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**PROGRESS REPORT: "INTER-AMERICAN PROGRAM ON
EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND PRACTICES"**

(Presented by the Technical Secretariat)

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Purpose: This report seeks to inform member states on progress in the execution of the Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices and the use of resources approved by the Authorities and Executive Committee to support activities of the Program in 2007-2008. For information on Program activities in 2005-2006 see CIDI/CIE/INF. 4/06 or www.educadem.oas.org

Background:

The Inter-American Democratic Charter of the Organization of American States emphasizes the important role played by education in developing and sustaining a culture of democracy in the countries of the Americas. In August 2005, the Ministers of Education of the hemisphere committed themselves to adopting a hemisphere-wide program of education for democratic values and practices - the culmination of a broad range of activities undertaken within the framework of the OAS to strengthen democracy through education. The Program would have three mutually reinforcing components:^{1/}

- Research component
- Professional development and educational resource component
- Information exchange component.

Ministers asked the Inter-American Education Committee (CIE) to facilitate the development of a detailed and feasible work plan, benchmarks for progress, a proposed budget and sources of financing for the program’s first phase.

Ministers further specified, in their *Declaration of Scarborough and Commitments to Action*, that these items should be developed by “a working group of interested member countries led by Colombia, with assistance from the Department of Education and Culture (DEC) of the OAS in collaboration with the *Department for State Modernization and Governance*, and with guidance from an Advisory Group composed of citizenship education officials from member states, academic and civil society experts, and other appropriate, interested partners. The work plan, including specific initial activities and proposed sources of financing, should be presented to the CIE executive committee and authorities. The Ministers also requested that the CIE report on progress in implementing the Program at the V Meeting of Ministers of Education in 2007.

1. Details on the Program’s objectives and components in CIDI/RME/RES.12 (IV-O/05)

In response to this mandate, the Authorities and Executive Committee of the CIE at their V meeting in November 2005 approved \$57,100 in order to support some activities of the first phase of the Inter-American Program.^{2/} This phase included the formation of a coordinating group of ministry representatives, the first meeting of the Advisory Board of the Inter-American Program held April 17-19, 2006 in Bogotá, Colombia, the development of a Web Portal for the Program launched in June 2006, a mapping of current policies and programs in the hemisphere in education for democratic citizenship (in process), and the organization of an International Seminar on Best Practices in Citizenship Education held July 2006 in Mexico City.^{3/} In February of 2007, CIE Authorities and the Executive Committee approved an additional \$168,000 USD in seed funding to support Program activities in 2007 and 2008. An additional \$406,000 USD in counterpart funding was secured from other donors leveraging the CIE funds for activities in all three components of the Program. The following report describes progress on activities programmed for 2007 and 2008.

Summary of activities and results 2007- 2008:

February 2007- November 2008

Research Component:

1. Inter-American Journal of Education for Democracy (2007-2008)
2. Analytical Report on Survey of Member State Policies in Citizenship Education
3. Research Study on Evaluation of National Policy and Programs in Education for Democratic Citizenship and related areas in the Americas, 2008

Professional Development Component:

4. Hemispheric Course for Teachers: The Inter-American Democratic Charter and the Teaching of Democratic Values and Practices, Pilot in Peru
5. Education for Democratic Citizenship in the Caribbean: An On-Line Course for Educators
6. Young Scholar Program

Information Exchange Component:

7. Inter-American Program Web Portal, on-line bulletins, and policy briefs
8. Inter-American Encounter on Conflict Resolution Education (March 2007)
9. Seminar on Evaluation and Assessment of Citizenship Education Policies and Programs (2008)
10. Seminar on the topic of Using Arts and to promote a democratic culture (2008)
11. II Meeting of the Advisory Board (2008)

2. See Final Report and Agreements from the V Meeting of the Authorities on the CIE homepage at http://www.oas.org/udse/espanol/cpo_cie.html

3. See Progress Report of Activities in 2005-2006 CIDI/CECIE/INF. 2/07

Activities Funded by CIE 2007-2008

Description of activities:

Research Component

Activity 1. Inter-American Journal on Education for Democracy, Progress in 2007

Description:

The *Inter-American Journal of Education for Democracy* is a bilingual online journal with limited printed copies, which will be launched in November 2007. The goal of the Journal is to foster intellectual discussion and exchange ideas to promote education for democratic citizenship across the Americas. It is hosted by Indiana University (USA), in partnership with the Catholic University of Chile and the University of Toronto, Canada. The Journal has received generous support for the first four issues from the Government of Colombia, the Center for Civic Education, and the Inter-American Committee on Education.

In 2007, progress has been made towards establishing the main legal, administrative, and technical structures required to produce two high-quality editions of the journal per year. An editorial board composed of distinguished researchers in the field of education for democratic citizenship was established. Selection criteria were developed to ensure a balance on the Editorial Board in terms of gender, culture, political orientation, and geography. The first edition of the Journal will be launched in November 2007. Papers for the second edition, to be published in early 2008, are currently under peer-review. Researchers from all member states and from outside the Americas, may submit articles at any time of the year for future editions. The Journal is published at: <http://www.ried-ijed.org/>

- Estimated date of execution: January 2007 to November 2008
- Total estimated costs of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$):
 - Per year: \$45,000
 - 10,000 (CIE/OAS (Res.831) for 2007 Journal administration and coordination
 - Counterpart Resources: (Government of Colombia, Center for Civic Education, Department of Education and Culture/SEDI/OAS)
 - 10,000 Editorial costs
 - 10,000 Journal design / Programming / Web page
 - 10,000 Translation and limited publication for Ministers of Education
 - 5,000 Dissemination, communications, misc.

Activity 2: Analytical Report on Survey of Member State Policies in Citizenship Education

Description:

The Inter-American Program is currently in the final phase of drafting an analytical report based on a policy survey that was conducted in 2006 and 2007. The purpose of the report is to document current national policies in education for democratic citizenship, and related areas, throughout the Hemisphere, and to identify common challenges and priority needs which the Inter-

American Program could help address. 24 Ministries of Education have replied to the Survey.^{4/} A draft of the report will be presented at the V Ministers of Education Meeting in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, November 14 - 16, 2007. Further information is available at: http://www.educadem.oas.org/english/cpo_politicas.asp

- Estimated date of execution: April 2006 to November 2007
- Total estimated costs of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): 7,500
 - 7,500 (CIE/OAS (Res.831) for consulting fees

Activity 3. Research Study on Evaluation of National Policy and Programs in Education for Democratic Citizenship and related areas in the Americas and the Caribbean, 2008

Description:

The Inter-American Program on Education for Democratic Values and Practices is commissioning a research study to analyze the current state of evaluation of national education for democratic citizenship policy and programs in Central America, North America, South America and the Caribbean. The final report of this research study will assist in determining the priority issues to be addressed at the Seminar on Evaluation to be hosted by the Inter-American Program in 2008, for national coordinators of policies and programs in education on democratic citizenship in Ministries of Education in the Americas.

The research study will address three main issues: a gap in theory, a gap regarding knowledge on the current state of evaluation in the region, and a need for practical guidelines regarding policy evaluation. A consultant, with advisors from each of the four sub-regions of the Americas, will carry out the study and plan the Seminar. Further information is available at www.educadem.oas.org.

- Estimated date of execution: December 2007 to December 2008
- Total estimated costs of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): 20,000
 - 20,000 (Special contribution from Government of Colombia)

Professional Development Component

Activity 4: A Hemispheric Course for Teachers: The Inter-American Democratic Charter and the Teaching of Democratic Values and Practices, Pilot in Peru

Description:

A pilot project to train 750 teachers rooted in the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, was implemented in Peru in 2006, supported by a grant from the U.S. Mission to the OAS and with partners including the Ministry of Education of Peru, Ministers of Education Argentina, Fe y

4. To date, the following countries have responded: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, St.Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis (partial responses), Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America

Alegria of Peru, and the National Distance Education University of Spain (UNED). The project seeks to implement a distance education course, for primary and secondary teachers, to provide them with the basic pedagogic tools for teaching democratic values and practices in their classrooms.

The lessons learned from the course have been compiled in a document that will be presented to the CIE through the Inter-American Program in order to inform policy debates in the hemisphere on teaching democratic citizenship. In addition, a short promotional video with testimonies from participating teachers and students has been produced and will be presented to Member States and potential donors in the future. This video is available for free download at: www.educadem.oas.org

Finally, a proposal was submitted to FEMCIDI for funding in 2008, 2009, 2010 to expand and consolidate the course in Peru and to replicate the course in Guatemala and Colombia. Future versions of the course would be available to all OAS member states, pending availability of funds. For more detailed information on the course see www.educadem.oas.org

- Estimated date of execution: Pilot Phase January 2005-December 2006

Activity 5: Education for Democratic Citizenship in the Caribbean: An On-Line Course for Educators

Description:

Thanks to a grant from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Department of Education and Culture is currently adapting the Spanish version of the distance course for teachers for the English-speaking Caribbean. This project aims to strengthen teaching practices at the classroom level so that teachers and students become more reflective. The project will accomplish this goal by developing an on-line multimedia system for distance education, to be supported by on-site tutors.

The first stakeholder meeting of the project was held in Christ Church, Barbados on July 12 and 13, 2007. The meeting brought together representatives of 9 Caribbean member states, from Ministries of Education, educational institutions and affiliated organizations, civil society and international organizations, to discuss the proposed content of the distance course and to determine how that content might be shaped to meet the specific needs and concerns of Caribbean countries. The next steps of the project involve identification of territories to be involved in the pilot, crafting of the curriculum for the distance course by a team of experts, and the assessment of technological requirements for the delivery of the distance course. *More information is available at <http://www.oas.org/documents/sap/caribbean/seminar>*

- Estimated date of execution: 2007-2009

Activity 6: Young Scholar Program

Description:

In an effort to incorporate youth within the planning and implementation of the Inter-American Program, the OAS has developed the *Young Scholar Program*. The objective is to provide an opportunity for youth from the Americas, and other regions, to work actively in the Inter-American

Program's activities, as part of their college coursework or as an independent initiative. This work may include research, meeting participation, translations, planning and participation in Program events within and outside the United States, among others.

The Program's first two young scholar's are:

Carla Jiménez, Costa Rica. Carla is completing her MA in Intercultural Service, Leadership and Management with a specialization in International Education at the School of International Training –SIT- in Brattleboro, Vermont. She will participate in the Program from June-December, 2007, in the Program's offices in Washington, DC.

Joao Salm, Brazil. PhD candidate at the School of Justice and Social Inquiry at Arizona State University. He participated in the Program from June 19-July 19, 2007 in the Program's offices in Washington, DC and is continuing to support the Program from Arizona State until December 2007.

From August – October, 2007, the Young Scholar Program has received over 54 applications from over 10 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru, among others. Following a review of the candidates, six new young scholars have been selected: Tara Brian (Canada), Maria Fernanda Cruz (Colombia), Augusto Galeano (Paraguay), Maarten de Jong (the Netherlands), Todd Lester (United States), Claudia Liliana Vargas (Colombia). Further information on the background of these young scholars and their work in the Inter-American Program may be found at: www.educadem.oas.org

Currently, the Young Scholar Program does not offer remuneration. However, the OAS is currently seeking funding in order to offer a small stipend to partially cover living costs in Washington D.C. Counterpart funding arrangements will be negotiated with partnering universities.

For more information on this initiative see www.educadem.oas.org or write education@oas.org

- Estimated date of execution: June 2007 - June 2010
- Total estimated costs of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): 144,000
 - 1,000 stipend / month per Scholar x 2 scholars per year
 - 1,000 counterpart per institution x 2 scholars per year

Information Exchange Component

Activity 7: Inter-American Program Web Portal, On-line Bulletins, and Policy Briefs

Description:

In the Information Exchange Component, Advisory Board members recommended that OAS develop mechanisms to facilitate networking and sharing of products, resources, research summaries, information on policies, professional development and emerging issues. In addition, the Advisory Board recommended that the Program disseminate information to policy makers, education leaders and stakeholders. In line with these recommendations, the OAS has developed the following products:

Web Portal:

The OAS launched the Program's web portal at www.educadem.oas.org in June 2006. This site is becoming a one-stop source of information on efforts to promote the development of a democratic culture through education, and for dialogue among diverse actors in this field. One of the main features of the website is its interactive features that include on-line forums, on-line distance education courses in education for democracy, and research databases.

On-line Bulletins:

The OAS has developed on-line bulletins in order to facilitate the exchange of information around key priority areas. The bulletins are published three times a year. Since the middle of 2006 the Program has published four bulletins. The first focused broadly on the Inter-American Program, the second edition focused on the topic of youth participation, the third bulletin focused on education for conflict resolution and the fourth focused on human rights education. The upcoming fifth edition will focus on Policies and Programs in Education for Citizenship. To consult previous bulletins and for more information see http://www.educadem.oas.org/english/cpo_boletin.asp

Policy Briefs:

The OAS and its partners are developing a policy-brief series with the objective of offering key research findings and policy options in citizenship education in a language and style that is useful for policy-makers. The key issues presented will attend to regional priorities which may have been identified by the Program's Advisory Board. The first policy-brief will focus on the topic of democratic citizenship formation in early childhood education programs, in line with the topic of the V Ministers of Education Meeting in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, November 14 -16, 2007.

- Estimated date of execution: January 2007-December 2008
- Total estimated costs of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$):
 - Per year: \$30,000 CIE/OAS contribution (Res.831).
 - 5,000 Development of Contents of Web Portal
 - 5,000 Programming and Maintenance of Web Portal
 - 7,500 Development of Contents of 3 On-line Bulletins
 - 2,500 Programming of 3 On-line Bulletins
 - 7,500 Development of Contents for 3 Policy Briefs
 - 2,500 Design, Programming, and Dissemination Policy Briefs

Activity 8. Inter-American Encounter on Conflict Resolution Education: International Innovations and Challenges, Cleveland, Ohio, March 14-17, 2007.

Description:

The *Inter-American Encounter on Peace and Conflict Resolution Education* was carried out in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, on March 14 – 17, 2007. The general conference portion of the event (March 14th – 15th) offered an opportunity for 400 college students, college faculty, university scholars, K-12 educators, public health officials, prevention specialists, and policy makers in the Americas to discuss current work in conflict resolution education. 140 presenters, representing 24 states and 13 countries, shared examples of best practices within their states and nations, implementation models, and

evaluation results with attendees. For an overview of the workshops and speakers, please see the Conference Program. The final two days were dedicated to small-group policy discussions. See more information at: http://www.educadem.oas.org/english/cpo_eventos.asp

- Estimated date of execution: March 14 – 17, 2007.
- Total cost of the activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): 105,000
 - Total contribution of the CIE (Res.831): \$15,000
 - Counterpart funding:
 - \$80,000 Global Issues Resource Center and Alliance of Partners.
 - \$10,000 UNDP
 - \$15,000 CIE

Activity 9. Seminar on Evaluation and Assessment of Citizenship Education Policies and Programs (2007-2008)

Description:

Among the clear gaps identified by Advisory Board members is the lack of information on current efforts to monitor and evaluate the impact of policies and programs in education for citizenship in the Americas. With the help from a grant from the Government of Colombia, the Program will commission a report on the current status of evaluation of policies and programs in this area (see Activity 3 description above). The results of the commissioned report will be presented at an international seminar on evaluation of policies and programs in democratic citizenship education to be hosted by the Department of Education and Culture in Jamaica, in August, 2008. Key experts, officials in-charge of citizenship education reforms, evaluation of national policies and programs, and related areas will be invited to the event. The CIE has provided \$30,000 in seed funds and the OAS Human Development Department has approved \$34,000 in Professional Development Scholarships to cover travel expenses of member state participants.

Estimated date of execution: August, 2008

Total cost of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): \$64,000

- \$30,000 OAS Contribution (Res.831).
- \$34,000 (OAS Professional Development Scholarships)

Activity 10. Seminar on the topic of Using Arts and Media to promote a democratic culture (2008)

In follow-up to key recommendations by Advisory Board Members and the OAS - commissioned empirical study “Strengthening Democracy in the Americas through Civic Education” (http://www.educadem.oas.org/documentos/executive_summary_fin.pdf) the Organization of American States and key partners are developing a proposal to organize a seminar on the topic of using arts and media to promote a democratic culture in late 2008, early 2009. The objectives of the seminar would be to share practices and experiences in the use of media to promote democratic values and practices; to promote greater use of the media for civic purposes and to; forge links between government, civil society, and the private sector (media) in this area. Participants could

include Governments (Ministries of Education and Culture), NGOs, international organizations, media representatives, artists (music, dance, theatre, visual arts, and technology), universities, and experts in the field. The OAS is currently seeking donors and partners for this initiative.

Estimated date of execution: Summer 2008

Total cost of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): \$60,000

Activity 11: Advisory Board Meeting 2008 and 2010

Description:

In the *Commitments to Action from Scarborough*, ministers asked the Inter-American Committee on Education (CIE) to launch the Inter-American Program by facilitating the development of a detailed work plan, benchmarks, and proposals for funding the first stage of the Program. In addition, Ministers asked that these components be developed by a coordinating group of interested member countries with guidance from an Advisory Board that should include officials from member states, educational institution personnel, and experts from civil society and or groups working in the field. In order to support this process technical secretariat of CIE facilitated identification and selection of Advisory Board members from throughout member states and organized their first meeting in Bogotá, Colombia on April 19-21, 2006 with financial support from the Ministry of Education of Colombia, Inter-American Committee on Education, and Center for Civic Education.

The main purpose of the meeting was to produce concrete recommendations and suggestions to be used in the design of a work plan of the Inter-American Program. The Advisory Board will continue to play an important role in the development and monitoring of the Program by helping to identify gaps in knowledge and resources in each of the three areas of the Program. In addition to identifying the gaps the Advisory Board will play a key role in the identification of key partners and resources that can support the Program's activities.

Estimated date of execution: April 2008 and April 2010

Total cost of activity per object of expenditure (in US \$): \$70,000

Per Meeting (every two years): \$35,000 from the CIE/OAS (Res.831).

- Travel: 15,000
- Doc. 3,000
- Equip: 2,000
- Contracts: 10,000
- Other: 5,000 (Interpretation: 5,000 and misc. 1,000)