

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 ARTICLE 6  
OF THE GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS  
IN OAS ACTIVITIES [CP/RES. 759 (1217/99)]

*[Fundación Wayuunaiki]*

ANALYSIS OF REQUEST BY  
*FUNDACIÓN WAYUUNAIKI* 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 *Fundación Wayuunaiki*.

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,” and includes a summary and a list of documentation presented by *Fundación Wayuunaiki* in accordance with the aforementioned guidelines.

**1. Background**

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* is a nonprofit organization established on February 27, 2002, in Maracaibo, Zulia State, Venezuela, for the purpose of promoting indigenous culture and cultural diversity through training and education programs for the Wayuu, Añu, and Warao peoples in Venezuela and in the Department of La Guajira, Colombia.

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* organizes cultural programs in various media, holds workshops and events for indigenous communities on intercultural journalism and journalistic ethics, and offers other programs to disseminate indigenous culture in partnership with related institutions. Since 2000, *Fundación Wayuunaiki* has been publishing the community ethnic newspaper *Wayúunaiki* “*El Periódico de los Pueblos Indígenas*” [Wayúunaiki “The Newspaper of the Indigenous Peoples”], whose purpose is to provide a forum for participation as well as alternative means of communication in order to coalesce indigenous cultural values. It also holds a weekly radio program, *Wayúunaiki Radio*, broadcast by the radio station *Fe y Alegría Maracaibo*, to foster the growth and development of the Wayuu, Añu, and Warao indigenous culture in the mass media.

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* is executing the project *Reporteros Comuneros* [Communal Reporters] to share information and experiences in the Indigenous Communal Councils and train spokespersons for alternative media in the development of content for publications of the *Wayúunaiki* newspaper, with 50 people participating in the project in 2011. *Fundación Wayuunaiki* also held intercultural journalism workshops through the *Wayúunaiki en la Escuela* [Wayúunaiki in Schools] project, which seeks to hone the journalistic skills of indigenous students in Venezuela and in which 80 people took part that same year.

In addition, *Fundación Wayuunaiki* carries out the program *Ruta de las Artesanas* [Artisans’ Path], which involves artisan mothers from the Venezuelan part of La Guajira in gender-related activities, with the participation of 60 women in 2011. Through its Indigenous Documentation and Research Center (CEDI), it compiles, studies, preserves, and disseminates the linguistic and cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples.

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* is part of the integrated Civil Society Organizations System of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations. It is also a member of the MERCOSUR Cultural Network, a network of civil society organizations in Argentina, Bolivia,

Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela that facilitates sociocultural exchange in the region. Likewise, it is a member of the Indigenous Commission for Communications Technologies in the Americas (ICCTA), whose objective is to channel resources to bring the benefits of information and telecommunications technologies to the indigenous peoples of the region and which works in conjunction with the Foundation of La Guajira Communicators (Funconiwaa) and with universities and other national and international indigenous organizations.

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* finances its activities through income from advertising in the newspaper *Wayúunaiki*, member contributions, and the services it provides, such as advice on journalistic ethics to private and public media and awareness-raising workshops.

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* submitted its application to the OAS on May 2, 2011.

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

Name: Fundación Wayuunaiki

Fiscal address: Urb. La Rosaleda, Av. 80D No.82A-04  
Maracaibo – Edo. Zulia  
Venezuela

Business address: Calle 72 con AV. 19 sector Paraíso  
Edificio NOEL, piso 3 oficina F  
Maracaibo – Edo. Zulia  
Venezuela

Fax: + (58) 414 6321312

E-mail: info@wayuunaiki.com; shiaakua@gmail.com; wayuunaiki@yahoo.com

Delegate for International Affairs: David Hernández-Palmar

Date established: February 27, 2002

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

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* carries out activities to promote and preserve its indigenous culture. The primary areas of activity and contributions that could be of interest to the OAS include:

- Promotion of the human rights and social inclusion of indigenous peoples through journalistic training programs and dissemination of ethnic community news through the various media;
- Preservation of indigenous culture through the Indigenous Documentation and Research Center (CEDI), established to preserve and disseminate the linguistic and

cultural heritage of indigenous peoples, and development of cultural programs in conjunction with other indigenous organizations; and

- Promotion of social development with gender equity by launching projects focused on promoting interaction and ties between *wayuu* and *añu* women and children in the areas of weaving, agribusiness, and rural tourism.

#### **4. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS**

*Fundación Wayuunaiki* offers to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Make recommendations to the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP), in collaboration with the Department of International Law (DIL) of the Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA);
- Provide information on the situation of indigenous peoples in Venezuela to the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR);
- Work with the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) on issues related to strengthening women's participation in social, cultural, political, and economic affairs;
- Offer advice to the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) on promoting the participation of children and youths in public-policy design; and
- Cooperate with the Department of Human Development, Education, and Culture (DHDEC) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) on the implementation of its programs to preserve and protect the region's cultural heritage.

#### **5. Documents submitted to the OAS**

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated May 2, 2011
- Articles of Incorporation
- Statute
- Institutional mission statement
- Activity report for 2010-2011
- Financial statements for 2009-2010 (signed by Luis E. Labarca Márquez, CPA)