



**Organization of
American States**

DIALOGUE BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY GENERAL AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OAS

OAS Headquarters
Hall of the Americas – 17th Street & Constitution Avenue - Washington, DC 20006
March 4, 2010

INTRODUCTION

The Department of International Affairs of the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to invite civil society organizations (CSOs) to a dialogue with the candidates for OAS Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General, held in the framework of Permanent Council Resolution [CP/RES. 967 \(1738/10\) “Convocation of the Thirty-Ninth Special Session of the General Assembly to Elect the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States.”](#) which requests the General Secretariat of the OAS to hold a separate meeting for the candidates to present their vision of the Americas, its challenges, and their plans and projects for the period 2010-2015 to CSOs.

To date, the candidates include the OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza, who was elected on May 2, 2005 and assumed his position on May 26th. His term of office concludes May 25, 2010. The Assistant Secretary General, Albert R. Ramdin, was elected on June 7, 2005, assumed his position on July 19th, and concludes his term of office on July 18, 2010. Both officials can be reelected for a second term. Additional candidates can be submitted up to the date of the election to take place in a Special OAS General Assembly on March 24, 2010.

DATE AND LOCATION

The Dialogue between Civil Society and the Candidates for Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS will take place in the Hall of the Americas at OAS Headquarters located on 17th Street and Constitution Ave., Washington, DC 20006, on March 4, 2010 from 10:00am to 12:30pm.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Dialogue is to provide CSOs the opportunity to exchange ideas and opinions with the candidates for OAS Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General in relation to their vision of the Americas, its challenges and their proposed plans, projects and programs for the next five years from 2010 to 2015.

METHODOLOGY

The Dialogue between Civil Society and the Candidates for Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS will be open to participation of civil society organizations and will be broadcasted live via Webcast.

During the two-and-a-half hour session the candidates will make a brief presentation on their visions with respect to the situation in the Americas and their proposals and initiatives. Following this, the representatives of civil society will be able to pose questions related to the presentations and the Inter-American agenda. The session will be moderated by Dr. Irene Klinger, Director of the Department of International Affairs.

For those civil society organizations that cannot participate in Washington, DC, the Dialogue will be transmitted live via Webcast. Furthermore, it will be simultaneously broadcast in four cities of the Americas, including Buenos Aires, Argentina; Bogota, Colombia; Mexico City, Mexico; and Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, allowing virtual participation for CSOs throughout the region. In addition, CSOs will be able to send questions, via email to civilsociety@oas.org, prior to and during the Dialogue.

The proceedings of the Dialogue between Civil Society and the Candidates for Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS will be in the four official languages of the OAS (English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese).

Participants should submit the [online registration form](#) no later than March 2, 2010.

AGENDA

9:30 – 10:00am	Registration
10:00 – 10:30am	Presentations by Candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretary General José Miguel Insulza• Assistant Secretary General Albert R. Ramdin• Other potential candidates
10:30am – 12:30pm	Dialogue with the Candidates for Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderated by Irene Klinger, Director, Department of International Affairs
12:30pm	Closing