

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

*(Fundación Terra)*

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY  
*FUNDACIÓN TERRA*  
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits Secretariat to provide member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization (CSO) *Fundación Terra*.

The information contained in this report is in response to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), "Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities." This document contains a summary and a list of supporting documentation presented by *Fundación Terra* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

*Fundación Terra* is a nongovernmental organization established in 1992. Its objective is to carry out in-depth studies and disseminate information and research on environmental issues, making that information readily accessible to population groups affected by urban environmental problems. *Fundación Terra* also promotes and conducts partnership activities to improve environmental quality and health. Its headquarters are in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*Fundación Terra* has a youth volunteer corps called Yellow Helmets (*Cascos Amarillos*), who are trained in various fields related to environmental issues. They provide the public with general information on environmental issues and take action in response to situations in which the environment in general is at risk. The overall program contains several subprograms focusing on the environmental issues of each municipality or location where a project is implemented and a volunteer corps is formed.

*Fundación Terra* also has an interdisciplinary research group that focuses on environmental programs mainly targeting the most vulnerable social sectors, with priority on those dealing with the complex characteristics of urban centers. *Fundación Terra* holds workshops, training courses, talks, forums, and demonstrations. *Fundación Terra* does not receive any public or private funding.

*Fundación Terra* submitted its application to the OAS on February 22, 2006.

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

Name: *Fundación Terra*

Headquarters address: Avenida de Mayo 819, Piso 5 "A"  
C1084AAP  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Telephone: 54-11-4826-0802

Fax: 54-11-4826-0802  
E-mail address: fundacionterra@yahoo.com.ar  
Website: www.fundacionterra.org.ar  
President: Gustavo Coppola  
Date established: December 17, 1992

3. Primary areas of activity of the CSO and their relationship to OAS activities

The purpose of *Fundación Terra* is to disseminate information on environmental problems and promote initiatives to fight them. Among its activities that relate to OAS activities are:

- Strengthening the rights of population groups affected by environmental problems, especially in urban areas, through conferences, forums, demonstrations, and similar activities.
- Promoting sustainable development through research, studies, and volunteer work.
- Promoting education and general interest in environmental issues to improve the preservation of natural resources by individual citizens.

4. CSO contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

*Fundación Terra* can assist OAS efforts in the areas of sustainable development and environmental protection, through the following activities:

- Holding workshops on levels of citizen participation in addressing environmental issues, dissemination methods, awareness-building, and volunteering as an effective tool.
- Holding forums, talks, and seminars geared to increasing awareness of environmental issues and sustainable development.
- Designing programs for the creation of youth volunteer corps to defend the environment and training these volunteers on general environmental topics and in caring for natural resources.
- Encouraging businesses to meet their environmental obligations, through initiatives designed to publicize violations and bring about their rectification.

5. Identification of OAS work areas in which the CSO proposes to support ongoing activities or to make recommendations on the best way to achieve OAS objectives

*Fundación Terra* can contribute to OAS efforts to protect the environment and promote sustainable development by:

- Providing technical support to OAS member states through studies and research promoting the development of environmental policies.
- Collaborating with the Department of Sustainable Development of SEDI to support member states in the design and implementation of initiatives to integrate environmental priorities with anti-poverty and socioeconomic development efforts.
- Publicizing the Forum of the Americas on Sustainable Development of the Department of Sustainable Development and promoting its implementation.
- Collaborating with the Department of Sustainable Development as technical secretariat of the Inter-American Water Resources Network to promote good management of water resources.
- Disseminating the results of the Meeting of Ministers of Health and the Environment, held in 2005, under the auspices of the OAS, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to promote environmental health in Latin America.
- Supporting and publicizing the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities on Sustainable Development, scheduled for October 2006.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS:

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated February 22, 2006
- *Fundación Terra* Annual Report, 2005
- *Fundación Terra* Annual Report, 2003
- Financial statement, 2003
- Certificate of incorporation
- Letter from Dr. Mario Cesar Villa, Chartered Accountant, certifying that *Fundación Terra* did not receive financing of any nature during 2003
- Summary of 2004 Annual Report