

September 1997

**Suggestions for SSND ECOSOC Application  
submitted by Mary Beth Reissen, SSND**

***General Suggestion***

While the shortness of time precludes so doing, in the long term, it may be well to study the reports of the various UN bodies in which SSND is involved in order to be more specific about what agenda items SSND will actively support through program work.

***Editorial Suggestions***

- Specify SSND's RC nature early on.
- Write in the third person.
- Use the term "members' instead of SSNDs.
- Explain the meanings of "the poor", "ministry", "associates", "affiliates."
- Limit the times reference is made to "written and oral statements." Consultative status presumes this.

#5a

- Could you find some language which pertains to SSND's particular concerns for the needs of women?
- What about Mandate for Action?

#5b

- Convey the sense of ongoing operation of institutions of formal education—primary schools, secondary schools and colleges—and not just their establishment. Give numbers, if possible.
- What type of programs are undertaken on behalf of landless people in Latin America?
- In the reference to SSND offices of Justice and Peace, and Roman Catholic and ecumenical and inter-faith offices of Justice and Peace it might be well to explain further what these entities do in relation to the work of ECOSOC? Essentially, will they not communicate with national governments concerned about public policy and thus work to promote economic justice, social development, disarmament, peaceful resolution of conflict?
- List specific UN Conferences and ECOSOC Commissions attended. Omit the adjective "follow-up" to describe Commissions. (See "ECOSOC and SSND" paper.)
- No mention is made of work with homeless.

- #7

Items to be changed

- Korea->Republic of Korea (to differentiate from North Korea)
- England-> United Kingdom or U.K., United States ->United States of America or U.S.A.
  - .Marshall Islands should be placed under U.S.A., as has been rightly done for Puerto Rico
  - and Guam, since they chose free association with the United States instead of
  - independence. However, please double check with the reference desk in the Dag Hammarskjold Library or with the UN Telephone Operator on the UN Information line.

#### #8

- Give the ratio of teachers to other professions represented.
- There is no profile of older members, as requested.
- Perhaps “directors of Roman Catholic diocesan and archdiocesan departments” would be better.
- Can you give examples of types of departments?

#### #12a

##### Paragraph #1

- Speak first about SSND participation in UN Conferences. Then speak about ongoing
  - participation in the ECOSOC Commissions.
- Use the term “United States and Guam” as Guam is a possession of the United States.
- How did SSND substantively contribute to each? Was this done by signing on to a group NGO statement? Was it done by submitting our own paper? Was it done by meeting with individual governmental delegations? The modality of contribution needs to be made explicit.
- What agenda items were specifically addressed concerning women and girls?
- Does SSND also intend to be active in relations to the UN Human Rights Commission?
- Paragraph #2
  - Incorporate first sentence into Paragraph #1.
  - Make second sentence first sentence of last paragraph. But bring last paragraph to be new Paragraph 2. Begin with: “SSND has also responded to the United Nations disarmament agenda, particularly in reference to landmines.” Then combine wording of final paragraph of 12a.
- Paragraph #3
  - Note: Strictly speaking, this question does not cover SSND’s work in NGO committees and caucuses.
  - New language: “The NGO Representative and other members have collaborated with other NGOs in the following New York-based NGO committees and caucuses...”
  - Has any work been done in Geneva and/or Vienna?

## Paragraph #5

- Speak of “association with the UN Department of Public Information.”
- You may wish to use the term “SSND General Chapter (Assembly)” or SSND General Assembly so as not to confuse it with UN General Assembly.

## #12b

## Paragraphs #1 and #2

- Here substantive issues should be addressed. What proposals will SSND offer in these conferences. What special experience does SSND have to offer?
- SSND will participate in the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC.
- Will SSND conduct any particular educational activity in relation to the UN agenda, particularly in relation to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Social Development?
- Will SSND follow the work of the UN human rights treaty bodies, such as the Committee on the Rights of the Child?
- SSND will pray for the work of the UN.

## Paragraph #3:

- Omit last sentence about formulating written and oral statements. The final paragraph already speaks of this.
- Can support of UN programs, including financial support, be encouraged? What specific programs will be supported? Literacy for girl children?
- Last Paragraph:
- New language for last sentence: “contributing to the work of ECOSOC and its related bodies through active consultation.”

## 400 word statement

- Use third person.
- Overall, remember that consultation is a two-way process. It involves not only education of the members on UN issues but giving input to ECOSOC and its related bodies.
- Last sentence:
- “SSND will be able, through its members who will provide data and firsthand experience, to bring to the attention of ECOSOC and related bodies those human needs which must be addressed and proposals for the ways and means of addressing them.”

- You need not mention “written and oral statements” again. Simply use the term “consultation.”