

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)]

[Asociación Negra de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (ASONEDH)]

ANALYSIS OF THE ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
ASOCIACIÓN NEGRA DE DEFENSA Y PROMOCIÓN DE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS
(*ASONEDH*) 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 *Asociación Negra de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (ASONEDH)* [Black Association for Human Rights Defense and Promotion].

The information contained in this report is provided pursuant 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 data and documentation presented by *ASONEDH* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

ASONEDH is a nonprofit organization established on July 16, 1990, in Lima, Peru. It promotes legal defense and education for Peru's coastal communities, in order to help combat racism, and promote human rights and civic participation by persons of African descent and other at-risk groups.

Since its establishment, *ASONEDH* has focused primarily on activities to heighten public awareness, strengthen democratic governance, and facilitate dialogue between ethnic minorities and the Peruvian state. To that end, *ASONEDH* conducts training workshops for ethnic minority leaders, workshops to bring rural Afro-Peruvian organizations together, and courses on public policy issues.

ASONEDH has undertaken a variety of activities in collaboration with the Government of Peru and with local governments in Metropolitan Lima, Lima Provincias, Arequipa, and Tacna, among others. It is also engaged with various national and international networks such as *Red Nacional de Organizaciones Agro Peruanas Rurales*, *Red Continental de Organizaciones Afro Americanas*, the World Council of Churches SISTERS Network, and the Sustainable Development Committee - United Nations Caucus of the South.

The organization receives support for its activities from the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the National Endowment for Democracy. *ASONEDH* also receives payment for services rendered by its staff.

ASONEDH submitted its application to the OAS on December 10, 2007.

2. Name, address and date of establishment of ASONEDH

Name: *Asociación Negra de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos - ASONEDH*

Address: Jirón Nazca 179 – Jesús María
Lima - Peru

Telephone: (511) 431 1183
Fax: (511) 332 2335
Internet address: www.asonedh.com
E-mail: asonedh@asonedh.com;
asonedh@infonegocio.net.pe
Executive Director: Jorge Ramírez Reyna
Date of establishment: July 16, 1990

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

ASONEDH collaborates with the Afro-Peruvian community in developing public awareness and state-sponsored projects related to the issue of discrimination against Peru's Afro-descendant community and proposes approaches to redress the problem. Its activities are related to those of the OAS in the following areas:

- Promotion of democracy as the most effective form of government for the countries of the region, through active participation by the citizenry;
- Encouraging the establishment of civil society organizations among Afro-Peruvian communities in order to strengthen their leadership and enable them to participate more consistently in public policy formulation;
- Promotion of public policy creation and design to ensure participation by Afro-Peruvians in various social projects, thus giving them equitable access to the decision-making process in Peru.

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

Through its various training activities, including workshops and seminars, the *Asociación Negra de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos* could help the OAS promote human rights in the member states. *ASONEDH* could contribute to OAS efforts in the following ways:

- Promoting workshops and seminars on legal and financial issues for leaders of Afro-Peruvian organizations, in order to improve their leadership skills and foster participatory policies in their respective local communities;
- Bringing various human rights organizations together through national forums to facilitate dialogue and consensus among the country's Afro-Peruvian groups;
- Coordinating seminars on democratic governance in order to promote, and educate Afro-Peruvian organizations about, democracy and human rights;

- Organizing workshops and seminars to encourage citizens to form organizations with a view to greater representation of minorities in the decision-making process.

5. Identification of the OAS work areas in which ASONEDH proposes to provide support

ASONEDH believes it can contribute to OAS efforts in:

- Supporting the work of the Permanent Council's Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) in preparing the Inter-American Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance;
- Supporting the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in promoting the human rights of Afro-descendant communities and encouraging ethnic minorities to participate in the political decision-making process;
- Promoting the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) through workshops to raise awareness on international human rights instruments, especially those related to women's rights;
- Assisting the Department of Social Development and Employment of the OAS Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) in promoting equitable development among the various strata of society by providing technical and professional support through national seminars and other forums;
- Helping the Secretariat for Political Affairs to promote democratic institutions among Afro-Peruvian organizations.

6. Documents submitted by ASONDEH to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General dated December 10, 2007
- Articles of incorporation
- Statute
- 1990-2007 activity report
- 2006-2007 financial statements and sources of funding, audited by Alonso Cruz Moreno, CPC, Registration Number 25598, of *Cruz Moreno y Asociados*