



**Implementation of the Work Plan of the Voluntary Group for the
Follow-up of the Inter-American Democratic Charter**

Introduction

Based on the *Duration, Prioritization, and Accountability* section of the Work Plan approved during the third meeting of the Voluntary Group, the present document is submitted for consideration by the Member States, which prioritizes topics and activities in each of the thematic areas consistent with the approved Guidelines and Work Plan.

Considering that the approved plan contains more than 20 activities distributed in the 4 thematic axes, it is proposed to address the activities and topics by phase, as presented in the table below. Each phase comprises a period of 6 to 8 months.

Below, the four axes of the Work Plan are presented with their respective topics and activities by phase, for a total period of 24 months as approved in the Work Plan.

AXIS 1: DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

PHASE	THEME	ACTIVITIES
Phase 1	Democracy in the face of current challenges	Study to identify the evolution of the challenges to democracy since the creation of the IADC, bearing in mind recent OAS discussions on the topic, and the results of phase 1 and 2 planned for this axis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This study will be carried out by independent experts who will work in consultation and coordination with the Member States through the Voluntary Group.
		Two symposia co-sponsored by George Washington University (to include other organizations) on the challenges of democratic governance.
	Freedom of expression and the media	Exchange experience on disinformation in electoral contexts to support the updating of the “Guide to guarantee freedom of expression against disinformation in electoral contexts.”
Phase 2	Protection of groups of persons in situations of vulnerability and its role in strengthening democracy.	Round table on the rights of groups of people in situations of vulnerability. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panelists: Representatives from Member States, human rights organizations.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Best practices, challenges, and strategies in protecting the rights of persons in situations of vulnerability.
	Promote the elimination of all forms of discrimination and racism, keeping in mind Article 9 of the IADC	<p>Awareness campaigns for the elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic and racial discrimination, and various forms of intolerance, as well as the promotion and protection of the human rights of indigenous peoples and migrants and respect for ethnic, cultural and religious diversity in the Americas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants: Civil society organizations, educators, policymakers, OAS/SARE. - Topics: Promotion of cultural diversity, the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants, strategies and good experiences for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and racism.
Phase 3	Rule of law	<p>Round table on Rule of Law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants: Civil society organizations, educators, policymakers, OAS/SARE. - Topics: Constraint on government powers; absence of corruption; open government; access to information; transparency and accountability; fundamental rights; civil, political, social and economic rights; order and security; regulatory enforcement; government procurement; Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI); civil justice; and criminal justice, among others.
	Open digital, inclusive, and transparent Government Challenges	<p>Symposium on Inclusive Digital Governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speakers: Government officials, tech experts, civil society representatives, to include OAS/SHA. - Topics: challenges, opportunities, and strategies for ensuring inclusivity in digital governance.

➤ **AXIS 2: DEMOCRACY, INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT, AND COMBATING POVERTY**

PHASE	THEME	ACTIVITIES
Phase 1	Environment and democracy	<p>Panel of policy experts in environment and development with environmental protection, to include IACHR/REDESCA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation by Member States wishing to present their environmental and sustainable development plans, programs, and positive experiences in the field of environment and sustainable development, and their impact on the strengthening of democracy. For example:

		Colombia and its National Development Plan: "World Power of Life".
	Innovative economic models for poverty reduction	Brainstorming Session on Reduction of Economic Inequality and Poverty Alleviation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants: Government officials, experts, and civil society representatives. - Themes: Exploring connections between reducing economic inequality, democratic participation, and poverty alleviation.
Phase 2	Social inclusion and sustainable development	Overview of social inclusion initiatives in Member States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on the successful policies promoting sustainable development, to include OAS/SARE and OAS/SEDI. - Sharing experiences on addressing social disparities, inclusive education and healthcare, social safety nets/social protection (e.g., Inter-American Social Protection Network), and poverty reduction.
	Equity and social justice	Analysis of policies promoting equity and social justice, to include OAS/SARE and IACHR/REDESCA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Case studies on successful interventions. - Open dialogue on challenges faced (legal frameworks for equity, social justice in public services).
Phase 3	Economic opportunity, empowerment and inclusive growth	Presentation of innovative economic models. Dialogue on adapting and implementing successful models. Identification of challenges and opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical innovation in poverty reduction. - The connection between business and human rights, corporate social responsibility (CSR), based on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. - Public-private partnerships.
	Money and politics, for example, campaign finance, transparency in politics	Presentation of public policies and regulations on the subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency and accountability of public funds. - Exchange of best practices and experiences on public financing of campaigns and political parties. - Limits and transparency of private financing.

➤ **Axis 3: PROMOTION OF A DEMOCRATIC CULTURE**

PHASE	THEME	ACTIVITIES
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Phase 1	Promotion of a democratic culture and human rights through education	<p>Presentation on the integrated and updated plan on “Human Rights Education in Formal Education in the Americas” and the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices, as mandated by resolution AG-RES 3004-2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request SEDI for updated information. - Request SARE for updated information. - Participants: SEDI, SARE, IACHR, IIDH, relevant national authorities.
		<p>Seminar on Civic Participation of Youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Effective practices, strategies and actions to improve youth participation in democracies, technical training initiatives.
Phase 2		<p>Youth Civic Engagement Workshop: Host a webinar featuring experts from electoral bodies and educational institutes/ministries to share insights on updating curricular resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be organized with the IIDH and OAS/SEDI. Topics to be addressed include revitalizing civics education, promoting work with civil society organizations, strengthening the role of the educational institutes of the electoral bodies, and updating educational and curricular resources in collaboration with regional Ministries of Education.
Phase 3	Women and democracy	<p>Symposium on Women, Youth, and Girls in all their diversity in Politics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experts and policymakers participate, including via the CIM, to share success stories and challenges in promoting women’s participation in politics.
		<p>Political leadership training for young women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training courses, online or in person, through the Education Portal of the Americas. - Co-organized by the CIM and other areas of the General Secretariat.

➤ **Axis 4: STRENGTHENING AND PRESERVATION OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS**

PHASE	THEME	ACTIVITIES
Phase 1	Promotion of democratic governance	Share good practices for the promotion and strengthening of democracy, identify opportunities for improvements, and consider suggestions on the matter presented by Member States, bearing in mind principles of the OAS Charter and the Inter-American Democratic Charter and previous OAS discussions.

		Symposium on the performance of the organization and the impact of existing instruments for enhancing democratic promotion and strengthening. Collaboration with the Group of Friends of the IADC and other strategic partners. Joint discussion on shared goals and challenges. Exploration of opportunities for mutual support.
Phase 2		Dialogue on the challenges and needs of the IADC with the participation of external experts, organized in a country that requests it. - Participants: diverse actors of civil society and experts.
Phase 3		Identify Best Practices for Civil Society Participation: Review current practices on civil society and social actor participation domestically and within the Inter-American System, with input from OAS/SARE and OAS/SHA. Presentation on case studies from Member States. Group discussion on enhancing meaningful civil society involvement in OAS spaces.

Budget

In order to develop the activities identified by the Member States in the Work Plan, financial and human resources will be required. Resources will be sought to advance with Phase 1 activities, and so on.

In the event that one or more delegations manage the necessary resources to advance in Phase 2 or 3 activities, they are welcome to advance in their development in coordination with the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the Group.

Implementation Schedule

Considering the Work Plan was approved for a period of 24 months, it is proposed to implement the activities contained in the three phases as follows.

- Phase 1: March to December 2024 (9 months)
- Phase 2: January to June 2025 (6 months)
- Phase 3: June to December 2025 (6 months)

The timing and activities could be adjusted if deemed necessary by the Volunteer Group.