

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

(Fundación León XIII, IAP)

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE *FUNDACIÓN LEÓN XIII, IAP*

This document was prepared by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to provide information on the *Fundación León XIII, IAP*. It contains the basic data and a list of supporting documentation submitted by this civil society organization (CSO) pursuant to the Guidelines for Participation by Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities.

1. Background

The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, (Leo XIII Foundation) is a private not-for-profit association, founded in 1996, whose purpose is to support the integration into society of marginalized populations and to provide assistance in emergency situations. The organization's headquarters is in Mexico City.

The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, carries out activities in the areas of social development, gender, agro-ecology, basic rights (including work, food, health, and education), promoting the rights and culture of indigenous peoples, fighting against poverty in Mexico, and school services. It pursues its goals through the design and implementation of community projects, technical assistance for carrying out those projects, environmental protection and conservation, establishing credit-access mechanisms, reconstructing buildings and/or communities destroyed by natural disasters, and promoting the cultural handicrafts of indigenous peoples.

The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, is subsidiary to the network of Christian social organizations of the Mexican Institute of Christian Social Doctrine (IMDOSOC) and it has carried out activities in conjunction with Mexico's National Social Development Institute (INDESOL) and Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL). The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, receives private donations from Mexican corporations and contributions from the Cáritas organization of the diocese of San Sebastián in Spain.

It submitted its application on February 17, 2005.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

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| Name: | Fundación León XIII, IAP |
| Address: | Pedro Luis Ogazón No. 56 Guadalupe Inn C.P. 01020 Mexico City |
| Tel. | 5661-41-69 // 5661-37-96 |
| Fax: | 5661-42-86 |
| Internet: | www.fleonxiii.org.mx |
| E-mail: | fleonxiii-df@fleonxiii.org.mx chiapas@flexonxiii.org.mx |

Contact person: Manuel Gómez Granados, Vice-President

Date established: August 11, 2001

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

The chief aim of the *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, is to assist the most marginalized groups of Mexican society. This objective is pursued through the design of projects for sustainable development, technical assistance for project updates, loan mechanisms, educational initiatives, and the rebuilding of destroyed homes and buildings. Thus, the working areas of the *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, are related to the activities of the OAS in:

- Proposing actions to promote basic rights such as health, work, housing, and education for the inhabitants of Mexico's poorest communities and to foster those people's involvement in their own future.
- Supporting indigenous communities in the marketing of their products, in the education of those communities' children and women, and in protecting their unique cultures. Developing agricultural training programs to improve farmers' incomes and the diets of indigenous peoples using the surpluses they produce.
- Attending to children's needs, particularly in the areas of health and education.

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

The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, believes that its involvement in OAS activities could help promote the basic rights of marginalized communities in Mexico. In addition, the *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, could contribute to the OAS by means of the following:

- Presenting experiences and reports to different OAS agencies in order to discuss the successes and challenges encountered in its indigenous training activities.
- Technical assistance in devising agreements, policies, and projects, aimed at the defense and development of indigenous communities.
- Participation in seminars and forums on the preservation of indigenous communities, gender issues, children, sustainable development, and combating poverty.
- Designing leadership courses and workshops to teach the indigenous peoples of Mexico how to improve their living standards.

5. OAS work areas to which the CSO can provide support

The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, offers to assist the OAS in the areas of trade, sustainable development, and issues relating to the environment, gender affairs, children, indigenous peoples, and labor matters. The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, will support the work of the OAS in the following ways:

- Design, in conjunction with the Office of Trade, Growth, and Competitiveness (OCCC) of the OAS's Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), education programs so workers can learn how to make their products more competitive and their businesses more productive.
- Support SEDI's Office of Education, Science, and Technology in combating poverty. The *Fundación León XIII, IAP*, could also assist that Office in creating employment opportunities for the members of indigenous peoples and in meeting the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and of the Meetings of Culture Ministers vis-à-vis the protection and preservation of cultural diversity.
- Support the work of the Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO), within the framework of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), in order to facilitate dialogue on cultural diversity, carry out cultural mapping, and foster research into the different cultures found in the Americas.
- Work with SEDI's Office for Sustainable Development and Environment (OSDE) in the field of environmental protection to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources for the economy and to preserve indigenous peoples' way of life.
- Support the Working Group to Prepare the Proposed American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) of the OAS Permanent Council.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General, dated August 11, 2004
- Articles of Constitution
- Bylaws
- Annual Report, 2003-2004.
- Report for the 2003 financial year (audited by Roberto Tapia Madrid, general accountant).