

The English International Association of Lund

Non-Profit Swedish Org. No.: 845001-7101.

Observer status with the OAU.

Associated with the UNDPI Publishers of The Lundian.

NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

EIA was founded 1987 in Lund, Sweden by a group of international researchers, foreign students their Swedish friends and sympathisers. It was based on solidarity with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This pamphlet contains a brief timesheet of past, present and future activities of this important NGO.

Timesheet of Activities

(Our acronym is EIA)

1972 - 1987 – A group of foreign students and their Swedish friends build an association to protect their rights: Lund University Foreign Students Association (LUFSSO). With the help of a journalist, the late Gary Engman, they make a documentary film on the discrimination of foreign students. They later co-operate with others in Lund to found an umbrella organisation, Lund Immigrant Associations Co-operative.

1988 – EIA was founded with the following aims and purposes: to inform and educate immigrants of their human rights; to promote favourable opinions about immigrants and their cultures and to be a source of support to immigrants, foreign students, asylum-seekers and the members of their families. EIA and the publishers of The Lundian Magazine agreed to jointly publish a newsletter (**The Lundian**), books and other educational materials. EIA gave its first seminars on human rights and provided support to several national and international immigrant organisations in Sweden. Sponsor: National Association of Immigrants, Stockholm.

1989 – With a grant from Lund's County government, EIA provided volunteers and back-up personnel to the Lund County Immigrant Service Centre (Invandrarbyrå) by organising and accompanying newly arrived asylum-seekers on bus outings during the summer.

1990 – EIA and volunteer writers for The Lundian Magazine opened a library with books and information on Swedish culture and international human rights for newly arrived immigrants and asylum-seekers.

1991 – With a grant from the Swedish Department of Immigration (SIV), E.I. and The Lundian conducted research and published a survey on the voting patterns of immigrants in Lund.

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1993 – E.I. and The Lundian published a number of reports on civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for immigrants in Sweden. We also began co-operating with immigrant and migrant worker organisations in the Denmark, the Netherlands, England, the USA, South Africa and Nigeria.

1993 – In a research project that was sponsored by SIV, we researched and published a special report on racial discrimination in employment in Sweden. Our application for affiliation with the UN's Department of Public Information was approved.

1994 – With a grant from ForumSyd, we hosted our first International Conference on Human Rights with speakers from the UNHCHR, the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights and representatives of NGOs Guatemala, Tunisia, North America and Europe. Our application for observer status with the African Commission on Human Rights was approved. We awarded our first Human Rights Achievement Award to a local human rights activist who conducted research on immigrant women in Lund.

1995 – Two delegates attended the United Nations Prep-com on Social Development in New York and the Social Summit in Copenhagen, Denmark. We started our interns programme with the Media Department of a local high school (Polhemskolan and later Vipeholms skol).

1996 – Two delegates attended PrepCom III for Habitat II at the United Nations in New York. We hosted our second International Human Rights Conference in November and started a website for The Lundian.

1997 – We supported the establishment of the Africana Network and co-sponsored a Conference on the OAU in May with a film festival and workshop entitled *Workshop on Africa*. Sponsored by SIV.

1998 – With sponsorship from ForumSyd, we conducted a seminar series entitled: *Where is Africa Going?* We also co-hosted a conference on the OAU in Malmö. We also conducted seminars and an introductory course on human rights and published voter rights information for local immigrant groups. Sponsor: the Swedish Justice Department. Joined UNITED for Cultural Action (Amsterdam).

1999 – We conducted ten seminars on regional human rights conventions for Africa and Europe and launched a campaign calling for governments to ratify the Migrant Worker Conventions (of 1990). We became a member of ENAR, the European Network Against Racism (Belgium).

2000 – We conducted a seminar series on the UN in Africa and participated in activities with Africa Forum, Malmö. With a grant from the newly created Swedish Integration Bureau (SIB) we established an Anti-discrimination Bureau in Lund (ADB Lund). We received a five-year grant from Lund County government to maintain an office and attended the 53rd NGO & DPI Conference at UN headquarters in New York

2001 – We continued our seminar series in human rights for immigrant-based NGOs. With sponsorship from the Swedish Dept. of Foreign Affairs we participated in the UN's World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa. We also conducted county and national conferences on integration with the Swedish Board of Integration and the Justice Department.

2002 - 2006 -- With SIB support we continued expanding our anti-discrimination forum and networking operations with other Swedish NGOs and were active in the creation of the Centre Against Racism (CMR), Stockholm, and with the National Anti-discrimination Network.

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2007 – 2012 – We have adopted a five-year plan to expand our human rights information, education and assistance programmes to include other vulnerable groups. To achieve this we shall join-in and work with other local, regional and international NGOs, regional and international monitoring bodies. The plan includes monitoring the Swedish National Plan for Human Rights (2006 – 2009) and examining Swedish and other State reports to the human rights monitoring bodies of the United Nations, the ILO and the regional instruments. Our comments on join-in activities and monitoring State reports will be featured on our website and in The Lundian newsletter. This five year plan is dedicated to the memory of one of the strongest supporters of NGOs fighting discrimination in Sweden: Dr. Raouf Ressaissi (SIV).

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