

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)]

(Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa)

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE
ASOCIACIÓN CIVIL JUSTICIA ALTERNATIVA

This document was prepared by the Summits Department to provide information on the *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* (Civil Alternative Justice Association).

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

The *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* is a nongovernmental, nonprofit organization based in Maracay, Venezuela. It was established in 2000 to promote alternative means of conflict resolution and to empower the family and organized society as basic components of this process. Its activities focus on the implementation of programs and projects geared toward strengthening the participation of municipal police officials and civilians of the state of Aragua in the conflict resolution process.

It promotes conflict resolution with the help of magistrates who are elected in the communities and serve as conflict mediators.

The *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* creates and strengthens forums for discussion between police officials of the state of Maracay and magistrates and provides them with assistance, fostering the establishment of roundtables and training for sectors of the community in this area.

It is a social development organization that seeks to promote citizen participation in policymaking in the state of Aragua, Venezuela, through the promotion and development of forums for dialogue and training workshops for its citizens.

The *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* has executed projects funded by local governments in Venezuela, such as the mayor's offices of Girardot and of José Angel Llamas.

It submitted its application on April 1, 2005.

2. Name, address, and date of establishment

Name: *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa*

Address of head office: San Vicente, Calle Maracay, No. 44
Maracay, Estado Aragua-Venezuela

Telephone: 0416-6437674

Fax: 0243-5515708 / 8085090

E-mail address: acjusticialalternativa@cantv.net;
jusalternativa@cantv.net;
wigberto@cantv.net

Website: <http://personales.com/venezuela/barcelona/justiciapazmonagas/>

Director General: Wigberto Yboset Socorro Quintero

Date established: February 25, 2000

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

The principal focus of the *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* is the eradication of violence through conflict resolution by peaceful means. It endeavors to strengthen judicial institutions and citizen participation. Among its activities that could be related to those of the OAS are:

- Enabling citizens to make use of alternative means of conflict resolution and strengthening the capacity of member states to combat and eradicate violent conflicts between community residents.
- Supporting conflict resolution, the exchange of information, and the establishment of cooperative relations between community members and members of government bodies.
- Facilitating access to means of justice through the implementation of training and promotional programs on conflict resolution.
- Publicizing the importance of the concept of social harmony, with a special emphasis on alternative mechanisms for conflict resolution and with the active participation of children, youths, adults, and organized communities, through the execution of specific projects.

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

The *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* carries out its activities by means of training programs, publications, socio-legal research, and participation in processes that take an alternative approach to conflict resolution. Noteworthy among its contributions that may be of interest to the OAS are:

- Implementation of training projects for the municipal police of Girardot in magistrate's court matters.
- Organization of workshops and seminars on the establishment of local programs and proposals to achieve community objectives.

- Establishment of information networks and exchange for conflict resolution between the municipal police and magistrates, incorporating civil society into the process, thereby including citizens and government bodies as essential components in building a democratic society.
- Holding of training workshops in the area of human rights, justice, and democracy.
- Formulation of an action plan for magistrates and local governments, which sets forth the measures and conclusions that emerge from discussions and seminars on social harmony.
- Encouragement of the creation of conditions and processes to make the transition from confrontation to a culture of dialogue possible, emphasizing the training of actors from different social spheres on such topics as communication, conflict resolution, negotiation, mediation, and conciliation.

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

The *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* considers that its efforts at consolidating and integrating government bodies and civil society will be of use to the activities of the various OAS agencies and dependencies. It could support their work as follows:

- Provide the OAS Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) with research and experience on conflict resolution processes.
- Support the Department of Crisis Prevention and Special Missions of the OAS Secretariat for Political Affairs in the design and implementation of mechanisms for the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts, with the participation of civil society.
- Work with the Department for the Promotion of Democracy of the OAS Secretariat for Political Affairs in the development of educational strategies and programs to promote and publicize the Inter-American Democratic Charter and foster democratic values in the member states.
- Support the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in the design of programs to train and inform women, adolescents, and children concerning domestic violence and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.
- Provide assistance to the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN) on the development of programs for children on the peaceful resolution of conflicts in schools.

6. Documents submitted by the CSO

- Letter addressed to the Secretary General of the OAS, dated April 1, 2005
- Detailed and specific notes clarifying the financial statements as of June 30, 2004 (audited by Oswaldo A. Franco Viana, C.P.A. 16255)
- Articles of Incorporation and Statute of the *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa*
- Certificate of legal status of the *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa*
- Detailed notes on the projects executed by the *Asociación Civil Justicia Alternativa* and their respective sources of financing