

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)]

*[Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras  
y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”]*

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY  
*ASOCIACIÓN PARA EL MEJORAMIENTO DE LA CALIDAD DE LA VIDA DE LAS  
TRABAJADORAS Y EX TRABAJADORAS SEXUALES “LA SALA”*  
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 *Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”* [Association for Improving the Quality of Life of Current and Former Women Sex Workers “La Sala”].

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 documentation presented by *Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

**1. Background**

*Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”* is a nonprofit charitable organization that was established in San Jose, Costa Rica, on November 30, 2001.

The purpose of *Asociación La Sala* is to safeguard the rights of current and former women sex workers, as well as to provide them with individual training and contribute to prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

*Asociación La Sala* carries out education programs to create awareness about the rights of current and former women sex workers and to offer training to them in the areas of health and hygiene in order to make them aware, empower them, and enable them to demand their rights.

*Asociación La Sala* also engages in activities aimed at eradicating gender violence. Working in coordination with other civil society organizations and state institutions, it reviews the situation of women sex workers in the country and the region in order to influence public policy in this area.

*Asociación La Sala* receives funding for its projects from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria through the Latin American and Caribbean Female Sex Workers Network (REDTRASEX) as well as from Mama Cash, an international women’s fund.

*Asociación La Sala* submitted its application for registration with the OAS on April 18, 2014.

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

Name of organization: Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”

Address: Avenida 5, Calle 6 y 8, antiguo edificio Canada Dry  
San José, Costa Rica

Telephone: (+506) 2221-3009

Fax: (+595) 2144-6116

E-mail address: proyecto\_la\_sala@hotmail.com  
nubiaordonezugalde@gmail.com

Website: www.asociacionlasala.org

Present: Nubia Ordoñez Ugalde

Date established: November 30, 2001

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

*Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”* works to promote and protect the rights of current and former female sex workers. The main areas of activity and contributions of the CSO that may be of interest to the OAS include:

- Safeguarding the rights of current and former female sex workers through recognition of their work and individual training in order to encourage them to improve their practices in the area of hygiene, take greater precautions, and monitor their health regularly;
- Raising awareness so that female sex workers can demand observance of their rights in society;
- Formulating projects to provide training to female sex workers in the area of physical and mental health that include educational workshops at health facilities and outreach activities.

**4. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS**

*La Asociación para el Mejoramiento de la Calidad de la Vida de las Trabajadoras y Ex Trabajadoras Sexuales “La Sala”* proposes to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Assisting the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in influencing the adoption of public policies to protect the human, social, economic, and political rights of female sex workers in the Americas;
- Contributing to the objectives of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of promoting gender equity in the Hemisphere in order to raise awareness and foster recognition for and the advancement of women's human rights; and
- Participating in regional debates open to civil society and presenting recommendations to OAS member states on women's rights in the framework of the General Assembly, the Permanent Council, the IACHR, CIM, and other forums.

**5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS**

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General, dated April 18, 2014.
- National registration of *Asociación "La Sala"*
- Statutes
- 2013 performance report
- Institutional mission statement
- Copy of the 2013 financial statements (signed by Henry Picado Cerdas, *Asociación "La Sala"* financial advisor).