

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)]

(Transparência Brasil)

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
TRANSPARÊNCIA BRASIL
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to provide Member States of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization (CSO) *Transparência Brasil*.

The information contained in this report responds 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 *Transparência Brasil* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Transparência Brasil, a national chapter of Transparency International (TI), was established in Brazil in April 2000. *Transparência Brasil* is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization, founded by citizens in efforts to fight corruption nationally and internationally. Its mission is to contribute to the development of transparent and inclusive institutions at the national, regional, and local levels, as well as to the formation of an informed citizenry.

Transparência Brasil implements projects that encourage citizen participation in efforts to achieve greater transparency and efficiency in public administration in order to fight corruption. *Transparência Brasil* maintains a database of information from daily newspapers and weekly magazines throughout Brazil about corruption and efforts taken to combat it. *Transparência Brasil* participates in the monitoring of political financing and elections as an observer, carries out research projects with an anticorruption component in order to increase public awareness, and works to ensure that laws incorporate principles of information transparency and are in conformity with legislation on access to information.

Transparência Brasil finances its programs and activities from national and international sources including the Tribunal de Contas de Santa Catarina (TCE-SC), Ford Foundation, Partners of the Americas, the Avina Foundation, Philips, Transparency International Latin America and the Caribbean, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Transparency International, the United Nations (UN), the Organization of American States (OAS), and voluntary donations.

Transparência Brasil submitted its application on June 28, 2005.

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

Name: *Transparência Brasil*

Address: Rua Francisco Leitão, 399 cj 122
05414-025, Sao Paulo, SP
Brazil

Telefax: 55-11-3062-3436

Website: www.transparencia.org.br

E-mail address: tbrasil@transparencia.org.br

President: Eduardo Ribeiro Capobianco

Date established: February 29, 2000

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

The primary purpose of *Transparência Brasil* is to fight corruption nationally and internationally, strengthen civil society participation, and increase public and private institutional capacity in efforts to make government activities more transparent. It carries out activities in efforts to:

- Promote the active participation of civil society in the exercise of its civic rights during electoral processes and to bolster political party anticorruption programs;
- Elaborate and promote legal initiatives related to citizen participation, political parties, and electoral processes;
- Create and disseminate citizen education campaigns;
- Organize independent systems of electoral information, parallel counts, and electoral observation;
- Direct ongoing attention to legislative decisions on draft laws that will incorporate principles of information transparency;
- Monitor political and federal financing through the elaboration of studies; and
- Strengthen the public democratic institutional system and improve governance standards and transparency.

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

Transparência Brasil can reinforce OAS anticorruption efforts in Brazil and the region through the elaboration and implementation of technical programs and projects that aim to:

- Monitor the implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption;

- Follow up on and monitor anticorruption policy design in Brazil and the region;
- Design and implement methodologies to prevent corruption and increase civil society's awareness of corruption;
- Support measures that promote mechanisms to prevent and eradicate corruption in the Member States;
- Collaborate in the establishment of norms to prevent conflicts of interest and to promote the proper use of resources allocated to civil servants in the exercise of their functions;
- Educate civil servants on their responsibilities and the ethical standards governing their activities;
- Promote draft laws on free access to information and information transparency in the Member States; and
- Participate in activities that support OAS efforts to encourage the participation of civil society in anticorruption activities.

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

Transparência Brasil can support the OAS in the fight against corruption in the region in the framework of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and in its efforts to strengthen and promote democracy. *Transparência Brasil* could cooperate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Provide assistance in activities carried out by the Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC);
- Collaborate with the Technical Secretariat for Legal Cooperation Mechanisms of the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs to follow up on and promote the implementation of commitments made by Member States in the Inter-American Convention against Corruption;
- Disseminate and promote activities to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption;
- Disseminate and promote the Inter-American Democratic Charter of the OAS;
- Participate in electoral observation processes to safeguard democratic processes in cooperation with the Department for the Promotion of Democracy of the Secretariat for Political Affairs;

- Collaborate with the Summits of the Americas Secretariat and participate in meetings to share experiences and ideas with similar organizations; and
- Examine mechanisms for governing and facilitating civil society's access to information.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General dated June 28, 2005
- List of members of *Transparência Brasil* and its Executive Board
- 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 financial statements (audited by Terco Grant Thornton)
- Certificate of Incorporation of *Transparência Brasil*
- Statutes of *Transparência Brasil*
- Annual Report 2003