

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)]

[International Education and Resource Network, Trinidad and Tobago (iEARN TnT)]

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND RESOURCE NETWORK,
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (iEARN TnT)
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) *International Education and Resource Network, Trinidad and Tobago (iEARN TnT)*.

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 *iEARN TnT* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

iEARN TnT is a non-profit association incorporated on February 22, 2006 with the objective to support teachers and students through a global telecommunications network. The projects are designed to address global issues while forming linkages to enable participants to engage in educational projects with peers locally and internationally.

iEARN TnT is the Trinidad and Tobago branch of an international *iEARN* network. *iEARN* is a non-profit organization, established in 1988, consisting of 20,000 schools in 115 countries. *iEARN* facilitates cooperative initiatives among teachers and young people of different countries to use the Internet and other communications technologies in order to carry out cooperative programs in the areas of science, technology, math, creative and language arts, and culture and society.

iEARN TnT implements a range of programs on issues such as culture and immigration, natural disaster preparedness, youth leadership, and environmental issues. The programs are available for youth of varying ages.

The organization receives its funding from the *United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)* and the *United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)*, as well as through membership dues, fundraising, and individual grants for *iEARN TnT* participation in workshops and conferences.

iEARN TnT submitted its application on April 27, 2006.

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

Name of the Organization: *International Education and Resource Network, Trinidad and Tobago (iEARN TnT)*

Address: P.O. Box #1077
Port-of-Spain
Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: 868-640-9141

Fax: 868-622-6816

E-mail address: iearntnt_net@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.iearntandt.interconnection.org/index.htm>

President/
National Coordinator: Gia Gaspard Taylor

Date established: February 22, 2006

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

The main objective of *iEARN TnT* is to provide students in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean region with a global network and supportive structure in which to conduct educational projects. Its activities are related to those of the OAS in the following areas:

- Educate and develop capacity among youth in the interest of developing capable, informed, and socially responsible individuals;
- Encourage and support education in information and communication technologies regionally and internationally;
- Promote cultural appreciation and acceptance among youth;
- Support and participate in regional projects involving such environmental issues as natural disaster preparedness and sustainable development;
- Promote the participation of civil society, particularly youth, in public affairs through capacity-building initiatives and education; and
- Monitor and participate in the activities of multi-lateral government organizations such as the OAS.

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

iEARN TnT achieves its objectives through its participation in a regional, and international network of teachers and students collectively promoting education, technology, and cultural appreciation. In this regard, the following activities that this organization carries out may be of interest to the OAS:

- Organize and participate in regional workshops and projects, promoting youth education and leadership;
- Broaden access to technology among the youth of Trinidad and Tobago by bringing computers into schools;
- Encourage social responsibility and cultural appreciation through globally focused educational activities;
- Arrange youth events promoting environmental awareness. Collaborate with classrooms around the world to promote similar educational themes; and
- Contribute to the dialogue taking place in the OAS among civil society organizations and member states.

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

iEARN TnT would like to assist the OAS in the areas of the promotion of education, culture, science and technology. In particular, it can assist the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in the following ways:

- Provide support for the initiatives of the Inter-American Committee on Education and its Technical Secretariat comprised of the Department of Education, Culture, Science and Technology and the Unit of Cooperation Policies of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI);
- Assist the Inter-American Committee on Science and Technology (COMCYT) of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (CIDI) to develop, foster and support activities that contribute to the advancement of science and technology in the member States and to promote their economic, social, cultural, scientific, and technological integral development;
- Support the Department of Sustainable Development through the contribution of recommendations to the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities on Sustainable Development and monitoring of the implementation of the Declaration of Santa Cruz;
- Provide support to the Joint Consultative Organ of the Committee on Hemispheric Security and the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for

Integral Development (CEPCIDI) on Natural Disaster Reduction and Risk Management; and

- Promote the implementation of the Declaration of Mar del Plata which highlights the importance of education as a means to fight poverty, build a marketable labor force, and create a strong foundation in science and technology.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General dated April 27, 2006
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Articles of Incorporation and Constitution
- Annual Report 2005-2006
- Bi-monthly Newsletter, *iEARN TnT News*
- Financial Statement (Not audited)