

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)]

[Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean (DPI NAC)]

ANALYSIS OF THE REQUEST BY DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 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 *Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean*.

The information contained in this report is in response to resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99) "Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities." This document includes a summary and list of documentation presented by *Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean* in accordance with the aforementioned Guidelines.

1. **Background**

Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean (DPI NAC) is a non-profit organization founded on April 29, 2011, in Antigua and Barbuda, that previously operated under its parent organization Disabled Peoples' International (DPI), with the purpose of defending the rights of persons with disabilities, especially women and youth, and to promote their social inclusion, as embodied in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPRD).

DPI NAC is a network of fourteen civil society organizations that promote the rights of persons with disabilities, including: Antigua & Barbuda Association of Persons with Disabilities; Disabled Persons' Organization (Bahamas); Barbados National Organization of the Disabled Inc.; Belize Assembly of and for persons of Diverse Abilities; Council of Canadians with Disabilities; Dominica Association of Persons with Disabilities; Grenada National Council of the Disabled; Guyana Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities; Combined Disabilities Association (Jamaica); St. Kitts and Nevis Association of Persons with Disabilities; National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities, Inc. (St. Lucia); National Society of Persons with Disabilities (St. Vincent and the Grenadines); Trinidad and Tobago Chapter of Disabled Peoples' International; and United States International Council on Disabilities. The Barbados Council for the Disabled and the National Network for the Integration of Disabled Persons (Haiti) are Associate Members.

DPI NAC began the process of training youth with disabilities through workshops focused on leadership, team building, advocacy, motivation and self-esteem. *DPI NAC* also has a Regional Youth Network, whose representatives participate in events and activities that are related to disability issues and inclusion in the region. They recently participated in the *Disability & HIV Leadership Forum* on July 21, 2012 and the *XIX International AIDS Conference* on July 22-27, 2012 in Washington, DC.

In relation to gender, *DPI NAC* created the Regional Women's Network (RWN) that advocates for the rights of women with disabilities through their participation in international conferences and training programs focused on matters such as domestic violence, family life, reproductive health and economic independence, including a meeting hosted by the Caribbean Region Office of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on the program "UNiTE to End Violence against Women."

DPI NAC also holds technical and professional development workshops and it conducts studies on current conditions affecting persons with disabilities within Member States.

DPI NAC finances its activities with income from membership dues and with the financial support of the ABILIS Foundation in Finland, the Commonwealth Foundation in the United Kingdom, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) – Caribbean Regional Office and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) – Barbados Office for capacity-building projects.

DPI NAC submitted its application to be registered with the OAS on February 2, 2012.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean (DPINAC)

Address: Potters Main Road, P.O. Box W1529
St. John's, Antigua, West Indies

Telephone: (268) 461 1273 / (268) 461 7260

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E-mail address: office@dpinorthamericacaribbean.org
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Website: www.dpinorthamericacaribbean.org

Contact: Leslie A. Emanuel

Date established: April 29, 2011

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

DPI NAC works to promote and defend the rights of persons with disabilities and stimulate their social inclusion. The primary areas of activity and contributions that could be of interest to the OAS:

- Strengthening citizen participation of persons with disabilities and their social inclusion through the implementation of education, job training, recreation, and health programs;
- Creating awareness and providing recommendations to governments, other stakeholders and the general public on the rights of people with disabilities, by conducting workshops related

to this issue, developing partnerships and sharing best practices with other civil society organizations in order to create different programs to strengthen their work; and

- Advocating on the challenges for the implementation of the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, conducting investigations and developing reports on the situation of human rights of persons with disabilities in the region.

4. Identification of OAS work areas

DPI NAC offers to collaborate with the OAS in the following areas:

- Support the work of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) by preparing reports on the situation of human rights of persons with disabilities in North America and the Caribbean;
- Provide support to the Department of Social Development and Employment (DSDE) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), in its work as Technical Secretariat of the Program of Action for the Decade of the Americas for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities 2006-2016 (SEDISCAP) and the Committee of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (CEDDIS) through the preparation of related reports and recommendations;
- Assist the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in its mission to promote the inclusion of women in political, economic and social affairs; and
- Participate in the different national and regional dialogues of the Young Americas Forum, in collaboration with the Young Americas Business Trust.

5. Documents submitted by the CSO to the OAS

- Letter addressed to the OAS Secretary General, dated February 2, 2012
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Statutes
- Mission Statement
- Annual Report for 2007-2011
- Financial Statements for 2011 (audited by Accounting Solutions and signed by the Directors, Joseph Budd and Michael Murphy)