

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-486/10  
17 February 2010  
Original: Spanish

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

[*Viva Rio*]

## ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY *VIVA RIO* TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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

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 includes a summary and list of supporting documentation submitted by *Viva Rio* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

### 1. **Background**

A non-profit, nongovernmental organization based in R o de Janeiro, Brazil, *Viva Rio* was established on July 1, 1994 to promote a culture of peace and social development through field work, research, and formulation of public policies. Its activities focus mainly on implementing programs and projects geared towards prevention, control, and eradication of small arms or light weapons, trafficking, and protection of youth at risk of violence.

*Viva Rio* works to reduce urban armed violence in low income areas through projects in public security, arms control, youth and armed violence, drug policies, and peace operations.

In pursuit of its objectives, *Viva Rio* coordinates with a number of United Nations agencies, regional organizations, national and local governments, research institutions, police bodies, NGOs, and civil society organizations, as well as churches, foundations, the media, and private companies. It is a member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), which has over 800 members in 120 countries and a national network of more than 983 organizations.

*Viva Rio* has funded its projects through contributions from international organizations, public and private sector agencies and organizations such as the Office of the Mayor of Rio de Janeiro; Ministry of Justice of Brazil; Petrobras; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Save the Children-Sweden; Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA); Ford Foundation; Open Society Institute; Nike; Rotary Club; and New School University, among others.

*Viva Rio* submitted its application for registration with the OAS on October 7, 2009.

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

Name: Viva Rio  
Address: Rua do Russel, 76 – Gloria, CEP: 222210-010  
Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brasil

Telephone: (55) 21 2555-3750

Fax: (55) 21 2555-3753

E-Mail: vivario@vivario.org.br

Website: www.vivario.org.br

Executive Director: Rubem César Fernandes

Date of establishment: July 1, 1994

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

The following are among the activities carried out by *Viva Rio* and which could be related to the work of the OAS:

- Promoting the adoption and implementation of legislative reforms to strengthen institutional capacity in the area of control and illegal trafficking in arms and drugs;
- Preventing violence and social exclusion of young people through educational programs, professional training, sports, and art and culture classes, providing opportunity and conditions for helping young people leave violent groups and get reincorporated into society; and
- Promoting peaceful forms of conflict-resolution, access to justice, and legal protection network for low income communities and victims of human rights violations.

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

Activities undertaken by *Viva Rio* revolve around youth, security, and local development. Contributions by *Viva Rio* that may be of interest for the OAS include:

- Running campaigns to promote disarmament, arms control legislation, and peaceful resolution of conflicts;
- Collaborating with local organizations, educational institutions, and municipal governments on education projects to help youth and teens to complete their primary

education, develop professional skills, and participate in extracurricular programs such as sports competitions and classes in arts and culture in order to provide other opportunities for young people to stay away from or get out of violent groups;

- Collecting and analyzing information on the factors and areas of violence and developing, in partnership with municipal governments and other nongovernmental organizations, strategies to combat gun violence and drug trafficking;
- Facilitation of training of police officers using videos and booklets on the use of force, weapon use, problem solving, discrimination and prejudice, and professional ethics; and
- Facilitating the establishment of micro and small enterprises and other local development projects in low income areas to support alternative income generation models, such as self-employment and family-based projects and community networks.

#### **5. Identification of OAS work areas**

*Viva Rio* believes that its experience and close relationship with community organizations, local, national, and international networks, as well as its participation in national and regional consultation processes, could be useful for activities carried out by different OAS agencies and units. In that sense, it could support the work of the OAS by:

- Contributing to the Inter-American Police Training Program (PICAP) of the Department of Public Security, Secretariat for Multidimensional Security and by supporting the exchange of experience and professionalization of the police force;
- Providing the Permanent Council's Committee on Hemispheric Security with information on successful programs in crime and violence prevention, combating arms trafficking, and other issues related to public security in the Americas;
- Supporting the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices, of the Department of Education and Culture of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), to promote democracy among young people;
- Collaborating with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), in particular the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, to produce timely information and statistics on drug abuse, production, and trafficking;
- Supporting the Department of Social Development and Employment in its efforts to promote poverty-reduction, decent work, and job creation policies and programs, as a factor in preventing youth violence; and
- Working with the Youth Orchestras Program for Youth at Risk in the Caribbean, of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Secretariat for External Relations (SER).

**6. Documents submitted to the OAS**

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated October 7, 2009
- Articles of incorporation dated July 1, 1994
- Statutes
- Mission statement
- 2009 and 2005 General Assembly minutes
- 2008 annual activities report
- Financial Statement 2008 and 2007 (audited by Francisco de Souza Carvalho, Accountant)