

September 2009
Speaker: Claudia Neury

Joint NGO Statement

Draft UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training

Addressed to

The UN Human Rights Council 12th session (14 Sep. - 02 Oct. 2009)

Agenda Item 3 and 5: GENERAL DEBATE

Item 5: Human rights bodies and mechanisms

Claudia Neury on behalf of:

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION AND FREEDOM OF EDUCATION (OIDEL)

SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL (SGI)

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (IFUW)

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION ASSOCIATES (HREA)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (EAFORD)

ISTITUTO INTERNAZIONALE MARIA AUSILIATRICE (IIMA)

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERISM ASSOCIATION WOMAN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (VIDES)

NEW HUMANITY

PAN PACIFIC AND SOUTH EAST ASIA WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL (PPSEAWA)

AL HAKIM FOUNDATION

SERVAS INTERNATIONAL

SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF THE TEMPLE OF JERUSALEM (OSMTH)

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT AGAINST ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION
AND NACISM (IMADR)

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS (WFUNA)

CONGREGATION OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Thank you Mr. President,

I speak on behalf of ¹⁵12 organisations.

We appreciate the current status of the work carried out by the Advisory Committee on preparation of a draft UN declaration on human rights education and training.

Regarding the preliminary draft prepared by the drafting group of the Advisory Committee, we would like to highlight the efforts and interests of many civil society actors who have made valuable contributions through responses to the questionnaire circulated by the Advisory Committee, and presentations at the Seminar in Marrakech for gathering concrete elements for the draft.

It has become clear that the declaration should adopt the rights-based approach to human rights education and training. All marginalised and vulnerable populations are in need of human rights education and training to defend their own rights. The aspect of gender equality and the role of women should also be included in the drafting process.

We appreciate that all stakeholders are invited to submit their comment on the preliminary draft for which the deadline is set to the end of September. Yet, we find it necessary that the following modalities be considered for all stakeholders regarding the drafting process.

First, between the January 2010 session of the Advisory Committee and the March 2010 session of the Council when the first draft is expected to be ready, all stakeholders should be invited for further comment on the first draft.

Second, as proposed in the draft decision prepared by the platform in the Council, an interactive dialogue on the first draft of the declaration should be held during the high level segment of the March 2010 session of the Council.

Mr. President,

In order that the draft declaration be formulated in truly meaningful terms, we will continue monitoring the entire drafting process and contributing suggestions and comments in the process.

Thank you, Mr. President.