

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)]

[Center for Reproductive Rights]

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
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 *Center for Reproductive Rights*.

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 *Center for Reproductive Rights* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. Background

Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) is a nongovernmental organization founded on June 15, 1992 and based in New York, NY, United States of America. Its purpose is to promote, through law, reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right.

CRR's starting point is an egalitarian, autonomous and dignified vision of all women, according to which each of them is free to decide, without discrimination, when to have children. CRR is based on the principle that every reproductive right is, at the same time, a human right and its goal is to achieve a world in which every woman participates with the utmost dignity, as one more member of society.

CRR's dual approach uses both lawsuits and litigation of cases before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the United Nations Human Rights Committee, and the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. CRR also exposes (and defends victims of) cases of injustice against women all over the world. These include forced sterilization, discrimination and abuse in hospitals and medical centers, and the grave consequences of the prohibition of abortion.

In 2010, CRR provided legal assistance in the city of Baltimore to defend an ordinance regarding the advertising of crisis pregnancy centers. That same year it published "Whose Choice: How the Hyde Amendment Harms Poor Women". In 2011, CRR won the first maternal death prevention case in the history of human rights organizations.

CRR has financed its activities with contributions and donations from a number of non-profit foundations dedicated to the provision of assistance and support for drug addicts, such as the Huber Foundation; to supporting visionary organizations and leaders, such as the Ford Foundation; or to supporting organizations that promote and defend human rights and environmental conservation, such as the Overbrook Foundation. CRR also financed its activities with funds from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

CRR applied for registration with the OAS on December 19, 2013.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name of Organization: Center of Reproductive Rights

Address: 120 Wall Street, 14th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10005

Telephone: (+ 1) 917- 637- 3600

Fax: (+ 1) 917- 637- 3666

E-mail address: NJNorthup@reprorights.org

Website: www.reproductiverights.org

Executive Director: Nancy Northup

Date established: June 15, 1992

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

Center for Reproductive Rights uses the law to promote and defend reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right. The main areas of activity and contributions of the CSO that may be of interest to the OAS include:

- Representing victims in conflict settlement proceedings before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;
- Helping to provide information regarding the situation of reproductive rights in the Hemisphere, through public hearings before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; and
- Conducting and publishing research and legal analyses to be disseminated and used as strategic tools in support of efforts to defend reproductive rights as human rights.

4. Identification of potential areas of collaboration with the OAS

Center for Reproductive Rights proposes to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Support and participating in activities organized by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) and the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to promote and defend human rights, with an emphasis on gender equality;

- Participating in the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices of the Department of Education and Culture of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI); and
- Cooperating with the Summits of the Americas Secretariat and with the Department of International Affairs of the Secretariat for External Relations (SER) on participation in activities to promote civil society, by making recommendations to the political bodies of the Organization in the area of human rights.

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

- Letter to the OAS Secretary General dated December 20, 2013
- Articles of Incorporation
- Statutes
- Institutional mission statement
- Annual report 2011-2012
- Financial statements for 2013