

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

[Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)]

ANALYSIS OF THE APPLICATION BY ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE OAS

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 Alliance Defending Freedom (*ADF*).

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 ADF in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Alliance Defending Freedom, a non-profit organization, was founded in Scottsdale, Arizona, on March 25, 1993 as Alliance Defense Fund. It officially changed to its current name in July 2012. ADF is a legal alliance devoted to defending the right to hear and speak the Truth through strategies, training, financing, and litigation.

The ADF provides resources to promote fundamental rights in areas related to the protection of life from conception to natural death; family; marriage between a man and a woman; and freedom of worship.

The ADF is composed of a Board of Directors, which has 5 to 13 directors elected by the ADF at its annual meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. These directors are elected to three-year terms, with the right to be re-elected indefinitely. Directors are unpaid and receive no money from the organization except as reimbursement for expenses incurred in doing the business of the organization.

The ADF Board of Directors elects the other officers of the organization, that is, the Chairman, Secretary, and Vice Chairman, who shall have the rank of directors. The Board of Directors also has the authority to assign the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer assistants, if necessary.

The ADF has offices in New York, Washington D.C., Mexico City, Vienna, and New Delhi. It is also accredited to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), and the United Nations (UN).

Since its inception, ADF has focused on training law students and lawyers from 32 countries of the hemisphere, through a variety of programs:

- The Alliance Defending Freedom Academy is an ADF program that trains lawyers from different countries of the region, as well as members of the media, pastors, and volunteers, to promote the right to freedom of worship and defense and spreading of the Word of God. These training opportunities have generated voluntary services worth more than \$146 million, with more than 2200 Christian lawyers trained.

- ADF also runs the Alliance Defending Freedom Collegiate Academy program, which trains U.S. college students. The program aims to organize more seminars around the country to win supporters.
- ADF also operates the Blackstone Legal Fellowship program, which provides continuing education delivered by some of the best litigators and experts in U.S. constitutional law. Through this program, 1,700 lawyers and 1,000 law students have been trained over the past 14 years.
- ADF also runs the Alliance Defending Freedom-Global initiative, which has promoted the defense of fundamental rights and freedom of worship on 6 continents and in 41 countries. Under the Alliance Defending Freedom University Project, the ADF also runs a blog where it reports on cases related to defending worship rights protected by the constitutions of the universities; and on marginalization or censoring of Christian students on the various campuses. Finally, the Alliance Defending Freedom Church Project seeks to strengthen and protect churches in an effort to restore their freedom of expression.

The OAS received copies of the audited financial statements and certificates issued by the United States IRS. ADF receives its funding from private individuals, through donations. As stated in the ADF Contributors' Bill of Rights, the rights of donors include the right to keep the donors' names anonymous.

ADF submitted its application to the OAS on May 14, 2012.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name of Organization: Alliance Defending Freedom

Address: 15100 N 90th Street
Scottsdale, Arizona 85260. United States of America

Telephone: (480) 444-0020

Fax: (480) 444-0028

E-mail address: ncasillas@alliancedefendingfreedom.org

Website: www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org

Executive Director: Benjamin W. Bull

Date established: Thursday, March 25, 1993

3. Primary areas of activity and contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

ADF is engaged in promoting fundamental rights in the areas of protection of life from conception to natural death; family; marriage between a man and a woman; and freedom of worship, through training, financing, and direct litigation. The main areas of activity and contributions of the CSO that may be of interest to the OAS include:

- Advice on cases of threats to freedom of worship brought to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), and issuing thematic reports.
- Influencing the design of public policies through research to prevent violence because of one's religion and conducting promotional campaigns on issues related to respect for fundamental rights.
- Providing staff and students of the region with training to create awareness about and respect for the rights and obligations of citizens with respect to social issues.
- Joining the hemispheric discussion by providing civil society recommendations to OAS member states regarding OAS activities.

5. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS

ADF proposes to support the OAS in the following areas:

- Presenting the IACHR with reports related to freedom of worship and protection of life.
- Providing input for preparation of hemispheric public policies in defending fundamental human rights.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General, dated May 14, 2012
- Contributors' Bill of Rights
- Mission statement
- Certificate of Incorporation of ADF as a civil society organization
- ADF Statutes
- 2011 Annual activities report
- 2012 Annual activities report
- June 2011 Financial Statements
- June 2012 Financial Statements