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

(<u>Asociación Civil Crédito Educacional- EDUCREDITO A.C</u>)

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF EDUCREDITO A.C. IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ACCREDITATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN OAS ACTIVITIES

This document was prepared by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat to provide member states with information about EDUCREDITO A.C. pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 759, "Guidelines for Participation by Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities." It contains the basic data and a list of supporting documentation submitted by *EDUCREDITO A.C* in accordance with the aforementioned guidelines.

1. Background

EDUCREDITO A.C. was founded in Caracas, Venezuela in 1965. It is an independent, nongovernmental organization providing finance to professional and technical workers and students so that they can complete their undergraduate and postgraduate studies in a variety of disciplines.

EDUCREDITO forms part of an association of educational credit institutions known as APICE (Asociación Panamericana de Instituciones de Crédito Educativo), which was founded in 1969 in order to integrate activities that were being carried out separately by different institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean and to seek common solutions to the problems associated with financing higher education.

It submitted its application on March 11, 2003.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: (Asociación Civil Crédito Educacional- EDUCREDITO A.C.)

Address: Av. Andrés Bello, Edificio Las Fundaciones.

Piso 8, Oficina 806, Caracas.

Telephone: (582) 572-5287/ 6101

(582) 572-2332 (fax)

E-mail address: educredito@telcel.net.ve

President: Luisa Mariana Pulido de Sucre

Liaison Officer for the OAS: Maria Isabel Gómez de Soriano, Executive Director

Date established: 1965

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

EDUCREDITO's work is focused on:

- Granting loans for students who wish to take undergraduate or postgraduate courses in Venezuelan or other universities. Participating in the establishment or administration of institutions and services pursuing similar objectives.
- Providing advice to students who need guidance on study opportunities and financing possibilities.
- Administering student loan programs, fellowships, and educational financing in general, provided by individuals or legal entities, be they public or private, national, foreign, or international.
- Maintaining permanent relations with public and private, national, foreign, and international agencies and institutions that, because of the nature of the functions they perform, might help Asociación Civil de Crédito Educativo-EDUCREDITO A.C. to achieve its goals.

4. <u>EDUCREDITO A.C</u> contributions that could be of interest to the OAS

EDUCREDITO A.C. considers that it could contribute to OAS activities by bringing its experience to bear on programs such as:

- Consultant services related to the establishment, design, planning, organization and evaluation of student loan agencies and programs and of other mechanisms for financing education.
- The organization of congresses, courses, seminars, and forums on educational financing mechanisms and topics to do with researching, evaluating, and grading the social, administrative, and financial efficiency of such financing programs.
- Research, statistics, and publications on student loans, financing for education, and related subjects.
- Contacts, links, and agreements with associations, foundations, centers for higher education, government agencies, and national and international organizations.
- Briefing, guidance, and sending of students for undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Germany, Colombia, France, Great Britain, Spain, and the United States.

5. OAS work areas to which the EDUCREDITO A.C. can provide support

EDUCREDITO undertakes to support the work of the OAS and to put forward recommendations on the best way to achieve its objectives in the area of education:

EDUCREDITO would collaborate mainly with the Unit for Social Development and Education (USDE), helping with education-related activities, and with the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD) on the subject of financing for higher education.

Documents submitted by EDUCREDITO A.C. 6.

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS Annual report for 2001
- By-laws
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Financial report for 2000 and 2001
- Mission Statement and description of the activities carried out by the Association.