

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)]

[Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos A.C. (ASILEGAL)]

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATED TO THE APPLICATION BY
ASISTENCIA LEGAL POR LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS A.C.
TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This analysis was prepared by the Department of International Affairs / Secretariat for External Relations to provide the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) with information on the civil society organization *Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos A.C. (ASILEGAL)*.

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 *Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos A.C. (ASILEGAL)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos A.C. (ASILEGAL) is non-profit organization founded on February 24, 2006, in Mexico City, Mexico, to promote research on, and the dissemination, promotion and legal defense of human rights, working especially with women, children, youth, senior citizens, persons deprived of liberty, indigenous peoples, refugees, the terminally ill, migrants, farmers, and communities with different sexual orientations.

ASILEGAL carries out its activities through the linkage of knowledge and interdisciplinary expertise of its members through efforts to promote, disseminate, lobby for, research, and defend human rights, in conjunction with different civil society organizations. *ASILEGAL* focuses its efforts on providing legal, informational, and educational support for human rights.

ASILEGAL works on behalf of vulnerable groups, identifying their needs and making them visible to ensure better recognition of these needs and the positive impact of state actions on these groups.

ASILEGAL finances its activities through contributions from organizations such as the *Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas*, the *Instituto Mexicano de la Juventud*, the *Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres*, and the MacArthur Foundation.

ASILEGAL submitted its application to the OAS on May 26, 2008.

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

Name: Asistencia Legal por los Derechos Humanos A.C.

Address: Luis Saviñón 1211-31 Colonia Narvarte, Delegación Benito Juárez,
Mexico City, Mexico
Caja Postal 03020, Mexico City, Mexico

Telephone: 0152 55 55 232690
Fax: 0152 55 55 232690
E-mail address: asilegal@prodigy.net.mx
Website: www.asilegal.org
Director: José Luis Gutiérrez Román
Date of incorporation: February 24, 2006

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

ASILEGAL works in the following areas related to OAS activities:

- Promotion and dissemination of human rights through education and training programs focusing on vulnerable groups;
- Promotion of legal measures and negotiation of public policy, in collaboration with civil society human rights organizations that promote respect for the human rights of all individuals.

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

ASILEGAL's contributions focus on:

- Monitoring and providing legal advice for vulnerable groups that have been victims of human rights violations;
- Preparing assessments, reports, and monthly and weekly newsletters on the situation of human rights in the region;
- Designing and implementing training programs for official entities, nongovernmental organizations, and the community in general by promoting the defense of human rights and citizen participation.

5. Identification of OAS work areas

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

- Defending the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter pertaining to human and social rights and citizen participation;

- Providing support for the activities of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) to promote and protect human rights, with emphasis on vulnerable groups;
- Disseminating the work of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) of the OAS Permanent Council in deliberations on the draft Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance;
- Providing support for the work of the Department of International Affairs of the Secretariat for External Relations (SER) to promote citizen participation in the OAS and in the Summits of the Americas process.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated March 4, 2009
- Incorporation documents of February 24, 2006
- Articles of incorporation
- 2007-2008 annual report
- Financial statements for 2007, signed by José Luis Gutiérrez Román (Director General)