

PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT
AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION
IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION PRESENTED PURSUANT TO ITEM 6
OF THE GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS
IN OAS ACTIVITIES [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)]

[Caribbean Policy Development Centre]

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY *CARIBBEAN POLICY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE*
TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE OAS

This document was prepared by the Department of International Affairs, Secretariat for External Relations to provide information to the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) on the civil society organization *Caribbean Policy Development Centre*.

The information contained herein is in response to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), “Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities.” This document includes a summary and a list of documentation presented by *Caribbean Policy Development Centre* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

The *Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)* is a non-governmental organization founded on February 17, 1993 in Bridgetown, Barbados with the mission to promote the capacity of civil society to partner with governments in the design and implementation of economic and sustainable development policies to benefit life in the Caribbean.

CPDC is part of a network of civil society organizations (CSOs) from nine countries of the Caribbean, including: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. Other members include regional organizations, such as the Caribbean Organization of Indigenous People (COIP), the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC), the Windward Islands Farmer’s Association (WINFA), and the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN).

The work of the *CPDC* is divided into three main categories: civil society participation and trade labor rights, gender, and sustainable development. In the area of civil society participation and trade labor rights, *CPDC* worked on the CARICOM Civil Society Project, which had the objective to enhance civil society participation in the regional integration processes promoted by CARICOM, including the CARICOM Single Market Economy (CSME) through the development of coordinating mechanisms at both national and regional levels. The project included 15 CARICOM Member States and facilitated 15 consultations with approximately 400 representatives of non-governmental and community-based organizations, professional associations, religious institutions, academic institutions, foundations, and think tanks.

In relation to labor rights in free trade agreements, *CPDC* carried out a project to examine different countries’ approaches to labor rights in the context of free trade negotiations and debated among CSOs whether labor rights should form part of free trade agreements or a merit separate treatment. The project consisted of national, sub-regional and regional workshops targeted at the National Working Committees on Trade (NWCT) to build their competence on labor rights and their capacity to monitor and examine various approaches to the issue.

In the field of gender, *CPDC* has implemented advocacy programs with partner organizations to enhance the capacity of women traders through research and training components in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Jamaica. In the same context, *CPDC* organized two training workshops in 2011 on gender analysis in policy formulation, targeted at leaders of women’s organizations, political parties, trade unions, and staff of gender bureaus in member countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

In the sustainable development area, by invitation from CDERA (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency), *CPDC* has participated in the Civil Society Sector Sub Committee (CSSSC) as a part of the agency's initiatives to mainstream disaster risk reduction and the creation of disaster resilient communities in partnership with non-governmental organizations. In its work with the CSSSC, *CPDC* developed a proposal to create a website on disaster management that will serve as a source of information and a channel of communication, engagement and feedback among CSSSC members and other stakeholders.

CPDC also participated in the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) summit on climate change in Durban, South Africa in 2011. The Caribbean input from *CPDC* members was utilized in the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) 2011 Policy Briefs, entitled "The Stories Behind Climate Compatible Development Policies and Programmes," which highlight the successes and shortcomings of these measures. For this compilation, *CPDC* presented the cases of Grenada's, "Climate Resilience Strategy" and Guyana's "Low Carbon Development."

CPDC attended the 11th Intercessional convened in 2011 and issued a series of comments and recommendations for inclusion in the zero draft toward the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

CPDC carries out its activities with projects financed by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), United Nations Women, United Nations Environmental Program, Caribbean Community Secretariat, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Christian Aid, Commonwealth Foundation, Oxfam-Great Britain, and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation.

CPDC submitted its application for registration with the OAS on March 28, 2011.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment of the CSO

Name of Organization:	Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)
Address:	P.O. Box 284 Bridgetown, Barbados
Telephone:	(246) 437-6055
Fax:	(246) 437-3381
E-mail address:	cpdc@caribsurf.com
Website:	www.cpdngo.org
Executive Coordinator:	Cecilia Babb
Date established:	February 17, 1993

3. Primary areas of activity and contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

CPDC serves as a forum for civil society organizations in the Caribbean to contribute to the regional and global debate on free trade, labor rights and sustainable development. The primary areas of activity and contributions of the organization that could be of interest to the OAS include:

- Promoting a regional and international dialogue and awareness of the challenges and opportunities for trade liberalization in the Caribbean through participation in regional and international forums;
- Building the capacity of civil society organizations to take part in the policy-making process on issues related to governance, gender equality, labor rights and trade through training workshops and exchanges of information; and
- Contributing to the follow-up of sustainable development policy in the Caribbean through research and the drafting of policy papers directed to pertinent governmental agencies and international conferences on the Caribbean's implementation of sustainable development commitments.

4. Identification of OAS work areas:

CPDC offers to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Present recommendations to the Inter-American Meetings of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Sustainable Development on the implementation of the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (PIDS) and the Declaration of Santa Cruz + 10, in accordance with the Inter-American Strategy for the Promotion of Public Participation in Decision-Making for Sustainable Development (ISP);
- Contribute recommendations and information to the meetings of the Inter-American Travel Congress related to the reduction of the impact of natural and man-made disasters that affect tourism infrastructure;
- Share information about the trade policies of OAS Member States in the Caribbean with the Department of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism (DEDTT) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI);
- Exchange best practices with the Department of Social Development and Employment (DSDE) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) on national initiatives to strengthen the institutional capacity of Caribbean Member States to generate decent work opportunities in partnership with civil society; and
- Support the mission of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to promote the inclusion of a gender perspective in the policy-making process.

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated March 28, 2011
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Bylaws
- Institutional mission statement
- Annual Reports of Activities for 2010 and 2011
- Financial statements for 2009, 2010 and 2011 (audited by Francina Downey and Co. Chartered Accountants)