

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)]

[Colectiva Mujer y Salud]

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION BY *COLECTIVA MUJER Y SALUD* TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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 *Colectiva Mujer y Salud* [Women and Health Collective].

The information contained herein is in response to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), “Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities,” and includes a list of documentation presented by *Colectiva Mujer y Salud* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. **Background**

Colectiva Mujer y Salud is a non-profit organization founded in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, on March 8, 1991, to promote comprehensive health care for women through defense of their human rights, especially sexual and reproductive rights. Its programs and activities revolve around delivering comprehensive services, education, and training in health promotion and disease prevention and organizing events that promote women’s health.

Colectiva Mujer y Salud carries out this mission through five strategic objectives: 1) To promote awareness on the issue of sexual and reproductive rights; 2) To strengthen the exercise of the rights of women, young people, and adolescents by monitoring and watching public health policies; 3) To promote political action to demand safe maternity, free and safe abortion, access to contraception, sex education, prevention, and treatment of sexually-transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, the right to violence-free living, and the enjoyment of a sexuality free from prejudice; 4) To promote demand for comprehensive health services for women and young people; and 5) To contribute to institutional strengthening through planning, monitoring, and evaluation tools.

Colectiva Mujer y Salud is a member of the Latin American and Caribbean Women’s Health Network (LACWHN), which seeks to defend the right to comprehensive health, the full exercise of sexual and reproductive rights, and the promotion of women’s citizenship.

Colectiva Mujer y Salud has financed its activities and projects through contributions received from government entities such as the National Council for State Reform (CONARE) and the Presidential AIDS Council (COPRESIDA), as well as the Dominican Republic government’s Local Civil Society Initiatives Program (PRIL), funded by the European Union, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Canadian and French embassies in the Dominican Republic, Irish Aid, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Global Fund for Women; and non-governmental organizations such as Christian Aid, *Ciudad Alternativa*, *Participación Ciudadana*, and the Afro-Caribbean Women’s Network. It is also funded through income received for its services, including sexual health, reproductive health, natural medicine, and emotional support services.

Colectiva Mujer y Salud submitted its application on March 7, 2008.

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

Name of the Organization: Colectiva Mujer y Salud

Address: Calle Socorro Sánchez #64, Gazcue, Santo Domingo, República Dominicana

Telephone: (809) 682-3128

E-mail: colec.mujer@codetel.net

Website: www.colectivamujerysalud.org

Executive Director: Sergia Galván

Date established: March 8, 1991

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

Colectiva Mujer y Salud promotes the defense of women's human rights and social and cultural change, in order to strengthen those rights at the local, national, and international levels. Among the activities carried out by *Colectiva Mujer y Salud* that could be of interest to the OAS are the following:

- Advisory services for reviewing national, regional, and municipal laws, authorities to ensure equality and gender equity; and
- Promotion of women's economic, social, and cultural rights in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, violence against women, and maternal mortality through the implementation of projects and programs, including development and dissemination of materials on sex education, prevention, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, and violence against women; and
- Provision of physical and emotional health services for women, adolescents, and children in order to improve health conditions.

4. 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

Colectiva Mujer y Salud would like to work with the OAS in the following areas:

- Supporting the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) Rapporteurship on the Rights of Women by preparing reports on the human rights and sexual and reproductive rights of women in the region;

- Collaborating with the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to advance its initiatives to promote gender equity in public policies and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, as well as in monitoring implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará”;
- Cooperating with the Department of International Affairs, of the Secretariat of External Relations, in promoting civil society participation in OAS activities, particularly on discrimination, gender, and human rights issues; and
- Providing the Permanent Council with recommendations and reports regarding implementation of the mandates arising from resolution AG/RES. 2600 (XL-O/10) “Human Rights, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity.”

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, March 7, 2008
- Articles of incorporation
- Statute
- Institutional mission statement
- Annual reports 2007-2010
- Financial statements for 2007, 2008, and 2009