on the situation of FGM in African countries and on the work of local, regional and international organizations. Today, the Alliance focuses on human rights violations (including arbitrary detention, torture, freedom of expression and the press, human rights defenders and refugee rights), in Europe and Latin America, has initiated contacts with the principal human rights NGOs and has launched initiatives with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the International Labour Organization. The Alliance works closely with permanent missions of States Members of the United Nations, including members of the Human Rights Council.

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

AG-MGF has participated in the following events:

Thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 13–30 September 2016. Participation in the side-event: “Let us take inspiration from Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela for a world free of violent extremism”, 28 September, 1–3 p.m.

“OHCHR workshop on enhancing cooperation between United Nations and regional human rights mechanisms”, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Palais des Nations, 4–5 October 2016.

Sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), New York, United Nations, 13–24 March 2017.

Thirty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 6–23 June 2017; meeting of IAC, 15 June. The organization is an affiliate of IAC.

Thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, 11–29 September 2017. Parallel events: “Human Rights in Sri Lanka”, 19 September and “Human Rights in India: Female Genital Mutilation”, 21 September.

Thirty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 26 February–23 March 2018.

Sixty-second session of CSW, New York, United Nations, 12–23 March 2018.

Thirty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 18 June–6 July 2018; “Informal consultation on the draft resolution on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women”, Permanent Mission of Canada, 19 June 2018. Since 2019, AG-MGF has taken part in the three annual sessions (February/March, June/July and September) and in the organizational sessions of the Human Rights Council, and in the meetings with NGOs of the President of the Council and the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

### **Cooperation with United Nations system entities**

Cultural events attended by AG-MGF include those organized by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the United Nations Office at Geneva and the Swiss Committee on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The organization maintains contacts with the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and works in conjunction with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (refugees in receiving countries) and the International Labour Office (union closures).

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

The Alliance makes contributions to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 3, 4, 5 and 16. AG-MGF commemorates International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and Human Rights Day.

## **3. Avocats sans frontières**

### **Special, 2016**

#### **Introduction**

Avocats sans frontières – ASF is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) established in 1992 as a non-profit association under Belgian law. It operates in several countries in North Africa (including Morocco and Tunisia) and Central Africa (Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Burundi and Chad), working in the fields of justice and human rights. It conducts its activities in close partnership with national and international civil society.

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

The aims and purposes of ASF are to use the law to combat social inequality, prevent conflict and achieve human rights. ASF advocates enhanced rule of law based on human rights by promoting legal empowerment, the strengthening of civil society and civic forums, and greater respect for human rights.

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

The Board of Directors appointed a new executive director in 2017. There were no changes to the organization's charter during the reporting period.

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

- Participation in the meeting of the Expert Group on Transitional Justice and the Prevention of Atrocities and contribution to the Special Rapporteur's study on the same subject (United Nations Office at Geneva) in 2017
- Joint organization of a side event at the sixteenth Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court: "Legal Representation of victims at the ICC and beyond" (United Nations Headquarters, New York) in 2017
- Participation in a meeting of the Working Group on business and human rights on the theme "Business and human rights in conflict zones" (United Nations Office at Geneva) in 2018

- Participation in the Forum on Business and Human Rights (United Nations Office at Geneva) in 2018
- In the framework of the universal periodic review in Chad (together with Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture – Chad, the Association pour la Promotion des Libertés Fondamentales au Tchad, the Ligue Tchadienne des Droits de l’Homme, and Chad Non-violence), ASF provided support and contributions for a Chadian civil society coalition, in 2018
- Information for the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (national office of the Association Tunisienne de Lutte contre les Maladies Sexuellement Transmissibles et le Sida) in 2019
- Submission of an alternative report for the review of the sixth periodic report of Tunisia by the Human Rights Committee (ASF, Tunisian League for Human Rights, Organization against Torture in Tunisian and World Organization against Torture) in 2020

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

- Statement submitted by ASF, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, to highlight four key lessons on how, and under which conditions, legal empowerment may constitute a tool to ensure inclusiveness and equality in access to justice ([E/2019/NGO/67](#)).

#### **Cooperation with United Nations system entities**

- Contribution to the “Global Study on Legal Aid”, 2016, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – United Nations Development Programme – Study for International Development Law Organization – United Nations Development Programme in Myanmar: “Legal Aid Service Providers and The Communities They Serve”, 2017.

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

Projects contributing mainly to MDG 16.3 and also to MDGs 5, 8, 10 and 3, with the support of various donors in Central and North Africa.

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