

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)]

[Association of Development Agencies (ADA)]

**ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES (ADA)
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES**

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

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 *Association of Development Agencies (ADA)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Association of Development Agencies (ADA) is a non-governmental development organization comprised of 13 member agencies founded in 1985 with headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica. *ADA's* operates as a collective forum to promote sustainable integral development, social change and advocacy in areas of trade and development.

The organizations that comprise the *ADA* hold the central goal of increasing sustainable development in Jamaica, but they focus their efforts on topics ranging from the promotion of human rights, citizen participation and democracy to the fight against corruption and poverty. *ADA* furthers its mission of promoting the work of these organizations by providing a space for dialogue, implementing research projects, engaging in advocacy work, training and capacity building, and elaborating policy recommendations.

ADA is governed by a seven member Board of Directors elected from its members. This Association derives its funding from membership fees non-governmental, non-profit national, grants, regional and international organizations, such as The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica, Caribbean Policy Development Centre, the Inter-American Civil Society Partnership Initiative (OAS), CIVICUS, and PARTICIPA among others.

ADA submitted its application to the OAS on December 12, 2007.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name:	<i>Association of Development Agencies (ADA)</i>
Address:	12 Easton Avenue Kingston 5Jamaica, W.I.
Telephone:	(876) 927-8568
Fax:	(876) 927-4580
E-mail address:	asdevgen@cwjamaica.com ; ada9274580@yahoo.com

Chair: Amsale Maryam

Date of charter: May 6, 1985

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

ADA seeks to promote integral development, mechanism of poverty reduction by:

- Promoting citizen participation and community leadership through education by promoting programs against corruption through citizen participation.
- Contribute to the promotion of protection to the fundamental human and political rights of vulnerable peoples in Jamaica by making it available to marginalized communities;

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

ADA can contribute to OAS work in areas such as the protection of human rights, the promotion of democracy and integral development, and the promotion of the education of the Jamaican citizen in order to build civic consciousness democratic values through the following activities:

- Working to build the technical capacity of civil society organizations in the areas of project, financial, and organizational management to improve proposals submitted to grant donors through training programs. In addition, *ADA* promotes partnerships with other civil society organizations, international organizations, governmental organizations and academia to promote their training programs and advocacy work;
- Hosting and participating in national, regional and international workshops to develop civil society policy recommendations to the national authorities at Jamaica as well to general and international organizations;
- Advocate for the interest of small farmers and environmental protection in regards to trade policies by lobbying for alternative trade and development strategies;
- Developing and maintaining a documentation center that serves as a repository of the efforts made by civil society organizations towards sustainable development;

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

ADA can contribute to OAS efforts to promote integral development:

- Collaborating with the Secretariat for Political Affairs (SAP) to promote the Inter-American Democratic Charter to foster debate and research on issues affecting the

confidence in political systems, structural reforms, and the enhancement of transparency in campaign financing;

- Contributing on the development of a modern civil registries initiative at the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI);
- Providing assistance to the Secretariat for Political Affairs in its role as the technical secretariat for the Inter-American Network on Decentralization, Local Government and Citizen Participation;
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- Contributing in OAS' work of the Department of Education and Culture (SEDI) to develop educational policies and materials for Jamaica to educate citizenry about democratic values;
- Collaborating with the Department of Sustainable Development's of SEDI to reduce risk from natural disasters and rising sea levels, as well as with the Caribbean Community's (CARICOM) Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change Project;
- Assisting the work of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) to improve citizen security by providing reports identifying violations of human rights;

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated December 8, 2007
- Official name, address, and date of establishment of the organization and names of its directors and legal representatives
- Official charter dated May 6, 1985
- Statutes
- Audited financial statements for 2006
- Annual reports for 2006 and 2007