

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)]

(SIN FRONTERAS I.A.P.)

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING *SIN FRONTERAS I.A.P.*

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat for the Summit Process, to provide information on *Sin Fronteras I.A.P. - Institución de Asistencia Privada*.

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:

Sin Fronteras I.A.P. was established in Mexico in 1995 to attend to the problems that arose as a result of migrations and refugee cases, in relation to both the care of migrant peoples and the design of public policies. The purpose of *Sin Fronteras I.A.P.* is to guarantee respect for human rights and to improve the living conditions of migrants, refugees, and their families.

Sin Fronteras I.A.P. is an independent nongovernmental organization that provides social and legal assistance to help improve and advance the living conditions of migrants and refugee groups and individuals or persons requesting refugee status, regardless of their nationality, political ideology, religion, race, or gender.

This organization has a Cooperation Agreement signed in 1996 with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to provide social and legal services to refugee women, men, and children.

Sin Fronteras I.A.P. is part of the Regional Network of Civil Organizations for Migration (RROCM), which operates in eleven OAS member states (Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and United States of America). The objective of the Network is to contribute to the defense of the migrant refugee population and their families in the places of origin, transit, and destination.

Sin Fronteras, I.A.P. submitted its request for registration with the OAS on June 3, 2003.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name:	Sin Fronteras I.A.P.
Address:	Calle de Puebla No 153 Colonia Roma, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, C.P. 06700, México, D. F. Mexico
Telephone:	55 14 15 19 / 21
Fax:	55 14 15 24

Internet address: www.sinfronteras.org.mx

President: Manuel Ángel Castillo

Date of establishment: January 26, 1996

Legal representative: Fabienne Venet

E-mail address: fvenet@sinfronteras.org.mx

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

The objective of *Sin Fronteras I.A.P.* is to promote respect for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to improve the living conditions of migrants, refugees, and their families. *Sin Fronteras I.A.P.* works in the areas of promotion, defense, social and legal support, education, publication, linking, and civil participation in developing migrant programs, policies, and legislation. Its work is focused on the following:

- Influencing the development of migratory policies in accordance with the principles and standards of international human rights law and guaranteeing protection of the migrant population.
- Contributing to training persons involved in migratory matters, with a view to guaranteeing respect for the human rights of migrants.
- Developing mechanisms geared to helping migrants and refugees to improve their self-management capacity.
- Encouraging strategic alliances with civil organizations to strengthen the dialogue with governments, in order to establish working agendas on the human rights of migrants.

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

The mission of *Sin Fronteras I.A.P.* is to assist Mexican and foreign international migrants and refugees, whose human rights have been or could be violated. It therefore believes that its activities could contribute to the work of the OAS in the following areas:

- Provide services to solve individual cases and identify relevant needs by directly tending to migrants and refugees in a vulnerable situation, by providing tools for their self-management.
- Design and implement strategies for training, dissemination, and publicity, in order to guarantee respect for the rights of migrants and to help strengthen them.
- Exchange information by reporting and following up on cases, with a view to guaranteeing the integrity and the human rights of migrants.
- Strengthen relations with civil organizations and academic institutions, to encourage the formulation and implementation of proposals, and coordinate projects to develop national, bilateral, and regional policies and programs pertaining to migration and refugees.

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

Sin Fronteras I.A.P. is committed to support the various OAS work areas that it is closely linked to, and especially the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), with a view to helping promote and defend human rights and international law as they pertain to migration and refugees.

Sin Fronteras I.A.P. would cooperate in the following areas:

- Promote the development and defense of a democratic culture at national and regional level
- Put in place programs and disseminate thematic reports, with a view to fulfilling resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the mandates of the Summits of the Americas.
- Organize international events on the situation of migrants, and especially those from Mexico and Central America.
- Bring specific cases involving migrants and refugees and possible solutions to them to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) and to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).
- Explore ways to prevent the abuse of migrant women, and publicize their situation, and establish mechanisms for emotional and legal support for women who have been victims of sexual violence.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO

- Letter to the Secretary General
- 1996 Statutes or Bylaws
- 1996 certificate of establishment
- 2002 financial report