

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)]

[National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)]

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (NCPD) 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 *National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)*.

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 documentation presented by *National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) is a non-profit organization that was established on May 10, 1984 in San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago with the mission to provide vocational rehabilitation and training opportunities for persons with disabilities in order to advance their welfare and social inclusion.

NCPD conducts its work around two main pillars: 1) advocacy and 2) vocational rehabilitation training. In the area of advocacy, *NCPD* organized its first conference on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) on November 16-17, 2012 with the goal of sharing approaches to promote and monitor the ratification of the UNCRPD. In May 2013, *NCPD* launched an awareness campaign “Discover the ABILITY in the disability” that aims to foster a greater understanding among the community for the integration of people with disabilities into society, especially in the areas of journalism, music and sports. This activity forms part of a one-year National Awareness Campaign “Social Integration of Persons with Disabilities” being carried out in collaboration with the Caribbean Kids and Families Therapy Organisation (CKFTO).

NCPD also offers support services to persons with disabilities and their families to aid their integration into the work force. In 2012, *NCPD* performed vocational assessments, trainings and job placement services for 980 persons with disabilities, among which 250 received vocational rehabilitation training in the areas of agriculture, beauty culture, bookbinding, food preparation, industrial sewing, information technology, office administration, welding and woodwork. *NCPD* also assisted 34 participants to pass vocational certification exams, provided employment to 45 individuals and helped 69 graduates find placements in apprenticeships.

NCPD’s Independent Living Skills Unit works with persons with disabilities who are not able to participate in the vocational training programs to teach them basic skills that enable them to live independently, such as dressing themselves, making the bed, preparing breakfast, and housekeeping, among others.

In 2011 and 2012, *NCPD* provided training and developed a manual in wheelchair repairs and maintenance through a project implemented in cooperation with the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), the Ministry of Health of Trinidad and Tobago, Ptolemy Reid Rehabilitation Centre Guyana, and the Open Doors Centre in Guyana.

NCPD conducts its activities with projects financed by governmental agencies in Trinidad and Tobago, including the Ministry of the People and Social Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Community Development, and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Band; Corporations: Angostura Ltd., Republic Bank Ltd., National Lotteries Control Board, United Way Trinidad and Tobago, Public Transport Service Corporation, Novartis; Foundations: John Phillips Trust, Haji Gokool Mah Trust, JB Fernandes Memorial Trust 1; among other corporations and individual contributions.

NCPD submitted its application to be registered with the OAS on August 5, 2013.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: National Centre for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)

Address: 7-21 New Street
San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago
West Indies

Telephone: (868) 652-4880 / (868) 657-3525

E-mail address: ncpd@carib-link.net; ncpd1@hotmail.com

Website: www.ncpdt.org

Chief Executive Officer: Beverly Beckles

Date established: May 10, 1984

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

NCPD promotes the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities through advocacy and human development programs. The primary areas of activity and contributions that could be of interest to the OAS:

- Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities through awareness campaigns and conferences about the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) at the national and international levels; and
- Supporting human and social development by offering vocational training programs, career placement services and other basic skills to improve the living conditions of persons with disabilities.

4. Identification of OAS work areas

NCPD offers to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Contribute information and recommendations to the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CEDDIS) regarding the implementation of the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2006-2016 (SEDISCAP), in cooperation with the Secretariat for Legal Affairs;
- Present recommendations to the Inter-American Committee on Social Development and the Meetings of Ministers and High Authorities of Social Development in the framework of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) regarding the implementation of the Social Charter of the Americas and the development of effective public policies to promote employment and income generation in vulnerable populations;
- Support the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) by preparing reports on the human rights situation of persons with disabilities in the Caribbean; and
- Share best practices regarding effective ways to promote the social inclusion of persons with disabilities with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) in the framework of the Inter-American Social Protection Network (RIPSO).

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the OAS Secretary General, August 5, 2013
- Certificate of Incorporation
- By-laws
- Mission Statement
- Annual Report for 2012
- Financial Statements for 2012 (audited by Joseph, Caddle & Associates Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants)