

PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT
AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION
IN OAS ACTIVITIES

OEA/Ser.G
CP/CISC-414/09
9 April 2009
Original: Spanish

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)]

[Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (DEMUS)]

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
ESTUDIO PARA LA DEFENSA DE LOS DERECHOS DE LA MUJER (DEMUS)
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Department of International Affairs / Secretariat for External Relations to provide member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization (CSO) *Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer* [Studio for the Defense of Women's Rights] (*DEMUS*).

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 *Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (DEMUS)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (DEMUS) is non-profit organization founded on December 15, 1988, in Lima, Peru. Its primary purpose is legal defense, training, and research on women's rights in Peru.

DEMUS promotes the defense and recognition of women's human rights, especially sexual and reproductive rights. It fulfills that mission through public oversight of and public impact on cases of violence against women and other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity and race, class, and gender. It seeks to create individual and systematic change from the legal, psychological, and social standpoints.

DEMUS monitors cases of discrimination, rape, and sexual harassment and provides legal assistance and psychological care for women victims. *DEMUS* works to raise awareness among regional, district, and provincial authorities of the issue of violence against women and to demand measures to combat it through collaboration with other civil society organizations, such as the Association for Human Rights in Peru (APRODEH), the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM), the Women and Equity Commission of the National Council for Sustainable Development (CONADES), and the Gender and Economy Group, among others.

DEMUS finances its activities through contributions and receives contributions for projects from civil society organizations and foundations such as Womankind, Entrepueblos, Front Line, the Ford Foundation, Corporación Humanas, and Hivos, among others.

DEMUS submitted its application to the OAS on November 25, 2008.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: Estudio para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer (DEMUS)

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Officers: María Ysabel Cedano García
Jeannette Llaja Villena

Legal representative: María Ysabel Cedano García

Date of incorporation: December 15, 1988

3. Primary area of activity of the CSO and its relationship to OAS activities

DEMUS works in different areas related to OAS activities, notable among them:

- Defense of the human rights of Peruvian and Latin American women through the dissemination of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in international law;
- Preparation of reports on self-reliance and the exercise of sexual and reproductive rights with the aim of contributing to the elimination of violence against women;
- Conducting education and training courses for the empowerment of women and to facilitate their mobilization for the exercise of their rights;
- Influencing justice administration policy and national and international policymakers in this area with the aim of promoting women's strategic demands and interests on the national and international agendas;
- Advocating for reparation policy in the mental health area for women victims of sexual violence, contributing to the development of a community mental health model.

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

DEMUS can contribute to OAS work in areas such as the defense of women's rights through the following activities:

- Researching, documenting, and presenting reports on cases of violations of women's human rights;
- Training women community leaders and women justice operators on women's human rights, especially in the sexual and reproductive rights areas;
- Disseminating documents on women's human rights, especially those related to the international legislation adopted by the inter-American human rights system;
- Monitoring policies on women's human rights promoted by the Peruvian state in keeping with the standards established by the international human rights treaties;
- Preparing publicity campaigns on women's human rights intended to reduce violence;
- Providing legal and psychological support to women victims of violence, sexual harassment, and discrimination.

5. Identification of OAS work areas

DEMUS considers that it can contribute to OAS efforts in the following areas:

- Working with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to disseminate the American Convention on Human Rights and the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador);
- Providing support to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in disseminating and monitoring women's rights in accordance with the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará";
- Participating in meetings of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and contributing recommendations regarding the aim of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women;
- Defense of the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter regarding respect for human and social rights and citizen participation;

- Contributing to the work of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (CEJA) by preparing and conducting law courses on women's human rights for the many operators of justice systems of the countries of the Americas.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated November 25, 2008
- Incorporation documents of December 15, 1988
- Articles of incorporation and amendments thereto of August 19, 2008
- 2007 annual report
- Financial statements for 2006-2007 (audited by Silvia Efazo Flores, C.P.A.)
- Mission statement