PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

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COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN OAS ACTIVITIES

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)]

<u>Servicio de Promoción Integral Comunitario Juvenil (SEPICJ)</u> (Youth Comprehensive Community Promotion Service)

APPLICATION BY THE SERVICIO DE PROMOCION INTEGRAL COMUNITARIO JUVENIL (SEPICJ) 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)]

This document was prepared by the Summits Secretariat to provide information to the OAS Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities on the civil society organization *Servicio de Promoción Integral Comunitario Juvenil (SEPICJ)*. The information contained herein is in response to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99), "Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities," and includes a list of documentation presented by the *Servicio de Promoción Integral Comunitario Juvenil (SEPICJ)* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

The *Servicio de Promoción Integral Comunitario Juvenil (SEPICJ)* is a nonprofit association founded on July 14, 1985, and legally established on October 13, 1995, in Tehuacán, Puebla, Mexico, to promote, generate, and enhance educational processes, community development, and opportunities for rural and indigenous communities, promoting participation and social responsibility and helping to improve the quality of life.

The *SEPICJ*'s activities include workshops on human rights and family violence, training in agricultural self-management and the marketing of artisanal products, and training in environmental protection, in highly marginalized areas.

The *SEPICJ* is funded in particular by government bodies such as the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples, the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources, the National Institute of Social Development, and the Secretariat of Social Development. The *SEPICJ* also receives contributions from organizations like the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Youth Foundation.

THE SEPICJ submitted it application on August 18, 2006.

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

Name: Servicio de Promoción Integral Comunitario Juvenil

(SEPICJ)

Address: 30 Norte No. 115 Fracc. Ex hacienda

San Lorenzo C.P. 75765 Tehuacán, Puebla, Mexico

Telephone number: (238) 392-2736

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Web address: http://www.paginasprodigy.com/sepicj/entrada.html

Legal representative: Mario G. Flores Pastelón

Valentín Alejandro Torres López

Date of establishment: October 13, 1995

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

The *SEPICJ* shares with the OAS goals pertaining to the promotion and protection of human rights and social and economic development. The areas of *SEPICJ*'s endeavors that are related to OAS activities include:

- Contributing to community development in rural and indigenous communities;
- Promoting comprehensive instruction and technical training in rural and indigenous communities:
- Promoting respect for and the exercise of human, economic, social, and cultural rights and gender equity in rural and indigenous communities;
- Conducting presentations on environmental management and protection in rural and indigenous communities;
- Promoting participation in community councils and the discussion of entrepreneurial experience, thereby contributing to local development plans in rural and indigenous communities.

4. <u>CSO contributions that could be of interest to the OAS</u>

In its efforts to promote and protect human and economic rights in rural and indigenous communities, the *SEPICJ* carries out various activities that could help the OAS in the pursuit of its mission. Its activities are as follows:

- Providing training in respect for and the promotion of human rights;
- Conducting programs and seminars that strengthen education in rural and indigenous communities;
- Establishing inter-municipal forums for the promotion and maintenance of environmental preserves in indigenous communities;
- Fostering cooperative community and entrepreneurial development by promoting self-management and community participation in local development plans;
- Training residents of rural and indigenous communities in projects that promote new agricultural and business development alternatives and employment opportunities;
- Promoting awareness of the culture of indigenous communities by way of conferences, presentations, and live radio programs.

5. <u>Identification of the OAS work areas in which the CSO undertakes to support ongoing</u>

activities or to make recommendations on the best way to achieve OAS objectives

The SEPICJ could assist the OAS in the following areas by:

- Supporting the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) by disseminating information to the public on human, economic, social, and cultural rights, monitoring compliance with international agreements in rural and indigenous communities;
- Promoting civil society participation, including that of rural and indigenous communities, in the follow-up and monitoring of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, especially in terms of human rights and democracy;
- Promoting the environmental training activities of the Department of Sustainable Development of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI);
- Supporting the work of the Department of Social Development and Employment of SEDI in developing productive activities that generate new opportunities for employment and commercial exchange in rural and indigenous communities.

6. <u>Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS</u>

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated August 18, 2006
- Articles of incorporation (October 13, 1995)
- Statutes (September 29, 2004)
- Annual report for 2005
- Institutional mission statement
- Financial statements for 2005