

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

[Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo (DESCO)]

ANALYSIS OF ELEMENTS FOR REGISTRATION BY *CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS Y PROMOCION DEL DESARROLLO (DESCO)* TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Relations with Civil Society Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity to provide information to the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) on the civil society organization *Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo [Center for Development Studies and Promotion, (DESCO)]*.

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.” It includes a summary and a list of documentation presented by *Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo (DESCO), a non-governmental development institution, was founded in Lima, Peru, in 1966. It focuses on service and social development promotion and capacity-building for the poorest sectors of the society.

DESCO identifies itself as a public-interest, private civil society association that partners with grass-roots organizations, social and political stakeholders, and state agencies, to help build capacity for civil society and prepare development proposals.

DESCO has expertise and experience in issues of poverty and inequality, citizen participation, development and local management, promotion of local production, environmental management and planning, social management and evaluation, etc.

The CSO gets its income from a variety of public and private sources, including Oxfam, the European Union, the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy, and *Fondo Empleo*, among others.

Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo (DESCO) applied for registration with the OAS on October 5, 2017.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name of Organization: Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo (DESCO)

Address: León de la Fuente 110, Magdalena del Mar, Lima, Perú

Telephone: (511) 613-8300

E-mail address: presiden@desco.org.pe

Website: www.desco.org.pe

President: Molvina María Isabel Zeballos Manzur

Date established: March 3, 1966

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

Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo seeks to promote participatory development alternatives among the vulnerable population, to help empower them as citizens; and helps them exercise their political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights with a view to reducing inequality.

The primary areas of activity and contributions by *DESCO* that could be of interest to the OAS include:

- **Public participation:** to promote measures to foster development in Peru and other countries in the region and influence the formulation of development-oriented public policies.
- **Research:** to generate knowledge focused on development and the processes of building and strengthening democracy.
- **Citizen participation:** to promote citizen participation, transparency, gender equity, reduction of violence against women, the city, and healthy habitats.

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

Centro de Estudios y Promoción del Desarrollo would like to support the OAS in the following areas:

- Collaborating with the Relations with Civil Society Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE) to establish mechanisms and to promote civil society participation in OAS activities, and in setting up networks to strengthen such participation. *DESCO* has been a part of several Latin American networks that have been monitoring Summits of the Americas agreements for two decades – among them *Democracia Activa*, ALOP, and currently *Foro Ciudadano*, which is being promoted by the above-mentioned PASCA project.
- Supporting activities of the Department of Sustainable Development (DDS) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) to promote and implement environmental protection programs.
- Helping the Department of Effective Public Management of the Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs (SAH) fulfill its goals, with a view to a more efficient and transparent public service, and better democratic governance. *DESCO* conducts research and advocates on public policy, in an effort to improve them for the benefit of citizens.

- Promoting the activities of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) and the Department of Social Inclusion (DSI) of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE), with a view to contribute to development with equity, poverty reduction, decent work, and job creation in the region.

5. Documents submitted to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated April 30, 2017
- Articles of Incorporation
- Statutes
- 2015-2016 Activities Report
- Financial statements for 2016
- Mission and vision statement