

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)]

Fundación Solidaridad (Solidarity Foundation)

APPLICATION BY *FUNDACIÓN SOLIDARIDAD* 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)]

This document was prepared by the Summits Secretariat to provide information to the OAS Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC) on the civil society organization *Fundación Solidaridad*. 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 *Fundación Solidaridad* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Fundación Solidaridad is a nonprofit organization formed in 1988 and legally established in 1991. It offers education, training, and advisory services to promote economic and social development processes that will contribute to improving the quality of life in impoverished communities of the Chivo region in the province of Santiago in the Dominican Republic.

Fundación Solidaridad finances its activities by managing funds granted by national and international cooperation agencies [European Union, World Bank, *Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo* (CID), Volens/Itinerans, *Programa Fortalecimiento de Alianzas contra la Pobreza Urbana en América Latina* (FORTAL), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), *Programa de Apoyo a la Reforma y Modernización del Estado* (PARME), Inter-American Democracy Network (IADN), Inter-American Foundation (IAF)], direct contributions of volunteer work by its members, training, communications, and publication services, and an annual allocation from the national budget of the Dominican Republic.

Fundación Solidaridad submitted its application on August 17, 2006.

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

Name:	<i>Fundación Solidaridad</i>
Address:	Avenida Francia # 40, Apartado Postal 129-2 Santiago, Dominican Republic
Telephone number:	(809) 971-5400
Fax:	(809) 587-3656
E-mail address:	f.solidaridad@verizon.net.do / fsolidaridad@gmail.com
Web address:	www.solidaridad.org.do / www.democracialocal.org

President: Denis Mota

Legal representative: Juan Castillo

Date of establishment: May 14, 1991

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

The areas of *Fundación Solidaridad's* endeavors that are related to OAS activities include:

- Promoting a legal and institutional framework conducive to citizen participation in public administration at the local, regional, and national levels;
- Strengthening community organizations to increase their level of participation in decision-making and in carrying out activities that contribute to improving living conditions in marginalized areas;
- Encouraging the incorporation of gender equity and respect for the environment as focuses on the regional and local development process;
- Facilitating collaboration and coordination among community groups, government institutions, and the private sector.

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

As part of its work, *Fundación Solidaridad* conducts a number of activities that could help the OAS fulfill its mission. Its activities are as follows:

- Training, advisory services, and technical assistance on institution-building for grassroots organizations and developing the capacity of local leaders;
- Promoting means of collaboration and coordination among community groups, the state, and the private sector, by conducting forums on local development, democracy, and governance;
- Promoting strategic alliances to design and promote local development proposals, promoting collective participation, coordinated efforts, and ongoing evaluation;
- Strengthening administrative and financial management of community organizations and of governmental agencies in the formulation and implementation of the municipal budget;
- Offering courses on local development to community leaders and members of civil society to improve socioeconomic living conditions, foster decentralization and societal participation in local government decision-making;
- Conducting forums on the importance of women's participation in negotiation forums and of increasing awareness of efforts to promote local development with gender equity.

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

Fundación Solidaridad can help to provide opportunities for democracy-building, social consensus-building, and citizen participation in the municipal arena by:

- Supporting the work of the Department of Social Development and Employment in the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to develop productive activities that generate employment opportunities;
- Promoting citizen participation in formulating and executing local development processes and contributing to programs of the OAS Secretariat for Political Affairs in the areas of democracy, state modernization, and institutional transparency;
- Supporting programs to improve quality of life by supporting activities aimed at improving environmental education, in conjunction with the Department of Sustainable Development of SEDI;
- Supporting the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) by disseminating information on human, economic, social, and cultural rights;
- Supporting and publicizing the gender equity work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM).

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated August 17, 2006
- Articles of incorporation (September 2, 1990)
- Statutes (September 2, 1990)
- Annual Reports corresponding to 2004-2006
- Institutional mission statement
- Financial statements for the period July 1, 2005, to January 31, 2006 (Audited by C.P.A. Miguel Ángel Alba)