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COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS Original: English

MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

IN OAS ACTIVITIES

WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL

SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN OAS ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2021 TERM

(Approved by the CISC at its meeting of March 9, 2021)

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WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTER-AMERICAN SUMMITS MANAGEMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN OAS ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2021 TERM

# Introduction

To perform the activities referred to in this draft Work Plan, and as envisaged in Article 28 of its Rules of Procedure, the Permanent Council installed the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities (CISC) at its meeting held on December 16, 2020.

The CISC is a permanent committee of the Permanent Council of the Organization, composed of one representative of each member state.

Article 22 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council assigns the following functions to the CISC:

a) With respect to the Summits process:

1. To coordinate OAS activities in support of the Summits of the Americas process;
2. To coordinate follow-up and implementation activities relating to mandates assigned to the Organization by the Summits;
3. To request and receive contributions from civil society, relating to its participation in the Summit process, for consideration by the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG);
4. To study topics relating to the Summit process that are assigned to it by the Council or the General Assembly and to make recommendations thereon to the Permanent Council;
5. To consider the reports prepared by the Executive Secretariat for the Summit Process and the technical dependency responsible for ministerial meetings and other sectoral meetings linked to the Summit process.

b) With respect to civil society participation in OAS activities:

1. To implement the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities and to present to the Permanent Council such amendments as the Committee deems pertinent;
2. To design, implement, and evaluate the necessary strategies to increase and facilitate civil society participation in OAS activities;
3. To promote the strengthening of relations established between civil society organizations and the bodies and dependencies of the OAS within the scope of the functions conferred upon the Permanent Council by the OAS Charter;
4. To study matters relating to civil society participation in OAS activities that are presented to it by civil society organizations or entrusted to it by the Permanent Council or the General Assembly and to make recommendations thereon to the Permanent Council;
5. To analyze and transmit to the Permanent Council applications presented by civil society organizations to the secretary general to participate in OAS activities.

Accordingly, this draft Work Plan proposes activities to be carried out and a draft schedule for complying with the mandates assigned to the CISC, while acknowledging that the Committee may agree to consider additional topics pursuant to Article 22, transcribed above.

# Officers

By virtue of Article 21 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council, "The representative of the member state presiding over the Summit process shall serve as chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities. If the member state chairing the committee so requests, its term shall be renewed to ensure follow-up and fulfillment of the Committee’s coordination functions and of the mandates issued by the Permanent Council in the period concerned.”

The member state currently presiding the Summits of the Americas Process is the United States of America, therefore his Interim Representative, Mr. Bradley A. Freden is the Chair of the CISC.

# Mandates assigned to the CISC for the 2020-2021 term

At its meeting held on December 16, 2020, and pursuant to Article 30 of its Rules of Procedure, the Permanent Council approved the “Distribution of Mandates Assigned by the General Assembly at its Fiftieth Regular Session and Previous Sessions” (document [CP/doc.5665/20](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/SPANISH/HIST_20/CP43282S04.docx) rev. 2), and the CISC was instructed to follow up on the mandates contained in resolutions:

## AG/RES. 2948 (L-O/20) Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process

1. To continue implementing the commitments set out in resolution AG/RES. 2846 (XLIV-O/14) to support the Summits of the Americas process; and to request that the General Secretariat, through the Summits Secretariat, continue to serve as the institutional memory and technical secretariat of this process, advising the host country of the Ninth Summit of the Americas and member states, when so requested, on all aspects related to the process; and supporting the preparations and technical coordination for the next Summit, to be held in the United States and Summit-related activities associated with the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Inter-American Democratic Charter.

2. To request that the General Secretariat, through the Summits Secretariat, continue:

a. Supporting follow-up and dissemination of Summits mandates and initiatives, as applicable, including through the involvement of ministerial processes;

b. Providing member states with support in the implementation of the mandates and initiatives of the Summits, providing technical support to the Summits of the Americas Follow-up System, and advising member states, when so requested, on all aspects related to the process and supporting the follow-up activities to the Eighth Summit[[1]](#footnote-2)/, held in Lima, Peru, in April 2018, primarily in connection with the implementation of the Lima Commitment; and

c. Making efforts to promote and publicize the mandates and initiatives among the stakeholders involved, in order to facilitate their contribution to, and participation in, follow-up and implementation through the available information and communications platforms, including social networks, and the Summits of the Americas Virtual Community.[[2]](#footnote-3)/

3. To instruct the General Secretariat, in its capacity as Chairof the Joint Summit Working Group (JSWG), to continue coordinating and promoting the implementation and follow-up in JSWG institutions of the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and to hold at least one meeting of agency heads each year to review progress made and plan joint activities and to report thereon to the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities and to the SIRG.

4. To request the CISC collaborate with the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) to help organize, in coordination with the Summit of the Americas Secretariat, a special joint session during the first quarter of 2021 on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process,” with a goal of sharing possible recommendations for consideration with the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) in advance of the Ninth Summit of the Americas.

5. To urge member states, through the SIRG, to report regularly on the implementation and follow-up of the mandates and initiatives established by the Summits of the Americas process; and to request the states and organizations comprising the Joint Summit Working Group which have not already submitted their information to Mechanism for Follow-Up and Implementation of the Lima Commitment to do so.

## AG/RES. 2949 (L-O/20) Increasing and Strengthening the Participation of Civil Society and Social Actors in the Activities of the Organization of American States and in the Summits of the Americas Process (except paragraph 2**[[3]](#footnote-4)/**)

1. To reaffirm the commitment and will of the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to: (a) continue strengthening and implementing effective forums and mechanisms that would yield concrete action to actively support and promote the registration of civil society organizations and other social actors, as well as national and multilateral efforts to enable civil society organizations and other social actors to participate in OAS activities in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Organization; and (b) continue participating in the dialogue of heads of delegation with civil society organization representatives in the framework of the regular sessions of the General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas process.

3. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue inviting the Indigenous peoples and Afro-descendent communities of member states or their representatives to participate in the Dialogue of the Heads of Delegation with Representatives of Civil Society Organizations and Other Social Actors in the framework of regular sessions of the OAS General Assembly, in order to enable those representatives to present recommendations and proposed initiatives related to the theme of the General Assembly session.

4. To instruct the General Secretariat to continue to support member states that so request in their efforts to increase and strengthen the institutional capacity of their governments to receive, integrate, and incorporate civil society and other social actors’ input and suggestions.

5. To encourage all member states, permanent observers, and other donors, as defined in Article 74 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat of the OAS and in other rules and regulations of the Organization, to consider contributing to the Specific Fund to Support the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities and in the Summits of the Americas Process, created by resolution CP/RES. 864 (1413/04), in order to sustain and promote the effective participation of civil society organizations and other social actors in OAS activities, in accordance with the goals set by the General Assembly and by the Heads of State and Government in the Summits of the Americas process, including the Dialogue of Heads of Delegation, the Secretary General, and Representatives of Civil Society Organizations.

6. To instruct the General Secretariat to identify the human resources needed to implement the mandates entrusted by the member states with respect to the Relations with Civil Society Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity.

## Other mandates of the CISC

* Pursuant to the responsibility to promote and process applications by civil society organizations to be registered with the OAS, the Relations with Civil Society Section of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity will continue submitting for consideration by the CISC requests it receives to be registered with the OAS and will continue to report any steps that Section takes to update the Roster.
* The "Strategy for Strengthening Participation by Civil Society and Social Actors in the Activities of the Organization of American States (OAS)" (CP/CISC-422/09 rev. 3), adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session through resolution AG/RES. 2861 (XLIV-O/14), will continue to be pursued within the framework of aforementioned resolution CP/RES. 759 (1217/99) and other relevant resolutions on participation by civil society and other social actors in order to promote well-coordinated mechanisms to facilitate said participation in the Organization's activities.
* The Committee has ongoing responsibilities, pursuant to resolution CP/RES. 840 (1361/03), "Strategies for Increasing and Strengthening Participation by Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities," backed by the General Assembly in resolution AG/RES. 1915 (XXXIII-O/03).
* It is important to note that as provided in resolution AG/RES. 2924 (XLVIII-O/18), the General Secrtariat is to present to the CISC a proposal for establishing a specific fund for voluntary contributions to support the activities of the Relations with Civil Society Section for increasing and strengthening participation by civil society organizations and other social actors in OAS activities, by December 31, 2018.

# Activities

The Chair suggests scheduling three (3) meetings on the first semester of 2021 to deal with regular activities of the CISC, receive updates on the National Dialogues with civil society currently on their way in preparation for the IX Summit and to, organize and hold the special CISC-CAJP joint session on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process.” As the host country of the Ninth Summit of the Americas continues to develop further preparations for that Summit, the Chair would schedule additional sessions of the CISC and will inform member states with ample notice.

Bradley A. Freden

Interim Representative of the United States of America to the OAS

Chair of the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management

and Civil Society Participation in OAS activities

# Schedule of Meetings of the CISC for the 2021 term

|  |  |
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| **Date, time, and venue** | Topics |
| Tuesday **March 9, 2021**  2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Virtual  CP40137E01  CP40137E01  CP40137E01 | 1. Presentation and consideration of the draft Work Plan and Schedule of Meetings of the CISC for the 2021 term 2. Preparations for the special CISC-CAJP joint session on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process.” 3. Presentation from the U.S. National Summit Coordinator. 4. Presentation of the periodic report of the Summits Secretariat on its work to support and strengthen the Summits process 5. Presentation and consideration of applications by civil society organizations to be included on the OAS roster of civil society organizations 6. Updates on the National Dialogues with civil society currently on their way in preparation for the IX Summit 7. Other business |
| Tuesday **April 6, 2021** 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Virtual | 1. Preparations for the special CISC-CAJP joint session on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process.” 2. Report on the registration of civil society organizations with the OAS and activities to promote participation in the OAS by civil society and other social actors 3. Presentation and consideration of applications by civil society organizations for inclusion on the OAS roster of civil society organizations 4. Presentation of the proposal to establish a specific fund made up of voluntary contributions to support the activities of the Relations with Civil Society Section to increase and strengthen participation by civil society organizations and other social actors in OAS activities 5. Updates on the National Dialogues with civil society currently on their way in preparation for the IX Summit 6. Other business |
| Tuesday **May 4, 2021** 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Virtual | Special CISC-CAJP joint session on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process.” |
| Thursday **July 29, 2021** 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Virtual | 1. Presentation by Ms. Maricarmen Plata, Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity on the preparations, and approval of the agenda, for the “Special meeting on the participation of civil society organizations in preparation for the fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly” 2. Presentation by Ms. Paulina Corominas, and consideration by member states of, applications by civil society organizations to be included on the OAS roster of civil society organizations 3. Presentation by Ms. María Celina Conte, Director of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, on the outcomes of the first meeting of the Summits Implementation Review Group (SIRG) of 2021 4. Presentations by Ms. María Celina Conte, Director of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, on the outcomes of the special CISC-CAJP joint session on “Democratic Resiliency, the Role of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, and the Summits Process.” (Final Report: [CP/CISC-994/21 add.2](http://scm.oas.org/doc_public/ENGLISH/HIST_21/CP44158E03.docx)) |
| Tuesday **September 28, 2021** 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Virtual | “Special meeting on the participation of civil society organizations in preparation for the fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly” |
| Tuesday  **October 12, 2021**  2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Virtual | 1. Presentation by Ms. Maricarmen Plata, Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity on, and consideration by member states of, applications by civil society organizations to be included on the OAS roster of civil society organizations 2. Consideration of the CISC Draft Resolutions to be submitted for the approval of the OAS General Assembly on its Fifty-first regular session:  * Increasing and strengthening the participation of civil society and social actors in the activities of the Organization of American States and in the Summits of the Americas process” - CP/CISC-1028/21 * Support for and follow-up to the Summits of the Americas process” - CP/CISC-1030/21  1. Oral report by the Chair on the activities of the CISC as the Committee closes its 2021 activities and forwards the results of its work to the Fifty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly. |
| Tuesday  **October 26, 2021**  2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Virtual | 1. Consideration of the CISC Draft Resolutions to be submitted for the approval of the OAS General Assembly on its Fifty-first regular session:  * Increasing and strengthening the participation of civil society and social actors in the activities of the Organization of American States and in the Summits of the Americas process” - CP/CISC-1028/21 rev.1 |

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1. . Idem. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. . Idem. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. /

   2. To instruct the Permanent Council, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, and the General Secretariat to continue facilitating the implementation of strategies, forums, and mechanisms for promoting, increasing, and strengthening participation by civil society organizations and other social actors in the Summits of the Americas and OAS activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)