

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

[Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social (INCIDE SOCIAL)]

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS RELATING TO THE APPLICATION BY *INICIATIVA CIUDADANA Y DESARROLLO SOCIAL* (INCIDE SOCIAL) 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 (CSO) *Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social* [Citizen and Social Development Initiative] (INCIDE SOCIAL).

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 INCIDE SOCIAL in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

The nonprofit civil society organization *Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social* (INCIDE SOCIAL) was established on August 1, 2003, in Benito Juarez, Mexico, to promote human rights and propose programs to reduce poverty and inequality and to eliminate exclusion and discrimination. It is engaged in activities of assessment, design, monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation of public policy, especially that related to economic, social, and cultural rights.

Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social engages in activities geared towards promoting democracy in Mexico. These activities are focused on advocating for the appointment of independent citizens to and maintaining their presence within autonomous state bodies; research; and promoting legislative changes to broaden opportunities for participation by the citizenry in crafting public policy to further the democratization of important institutions such as the media, promoting dialogue with the judiciary, and observing electoral processes.

Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social has executed projects in conjunction with national and international human rights organizations, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR–Mexico), the *Instituto Mexicano de la Radio*, the *Universidad Autónoma Mexicana*, the *Centro Lindavista*, the *Red para el Desarrollo Rural Sustentable para el Campo*, the *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México*, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, and the *Centro Mexicano para la Filantropía*, among others. *Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social* finances its activities through support from organizations such as INMUJERES, the Government of the Federal District, the European Union, *Rostros y Voces*, the Ford Foundation, and the Hewlett Foundation, among others.

Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social submitted its request for registration with the OAS on July 31, 2008.

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

Name: Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social (INCIDE SOCIAL)
Address: Hilario Pérez de León No. 80, Col. Niños Héroes de Chapultepec,
Benito Juárez, Mexico City, Mexico, C.P. 03440
Telephones: (52) 55 90 87 54
Fax: (52) 55 79 99 63
E-mail address: nperez@incidesocial.org
Website: www.incidesocial.org
Executive Director: Nancy Pérez García
Date established: August 1, 2003

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

Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social engages in activities geared to social development and promoting a democratic culture in Mexico. The following activities of the organization bear some relation to the work of the OAS:

- Promoting the defense of human rights, especially economic, social, and cultural rights; and
- Promoting the strengthening of democracy and civic values by means of educational programs to promote legal mechanisms for community participation.

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

Contributions already made by *Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social* and that might be of interest to the OAS include:

- Monitoring and influencing public policy in the areas of social development, democracy, and social dialogue;
- Designing and promoting societal studies and social research that take a human rights approach in order to identify and propose social development models geared to the country's needs and realities; and
- Strengthening and disseminating the work of civil society organizations by establishing forums; preparing journals, events, and training programs; and promoting forums for the discussion of public policy.

5. **Identification of the OAS work areas in which the CSO proposes to support ongoing activities or to make recommendations on the best way to achieve OAS objectives**

Iniciativa Ciudadana y Desarrollo Social considers that it could lend support to the work of the OAS by:

- Upholding the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter in the areas of human and social rights and citizen participation;
- Contributing to the efforts of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to promote and protect human rights;
- Disseminating and contributing to the work of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) of the OAS to prepare the Inter-American Convention against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance;
- Contributing to the work of the Department of Education and Culture of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Developing (SEDI) to implement the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices;
- Supporting the work of the Department of International Affairs of the Secretariat for External Relations (SER) to promote mechanisms for citizen participation; and
- Contributing to the efforts of the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) and of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to prepare and disseminate research on the situation in Mexico of those societal groups.

6. **Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS**

- Letter addressed to the OAS Secretary General, dated July 31, 2008
- Articles of incorporation, August 1, 2003
- By-laws
- Activity reports for 2003-2006, 2007, and 2008
- Financial statements for 2007 and 2008