

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)]

[Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones de Gobiernos Locales (FLACMA)]

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY THE
*FEDERACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE CIUDADES, MUNICIPIOS
Y ASOCIACIONES DE GOBIERNOS LOCALES (FLACMA)*
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits Secretariat to provide member states of the Organization of American States with information on the civil society organization *Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones de Gobiernos Locales - FLACMA* (Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities, and Associations of Local Governments).

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 *FLACMA* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

FLACMA is an international, nonprofit organization, established in 1981 under private law as the Latin American chapter of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA). Its main office is in Quito, Ecuador. Its members consist of local governments, national associations of local governments, and institutions that support municipal development in Latin America that have asked to join. *FLACMA* is funded by membership dues.

The Federation’s principal area of work is the promotion and development of independent, fair, democratic local governments. Its purposes are to strengthen local democracy, improve community living standards, support decentralization, and promote sustainable development.

To achieve its objectives, *FLACMA* conducts training programs, issues publications, carries out research, and holds congresses and seminars for local governments, associations of local governments, and institutions that support municipal development. *FLACMA* established the Latin American Training Center for the Development of Local Governments (CELCADEL) as its technical organ for the execution of programs and projects. Working in conjunction with CELCADEL, *FLACMA* offers training and technical assistance to local governments in the region, conducts research on local development issues, and produces educational materials aimed at human resource development.

FLACMA cooperates with various international organizations and with organizations of local governments worldwide. *FLACMA* works with the OAS in its capacity as an observer to the High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government, and Citizen Participation (RIAD). It has participated in the Summits of the Americas and has been involved in technical activities with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI). *FLACMA* cooperates with the United Nations in its capacity as regional chapter of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA)—an organization that has been given consultative status by the Economic and Social Council. Likewise, it has participated in the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

FLACMA submitted its application to the OAS on May 10, 2006.

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

Name: *Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones de Gobiernos Locales (FLACMA)*

Address of main office: Calle Agustín Guereo 219 y José María Ayora, 2do. Piso
Quito, Ecuador

Telephone: (593 2) 246-9365/6

Fax: (593 2) 243-5205

E-mail address: flacma@flacma.org

Web page: www.flacma.org

President: Julio César Pereyra

Date established: July 19, 2002

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

FLACMA works to strengthen municipal or local governments in Latin America as foundations for democracy, equity, sustainable development, and the elimination of poverty, by:

- Strengthening associations of local governments and institutions that support municipal development, at the international level; and, at the local level, promoting Latin American integration by fostering cooperation, institutional ties, and solidarity among local governments.
- Promoting cooperation and involvement with governmental and nongovernmental organizations with a view to reinforcing independence and local democracy.
- Developing and monitoring municipal and local government programs and projects geared toward improving living conditions for children, adolescents, and the elderly.
- Promoting the effectiveness and transparency of local governments, associations of local governments, and institutions that support municipal development, on the basis of democratic principles and social equity.

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

FLACMA believes that the following of its main objectives are consistent with the OAS Charter and would thus facilitate cooperative ties between the two organizations:

- Building and maintaining regional networks for promoting local development and democracy.
- Implementing institutional administration and institution-building programs that include project identification, preparation, and management.
- Channeling technical, financial, human, and physical resources to benefit local governments, associations of local governments, and institutions that support municipal development in Latin America.
- Holding training workshops and national public awareness seminars on subjects related to democracy, inter-American cooperation, and principles of self-government.
- Facilitating the sharing of experiences among local governments, associations of local governments, and institutions that support municipal development in Latin America.
- Promoting Latin American integration processes and strengthening democratic systems through face-to-face and virtual training programs.
- Implementing electronic communication and information systems, and encouraging the use of technologies for policy applications and access to successful experiences, in order to foster human and territorial development in the cities of Latin America and the Caribbean.

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

FLACMA believes it can further OAS efforts to strengthen cities and local governments by:

- Continuing to work with the High-Level Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government, and Citizen Participation (RIAD).
- Supporting the work of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) in implementing the policies of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) that facilitate and foster integral development.
- Publicizing and promoting the Inter-American Democratic Charter in Latin American cities and local governments.

- Working with the Secretariat for Political Affairs to uphold and reinforce democracy, good governance, and decentralization.
- Supporting the Department of Sustainable Development in designing policies and executing projects that integrate environmental protection into rural development and poverty alleviation.
- Supporting and participating in the Summits of the Americas process through activities of the Summits Secretariat.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS dated May 10, 2006
- List of members of the *FLACMA* Executive Committee
- By-laws of *FLACMA-CELCADEL*
- Cartagena Agreement
- Agreement on Privileges and Immunities between the Government of Ecuador and *IULA-FLACMA*
- Background information on *FLACMA-CELCADEL*
- Activity Report for the period from June 2005 to January 2006
- 2006-2007 *FLACMA* Work Program
- 2006 *FLACMA* Consolidated Budget
- 2005 *FLACMA* Report on Budget Execution
- 2005 *CELCADEL* Report on Budget Execution
- Projects executed by *FLACMA-CELCADEL* up to 2005
- Table of *FLACMA-CELCADEL* Technical Assistance Activities up to 2005
- *FLACMA-CELCADEL* publications