

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)]

(FUNDACION PROPAZ)

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELEVANT TO THE PARTICIPATION OF *FUNDACION PROPАЗ* IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Department of International Affairs/Secretariat for External Relations, to provide member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization *Fundación Propaz* (Pro-Peace Foundation).

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 *Fundación Propaz* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Fundación Propaz is a nonprofit organization, founded on March 12, 2003 in Guatemala, in order to contribute to the consolidation of peace; democracy; good governance; and the prevention and settlement of conflicts.

Fundación Propaz pursues these objectives through active participation in social, political, ethnic, and cultural activities, in which it focuses on reducing public tensions between the government and society. This mediating role of *Fundación Propaz* is based on raising citizen awareness by promoting dialogue and negotiation, and on educational and training activities.

In the latter area—training and education—, *Fundación Propaz* has conducted a number of joint workshops and activities with government entities and international organizations. In 2007, it conducted a workshop entitled “Process of Generating Installed Training Capacity in the National Civilian Police Academy” and a certificate course entitled “Design and Facilitation of Opportunities for Dialogue.” In addition, the Foundation ran a training workshop in conjunction with the Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) international organization on the impact of civil society on electoral processes in Guatemala. *Fundación Propaz* has also worked with the Mercy Corps humanitarian organization on the subject of public impact.

Fundación Propaz receives financial support from international cooperation agencies and payments in return for services rendered. Its principal sources of finance include the IBIS Governance Fund (Embassy of the Netherlands); the peace Promotion Program of the Swiss Embassy in Guatemala; Mercy Corps’ Training, Advocacy and Networking (TAN) program; and consultancy services.

Fundación Propaz submitted its application to the OAS on December 4, 2007.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: Fundación Propaz
Address: 12 Calle 6-55, Zona 10
Guatemala, Guatemala
Telephone: (502) 2360-0806
Web page: www.propaz.org.gt
E-mail: fundacionpropaz@propaz.org.gt
Executive Director: Carlos Alberto Sarti Castañeda

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

Fundación Propaz works in Guatemala, fostering peace, democracy, good governance, and conflict prevention. The activities performed by *Fundación Propaz* that bear some relation to OAS activities are:

- Promoting citizen participation mechanisms to broaden the social infrastructure needed to foster peace and democracy;
- Disseminating social integrity processes in order to achieve cooperation among conflictive sectors in society;
- Promoting information mechanisms to achieve recognition as a procedural mediator and facilitator; and
- Encouraging the development of skills needed for dialogue, citizen participation, and the prevention and settlement of conflicts.

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

Through its numerous workshops, *Fundación Propaz* could contribute to the work done by the different areas in the OAS in the following activities:

- Establishment of departmental committees in Guatemala to facilitate technical support for social programs to assist communities;
- Coordination and advice on solving conflicts addressed in local communities;
- Mass communication campaigns on the importance of dialogue and tolerance; and

- Training workshops for outreach workers and journalists, recognizing the important and leading role played by them in getting messages across to the general public.

5. Identification of the OAS work areas in which CSO proposes to support ongoing activities or to make recommendations on the best way to achieve OAS objectives

Fundación Propaz works in three main fields: training, education, and the raising of citizen awareness. *Fundación Propaz* will support OAS activities through the Secretariats for Political Affairs, Multidimensional Security, and Integral Development, in particular by:

- Supporting the work of the Secretariat for Political Affairs (SPA) to promote democracy in the member states through dialogue and conflict resolution at the local level, with a view to implementing new regional reconciliation strategies that can strengthen democratic institutions.
- Supporting efforts by the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security and the Committee on Hemispheric Security (CHS) of the OAS Permanent Council to build confidence and security.
- Promoting the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) aimed at strengthening leadership and conflict resolution in the Guatemalan Women's Association.

6. Documents submitted by CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated December 4, 2007
- Articles of Incorporation
- Statutes
- Narrative report presented to the Peace Promotion Program of the Swiss embassy in Guatemala
- Mission statement
- Financial statements and report on sources of financing for 2006 and 2007