

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

OEA/Ser.G
CP/CISC-581/11
1 August 2011
Original: Spanish

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

[Associação Cultural de Mulheres Negras do Rio Grande do Sul (ACMUN)]

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION BY ASSOCIAÇÃO CULTURAL DE MULHERES NEGRAS DO RIO GRANDE DO SUL (ACMUN) TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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 *Associação Cultural de Mulheres Negras do Rio Grande do Sul (ACMUN)*.

The information contained in this report is provided pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), "Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities," and includes a summary and a list of data and documentation presented by *Associação Cultural de Mulheres Negras do Rio Grande do Sul (ACMUN)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. **Background**

Associação Cultural de Mulheres Negras do Rio Grande do Sul (ACMUN) is a nonprofit organization that was founded on June 5, 1994, in Puerto Alegre, Brazil, to advance the rights of women of African descent and eliminate discrimination by reason of race, ethnicity, and gender.

ACMUN is a member of the *Articulação de Organizações de Mulheres Negras Brasileiras (AMNB)*, a network of 23 civil society organizations from different regions of Brazil that monitors public policies and strategies for inclusive development in Brazil, with particular attention to protection and advancement of rights, generation of employment opportunities, and equality without discrimination for reasons of race, sex, sexual orientation, or class. Through its project *Construyendo la Equidad* (Building Equity), *ACMUN* aims to increase the participation of the AMNB and black women in monitoring and assessment of public policies, through their participation in fora at the national and local level, including the Committee for Linkage with Social Movements on HIV/AIDS (CAMS) of the Ministry of Health, the National Health Council, the State Health Council, and the Municipal Health Council.

ACMUN works on prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS through its Lai Lai Network, which seeks to strengthen implementation of the National Comprehensive Healthcare Program for the Black Population and the Comprehensive Plan against the Feminization of AIDS and other STIs. In addition, its project Prevention and Action provides training to adolescent women of African descent between the ages of 13 and 17 on STI and HIV/AIDS prevention through classes on dance, handicrafts, self-esteem, racism, and gender.

ACMUN is funded through projects it has executed with financing from the Brazil's federal and state health authorities, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the Ford Foundation.

ACMUN submitted its original application to the OAS on May 26, 2011.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name of Organization: Associação Cultural de Mulheres Negras do Rio Grande do Sul (ACMUN)

Address: Rua Vigário José Inácio, 371/1919, Centro
Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Cep. 90028-900
Brazil

Telephone: +55 51 3062 7009

E-mail address: acmun_acmun@yahoo.com.br

Executive Coordinator: Heloisa Helena da Silva Duarte

Date established: June 5, 1994

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

ACMUN works with networks of Afro-descendant and women's organizations on advancement of human rights, nondiscrimination, and health programs. The organization's primary areas of work that might be of interest to the OAS include:

- Strengthening of women's participation and influence on public policy in the area of human rights and nondiscrimination of women of African descent, through monitoring and assessment of the implementation by governmental bodies of policies against racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination; and
- Increase of access to, and coverage of, health services through work in partnership with other civil society organizations to promote the state's plans and policies in this area, as well as through education to raise youth awareness about prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

4. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS

ACMUN would like to work with the OAS in the following areas:

- Upholding the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter;
- Offering recommendations to the Working Group to Prepare a Draft Inter-American Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP), in cooperation with the Department of International Law of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA);
- Furnishing information and recommendations to the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Women and the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Persons of African Descent and

against Racial Discrimination of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in order to advance and protect the rights of these groups; and

- Collaborating with the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in its efforts to support the OAS member states in furthering access to information on HIV/AIDS and on sexual and reproductive health care, in accordance with the Declaration of San Salvador: Gender, Violence, and HIV.

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General dated May 26, 2011
- Articles of incorporation
- Statutes
- Institutional mission statement
- Activities report for 2010
- Financial statements for 2010 (signed by Heloisa Helena da Silva Duarte, President of ACMUN, and Carlos Odilon R. De Almeida, Accountant)