

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 una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ)]

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY ASOCIACIÓN PARA UNA SOCIEDAD MAS JUSTA (ASJ) TO BE REGISTERED IN 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 (CSO) *Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa* [Association for a More Just Society] (ASJ).

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 the documentation presented by *Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa* (ASJ) in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. **Background**

Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ) is a nonprofit organization founded on May 22, 2003, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to promote the fight against corruption in Honduras, provide legal advice and psychological counseling to child victims of sexual abuse, and promote the comprehensive development of vulnerable individuals. To fulfill its objectives, ASJ has 50 volunteer attorneys, researchers, psychologists, and journalists.

ASJ is executing five projects, among them: (1) *Labor Rights*, which promotes respect for the labor rights of the most vulnerable sectors; (2) *Land Rights*, under which the organization provides training and assists members of the public in the legal process and in obtaining titles to their property (over 3,700 beneficiaries in over 50 housing estates); (3) *Gedeón*, providing legal advice and psychological counseling to individuals from different communities (over 5,000 benefitted), and opportunities for children and youth to receive job training and learn to relate through talks and sports; (4) *Peace and Justice*, which provides legal advice and legal assistance throughout the judicial process, and psychological support for victims of sexual abuse (30 cases instituted with 12 convictions and 45 beneficiaries); and (5) *Rescue*, which focuses on care for child victims of sexual abuse (over 30 cases and over 500 persons trained), focusing on psychological therapy to help these victims overcome the damage caused by abuse.

The ASJ is also the Honduran chapter of Transparency International and leads the *Transformemos Honduras* movement, which promotes the strengthening of democracy and improved public, health, and justice services.

ASJ carries out its activities with financial support for its programs from the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), World Bank, Association for a More Just Society, Lakarmissionen, Kindernothilfe, Christian Reformed World Missions, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, DanChurchAid, Trocair, Geiise Foundation, International Justice Mission, Mennonite Central Committee, and Diakonia, among others.

ASJ submitted its application for registration with the OAS on June 6, 2012.

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

Name: Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ)

Address: Residencial Bajos del Trapiche, Segunda entrada, Bloque B, Casa 25
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Telephone: + (504) 2235-2291

E-mail address: info@asjhonduras.com / chernandez@asjhonduras.com

Website: www.asjhonduras.com

Executive Secretary: Carlos Alberto Hernández

Date established: May 22, 2003

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

Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ) implements programs to strengthen democracy, social inclusion, and child protection. The primary areas of activity and contributions of the organization that could be of interest to the OAS include:

- Strengthening government monitoring and accountability mechanisms, with support from different institutions, by holding forums for the exchange of experiences and perspectives among CSO in order to make recommendations on social justice and corruption prevention-related matters;
- Promoting legal norms and public policy formulation through community education and training programs that promote respect for human rights, the integral development of vulnerable groups, and prevention of child abuse, and recommending the corresponding sanctions for perpetrators of child abuse; and
- Conducting research, generating proposals and support for activities related to justice, governmental transparency, and social inclusion of populations impacted by poverty, violence, and corruption.

4. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS

Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ) offers to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Promoting the principles enshrined in the Inter-American Democratic Charter;

- Offering support for the activities of the Mechanism for Follow-Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), in coordination with the Department of Legal Cooperation of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA);
- Offering support for the activities of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), especially the Rapporteurship on the Rights of the Child, in areas related to the promotion and protection of the human rights of victims of sexual violence;
- Offering support for the activities of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) in its programs on child sexual exploitation; and
- Participating in and offering recommendations to the Meeting of Ministers of Justice or Other Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA).

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General dated June 6, 2012
- Articles of incorporation
- By-laws
- Institutional mission statement
- Project execution report for 2011
- Financial statements for 2011 (signed by Vannia Alvarado, CPA, and Glenda Valladares, Manager)