

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)]

[*Instituto de Desarrollo Humano y Economía Social—IDHES*
(Institute of Human Development and Social Economy)]

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
THE *INSTITUTO DE DESARROLLO HUMANO Y ECONOMIA SOCIAL (IDHES)*
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits Secretariat to provide member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization (CSO) *Instituto de Desarrollo Humano y Economía Social (IDHES)* of Venezuela.

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 the *Instituto de Desarrollo Humano y Economía Social (IDHES)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

The *Instituto de Desarrollo Humano y Economía Social (IDHES)* is a civil society organization founded on December 23, 2003, to conduct programs in the areas of research, instruction, training, and technical assistance to promote social economy in relation to human development.

IDHES has the special mission of advising on, and participating in, the formation of cooperatives and other production associations in the areas of social economy and participation. The Institute acts as a receiver of funds, lines of credit, and transfers from governmental and private bodies, generating community funds for sustainable development planning.

Most of its revenue comes from seminars, courses, and management workshops. *IDHES* receives additional revenue from the sale and publication of books and videos and the sale of handicrafts.

IDHES submitted its application to the OAS on July 18, 2005.

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

Name: Instituto de Desarrollo Humano y Economía Social (IDHES)

Address: Calle Pedroza, Edificio Beli
Planta Baja, La Florida
Caracas, Venezuela

Telephone number: 58-212-731-6377

Fax: 58-212-731-6377

E-mail address: idhes@cantv.net

Chair: Juan Guillermo Espinosa

Executive Director: Carmen Cecilia Forte

Date of establishment: July 18, 2005

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

IDHES works to promote and conduct programs in the areas of research, instruction, training, and technical assistance to promote social economy in relation to human development. The Institute also provides guidance to communities on:

- Promoting social economy business activities for markets identified as potential job generators;
- Advising on, and participating in, the import and export of goods and services of microenterprises and communities organized as cooperatives in a human development context;
- Conducting participatory social economy projects that help to generate employment and strengthen economic solidarity;
- Encouraging and participating in tourism and social recreation activities.

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

IDHES believes it could contribute its experience in conducting programs such as:

- Promoting citizen participation and self-direction in the formation and consolidation of cooperatives and other forms of production organizations;
- Training communities in forms of democratic, participatory management;
- Conducting research geared toward social economy and decision-making, including seminars and workshops on globalization, economic integration, enterprise development, and strategic planning;
- Providing technical assistance to the public sector in the design of proposals to promote social economy and human development.

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

IDHES pledges to offer recommendations and support OAS efforts in the following areas:

- Conducting lectures on cooperative economy and supporting the programs of the Department of Social Development and Employment of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI);
- Publicizing the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, particularly those of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, in Mar del Plata, on training of entrepreneurs for micro, small, and medium-size enterprises.
- Participating in activities and programs of the Department of Trade, Tourism, and Competitiveness of SEDI, such as the private sector forum, programs to foster competitiveness, and initiatives to strengthen micro, small, and medium-size enterprises;
- Promoting participation by Venezuelan civil society organizations in ministerial meetings, the Permanent Council, the General Assembly sessions, and the Summits of the Americas process.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated July 18, 2005
- Articles of incorporation, December 23, 2003
- Statutes, December 23, 2003
- Annual reports, 2003 – 2005
- Institutional mission statement
- Financial statements for 2004 (Audited by CPA Jesús A. Vargas T.)