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A cooperative effort by the NGO Committee on Ageing and Global Action on Aging

Section I

I. What has the NGO done to educate older persons and/or the general public about the Madrid Plan?

Recent Activities and Projects.

a. The Eckman Foundation contacted and had meetings with the National Director of Social Policies of the Aged , Ministry of Social Development, Program Directors from the Secretary of Old Age, Government of the City of Buenos Aires, members of other Argentinean NGO related to Ageing Affairs, such us the Fundaciòn Navarro Viola , ILC-ARGENTINA, INPEA- ARGENTINA, (International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse), Argentinean Scientific Gerontological Societies such as the Argentinean Association of Gerontology (AGA), the Buenos Aires Association of Gerontology (AGEBA), the Gerontological Society of Mendoza(AIGEM),the Argentinean Federation of Gerontology and the Argentinean Society of Gerontology and Geriatrics (SAGG).

Main objectives were to offer them new relevant international information, coordinate present and futures activities, and discuss about possible projects taking into account similarities and also some particular differences which are inherent and unique to the Latin American region.(2005)

b. Dr Lia Daichman had as well, an informal meeting with the President of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics(IAGG), Dr Renato Maia Guimaraes, at the GSA Meeting ,in Orlando, to discuss present and future possibilities regarding new ways of Education and Training for Health Professionals working with the elders in Latin America and Applied Research, worldwide. (2005)

c. The Eckman Foundation with the National Director of Public Policies for the Aged, Ministry of Social Development, INPEA ARGENTINA , and AGEBA (Gerontological Society of Buenos Aires) organized the first National "Train the Trainer" Seminar on Health and Human Rights Issues Related to Elder Abuse and Neglect, for about 70 people :Policy-makers, Health Professionals and Front line Community workers, and hope to increase the capacity of training , helping to design adequate Services in all Argentinean Provinces during the next 2 years, in Buenos Aires , May, 2005. (Project actually continues in process, 2007)

d. Due to the great increase of Elder Victimization within the community during the years 2005 and 2006, the Eckman Foundation, the National Direction of Elder's Social Policies, Ministry of Social Development , INPEA and ILC-ARGENTINA developed a campaign at a National level on Crime Prevention and Empowerment on Elders, which was launched in May 2006 by raising awareness on the subject and by means of education leaflets, posters, open discussions at different levels, national websites great support from the media.

Also a three days meeting was organized for Primary Health Care Workers and the community in partnership between the Provincial Government and the Police Force Department of Mendoza and the National Direction of Elder's Social Policies and sponsored by the Eckman Foundation, INPEA and ILC-Argentina.(2006).

e. INPEA, the Eckman Foundation and ILC-ARG successfully worked in partnership and with the full support of the Argentinean National Government and the Government of the City of Buenos Aires to organize the First World Day Awareness Day on Elder Abuse which was held in Buenos Aires DC as well as several cities of Argentina on June 15th, 2006, simultaneously with the UN (New York), as in so many other countries and regions of the world. (WDAEA 2007 is intensely being planned at present)

f. Since October 2005 the Eckman Foundation, ILC-ARG and the Gerontological Society of Buenos Aires, by means of a contract with the National Director of Elder's Policies, had been officially giving two eight months courses to train and supervise human resources, mainly middle aged females as formal Caregivers and Auxiliaries on Gerontology, as a result of a high demand and need from the labor market and as a part of one of the National Ministry of Development Social Programs for the Aged, already being done nearly in all Argentinean's Provinces. We are about to start two new courses in the next few weeks and hope to follow the same successful pattern for the rest of 2007. (Till now 103 Caregivers have successfully finished their formal training at the Eckman Foundation) Fairly recently started to participate of the creation of a formal National Pool of Caregivers, with the full support and compromise of the National Labor Ministry.

g. The Argentinean Gerontological Society and ILC-ARGENTINA have the pleasure of announcing the successful 2006 Lecture in Gerontology which featured Dr Rosa Resnik, PhD/DSW, International Immigrants Foundation, International Association of Schools of Social Work, Representative to the UN/ECOSOC and DPI, on September 5th at the Eckman Foundation in Buenos Aires DC.

Also and the end of last year a quite successful Seminar on "Different forms of Discrimination in Old Age" for Health professionals was given by Prof. Ricardo Iacub, from Buenos Aires National University.

h. At present and in partnership with ILC-ARG we have selected and talked to some Argentinean Gerontological Experts to start writing "The 20 Geriatric Guidelines for Health Professionals working with Elders", (in Spanish), being this one the first approach to be done on the subject in South America and this could be used as well by other Latin American Spanish speaking countries with the economical support of Medical Labs and the auspice of the National Direction of Elder's Policies, National Ministry of Social Development. (2006-2007)

i. Another project similar to this one but designed for the Elders and their families will be sponsored by the Argentinean National Director of Social Policies for the Aged. (2007)

Section II

II. Which of the 3 priority directions of Madrid Plan (older persons and development; advancing health and well-being into old age; ensuring enabling and supportive environments) is the principal focus of the NGO?

Advancing health and well-being into old age and ensuring enabling and supportive environments

III. What specific accomplishments has the NGO achieved in that area? How has it worked with government, other NGO's and/or others to achieve its objectives?

See above

IV. Are there other significant accomplishments of the NGO?

See above

V. Every Government has been asked by the UN, but is not required, to conduct a "bottom-up" review and appraisal during 2007 of progress in their country in implementing the Madrid Plan. To your knowledge, has your government begun or committed to undertake that review? If yes, has your NGO been invited to participate? If so, how?

The Argentinean Government as well as other Argentinean NGOs begun and are committed to conduct a bottom up review and appraisal during 2007.

Last meeting: Santiago de Chile, Chile, March 2007.

Next meeting: Brasilia, Brazil, December 2007.

Finally and due to financial difficulties which we hadn't able to solve yet, we are still finding rather hard to get sufficient funding to develop more projects for the near future.

It is our hope to be able to start with other regional NGO, a Latin-American Regional Research on Female Ageing in relation to Poverty, Discrimination, Human Rights and Empowerment.