

# **I. Progress Report: SSND Non-Governmental Organization Affiliation at the UN**

Submitted by  
Mary Beth Reissen, SSND  
1979

- I. Interviews are planned with representatives of the following Catholic Non-Governmental Organizations which are in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.
- Caritas International
  - Catholic International Education Office
  - International Catholic Child Bureau
  - International Catholic Migration Commission
  - Catholic Relief Services
  - International Catholic Union of the Press
  - Pax Romana
  - Pax Christi-International Catholic Peace Movement
  - World Federation of Christian Life Communities

The following question format is proposed:

1. What particular benefits does your organization derive from its consultative status with ECOSOC?
2. Has your organization submitted reports, studies to the UN and its specialized agencies? If so, what was the outcome of this activity?
3. At what Conferences (UN) has your organization had representation? What role did your organization play at these Conferences?
4. How is your organization commemorating the International Year of the Child?
5. What are your specific responsibilities as your organization's representative at the UN?
6. How frequent are your contacts with UN delegates in your capacity as Non-Governmental Organization representative?
7. How is your constituency informed of UN developments? How is your constituency educated as to the nature and role of the UN and its specialized agencies?
8. Is there a need for expanded Catholic presence at the UN? How do you suggest this be attained?
9. What is the capacity for ecumenical collaboration among Non-Governmental Organizations at the UN? How does your organization participate in this effort?

- II Interviews are planned with representatives of the following Catholic Non-Governmental Organizations which are affiliated with the Office of Public Information.

Congregation de Notre Dame  
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic  
The Franciscan Handmaids of Mary  
Leadership Conference of Women Religious of the USA

The following question format is proposed:

1. What particular benefits does your organization derive from its affiliation with the UN Office of Public Information?  
2-7. See questions 4-9 above.
- III. An interview will be conducted with a representative from the Better World Movement to discuss the process that organization is presently undertaking to become affiliated with ECOSOC. The question can also be raised as to why the Better World Movement is seeking consultative status with ECOSOC.
- IV, An investigation can also be undertaken as to the Committee of Religious NGO's activities at the UN in the past two years. This will provide more data as to the vast possibilities for ecumenical collaboration and witness at the UN.
- V. The possibility for greater spiritual presence through NGO representation can also be explored. Basil Pennington's and Betty Leone's articles are indicative of these possibilities. In the long term, a center for hospitality through the Friends World Committee for Consultation has indeed paved the way for such a reality.