IIHR
Inter-American Institute
of Human Rights

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT LAG-A-00-02-00001-00

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH INCLUSION, CONFLICT PREVENTION AND DEMOCRATIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA

STATUS REPORT APRIL-JUNE 2004

1	Inclusion through the human rights non-governmental organizations
2	Citizen security in Latin America: developing a national and local approach
3	Strengthening the Ombudsman in Central America
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UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
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I. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the regulations of the Cooperative Agreement No. LAG-A-00-02-00001-00 between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR or the Institute), the IIHR submits its status report on the activities that took place from April 1st through June 30th , 2004 that were in whole or in part funded by USAID. The overall period of the Grant is from March 1st, 2002 to May 20th 2005.

II. THE MISSION AND NATURE OF THE IIHR

The Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR) is an independent international institution, created in 1980 under an international agreement that mandates it to engage in educational and research activities related to human rights, and to promote the observance of these rights and of democracy throughout the Americas.

The IIHR's Statute defines it as an academic institution, which means that it refrains from investigating cases, presenting or supporting formal complaints against States, or monitoring the compliance of States with their international human rights obligations. This self-imposed limitation has proven to be an effective tool for the IIHR, as it has permitted the Institute to serve as a facilitator of dialogue among the different actors in the human rights movement, and between them and government representatives.

Politically, the work of the IIHR is predicated on the idea that the effective exercise of human rights is only possible within the framework of pluralist and representative democracy. In other words, the IIHR maintains that there is a close link between the full exercise of political democracy and the effective exercise of human rights.

To achieve this, democracy must transcend merely formal considerations and must incorporate excluded and disadvantaged sectors of the population. The indigenous peoples of the Americas, and women as a social group, are perhaps the most important examples. For this reason, the IIHR focuses especially on these segments of the population.

In methodological terms, the work of the IIHR is based on three premises:

- An integrated approach is essential for human rights work. Human rights constitute an integrated system, in which no single right, group of rights, or so-called 'generation' of human rights, takes precedence. Economic, social and cultural rights are as important for the effective exercise of human rights as civil and political rights.

- An interdisciplinary approach is essential for human rights work. As human rights cut across the entire social fabric, no single academic discipline can adequately address their complexity. The issues involved include those of a legal, political, historical, anthropological and philosophical nature. Only an approach that incorporates all these perspectives can deal with such a complex phenomenon.

- A multisectoral approach is essential for human rights work. Human rights issues concern different agents and sectors of society. Activists, government officials, political leaders and representatives of minorities all have a stake and share a common interest in human rights, which have attained a political consensus and which allow for different perspectives and are a source of strong internal tensions.

III. CURRENT STRUCTURE

The Board of Directors, the Institute's highest governing body, is responsible for setting policies and the general parameters for the work of the IIHR. It is made up of 26 renowned human rights experts from all parts of the hemisphere. The Board meets once a year but has created a Permanent Commission to assist and advise the Executive Director throughout the year.

The Executive Director, Roberto Cuéllar, from El Salvador, is responsible for carrying out the IIHR's mission as set out in its Statute, and for implementing institutional policy. He is also in charge of efforts to secure financial resources, overseeing the use of the funds and rendering accounts. The Executive Director, the Directors of the three Operating Departments and the Administrative-Financial Coordinator make up the team of the General Directorate.

A special office assists the Executive Director in implementing Institute policy related to the cooperation agencies, and the special programs for Cuba and Colombia.

For operational purposes, responsibility for implementing the IIHR's activities is assigned to the following:

Department of Civil Society Entities. This area carries out activities of human rights training and promotion with organized sectors of civil society (organizations devoted to human rights in general, and the rights of women, migrant and indigenous peoples in particular); organizes specialized fora for the discussion of emerging issues in the field of human rights; and gathers, publishes and distributes specialized materials.

Department of Public Institutions. This area is responsible for activities of human rights promotion and training with the judicial, legislative and executive branches of governments, the military, the police and the prison system; promotes legislative reform designed to improve access by members of the public to their fundamental rights; promotes the institution of the ombudsman throughout the hemisphere and provides advisory assistance to existing ombudsmen's offices; provides advisory assistance to ministries of education for the modernization of academic programs; and gathers, publishes and distributes specialized materials.

Center for Electoral Promotion and Assistance (CAPEL). Among its activities, CAPEL provides advisory and technical assistance to organizations responsible for carrying out electoral processes; holds fora for discussions and promotion with different political sectors; analyzes and discusses the issue of governance with political actors; provides advisory assistance and training and conducts research aimed at strengthening political parties; sends missions to observe elections in all parts of the hemisphere; and gathers, publishes and distributes specialized materials.

The units, on the other hand, are responsible for proposing and implementing Institute policies related to their respective fields of action, based on the guidelines established by the Board and the Executive Directorate.

Administrative-Accounting and General Services Unit: comprised of the following sections: treasury, accounting, informatics, human resources and general services.

Applied Research Unit: responsible for the Institute's policy in the areas of thematic research, integrated plans, special programs and topics that cut across all the Institute's areas of work. It oversees the "active promotion" approach, particularly as regards the three core topics (political participation, education and access to justice) and their impact in the countries on which the IIHR places special emphasis.

Educational Unit: designs, tests and implements the methodologies, teaching aids and educational and evaluative techniques that the IIHR uses in its training activities. It is creating and will maintain a data base on educational policies for primary, secondary and higher education in Latin America, and proposes ways of harmonizing the IIHR's action with educational reform projects in the region.

Information and Editorial Service Unit: responsible for the IIHR's editorial policy, for incorporating the use of Internet into the Institute's work of promoting human rights, for meeting the information needs of the target population, and for strengthening the IIHR's formal and informal networks.

A. PROMOTING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION

1. PROJECT FOR INCLUSION THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

1.1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK

The quarter from April to June 2004 saw continued work on the processes begun in 2003 and in the first quarter of this year. Representatives of civil society achieved full participation in political and decision-making processes at the OAS, gaining greater inclusion for the interests of women, indigenous people and Afro-descendants. Eduardo Alfredo Nieva of the *Comisión de Juristas Indígenas de Argentina* (Commission of Indigenous Jurists of Argentina, CJIA) was in Washington DC from April 23rd - 30th 2004 to attend the Third Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus organized by the Working Group to Prepare the OAS Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Eduardo Nieva, Julieta Montaño of the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM-Bolivia) and Flavia de Lima of Brazil's *Núcleo de Estudios Negros* (Center for Black Studies, NEN) were present for activities before and during the 34th General Assembly of the OAS in Quito, Ecuador from June 5th - 9th 2004.

The project also continued its work during the quarter to implement the 2003-2004 national work plans developed at the Strategic Encounter of Advocacy Organizations-Networks (Costa Rica, August 19th -21st 2003) in the three selected countries: Colombia (legislation for indigenous peoples), Panama (nondiscrimination against the Afro-descendant population) and Peru (legislation for equality between women and men).

In keeping with the work plan, activities continued to focus on:

- National workshops and meetings by counterpart organizations with technical follow-up from the IIHR team;
- Dissemination of information in the countries; this included continuous updates of the IIHR Spanish-language web site sections *Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism* and *Women's Rights*, adding information to support advocacy work and projects in the countries;
- Technical assistance; among other things, the IIHR team offered support and active participation in critical advocacy activities and in implementing work plans.

The work plans advanced at different paces in the countries; as had also occurred in the previous two periods, project development in Colombia had to be postponed until July.

1.2 ANNUAL GOALS

- Draw attention to the interests and needs of target populations, to be included on the agenda of the human rights movement and in the results of specialized assemblies and meetings of the OAS.

- Consolidate knowledge and skills to advocate the inclusion of specific legislation that protects the rights of women, indigenous people and Afro-descendants.

1.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

1.3.1 NGO Participation in Inter-American Meetings

1.3.1.1 Description

The idea behind this item in the work plan was to continue including organizations of target populations in OAS activities and in civil society meetings taking place in the Inter-American system. Eduardo Alfredo Nieva of Argentina's CJIA, Julieta Montaño of CLADEM-Bolivia and Flavia de Lima from Brazil's NEN were again chosen to ensure that the rights of indigenous peoples, women and Afro-descendant populations were regularly included and promoted and to give a voice to the fight against racism and discrimination.

At least one of these three people took part in each of the following OAS events and civil society meetings:

The Third Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus organized by the Working Group to Prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Washington, D.C.(April 24th -29th , 2004). Representatives of indigenous organizations from throughout the hemisphere met for three days prior to the negotiating round to prepare a unified proposal for submission to the Assembly. Present at this preparatory meeting was Eduardo A. Nieva as a member of the technical team providing advisory assistance for the development of proposals by indigenous peoples. Discussion focused on the right to health and the right to the family. This round failed to make the same degree of progress achieved in past rounds, as analysis and discussion of the draft Declaration proved to be extremely lengthy and time-consuming. The IIHR therefore decided to hold a meeting of program officer Cristina Zeledón of the IIHR Program on Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights, Eduardo A. Nieva, Irene Klinger, Coordinator of the OAS Secretariat of Summits, Armstrong Wiggins of the Indian Law Resource Center and a representative of the Assembly of First Nations of Canada to find ways of giving new momentum to this important initiative. The agreements of this meeting figured in the General Assembly resolution on rights of indigenous peoples, adopted in the fourth plenary session of the OAS meeting on June 8th , 2004. Participants also agreed to support the Second Summit of Indigenous Peoples, to take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2005 on the occasion of the next Summit of the Americas.

34th General Assembly (GA) of the Organization of American States. Quito, Ecuador (June 6th- 8th , 2004). Preparatory activities: the International Coalition of Nongovernmental Organizations (ICNGO) met with foreign ministers of the Americas. Julieta Montaño, Flavia de Lima and Eduardo A. Nieva all took part in the activity, organized by the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL) and the ICNGO. In attendance were foreign ministers from Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia and other countries, members of the Inter-American Court and Commission of Human Rights, a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), representatives of Amnesty International, national human rights organizations from Ecuador and Dr. Miguel Angel Rodríguez, candidate for the position of Secretary General of the OAS. The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange opinions and voice concerns about such issues as the Democratic Charter (strengths and weaknesses) and its relevance to human rights. Discussion also centered on the need for preventive actions to resolve conflicts or respond when the constitutional order in member countries comes under threat. Participants commented on the system's response to crisis situations, such as those currently taking place in several countries of the region, and discussed other issues including the rule of law, access to justice and corruption (the theme of the GA).

Finally, Dr. Miguel Angel Rodríguez outlined the program he would implement as Secretary General, stressing that his overriding goal would be to foster greater participation by civil society organizations in the OAS. In its statement to the GA, the ICNGO cited racism as a fundamental problem in the region, urging the States to move forward more vigorously in the discussion and adoption of an Inter-American convention. The statement also drew a clear link between corruption and discrimination, noting that groups subject to discrimination (women, indigenous people and Afro-descendants) were also more vulnerable to the negative impact of corruption. The Government of Brazil spoke in support of this statement and drew attention to its importance.

During the two days scheduled for the GA, people involved in IIHR activities were on site to monitor the foreign ministers' discussions of agenda items. They also took the opportunity to lobby certain representatives. They especially sought out the delegation from Canada, which had expressed reservations about requesting the Permanent Council to set a final date for negotiating the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to set a target date for the GA to adopt the Declaration. Representatives of Canada asked Eduardo Nieva to convey their decision to address the issue with participants in indigenous conclaves held as part of the process. The next round of negotiations may take place in August in Washington, DC.

Hemispheric Forum of Civil Society (June 6th , 2004). The objective of this forum was to decide what issues should be introduced at the meeting with foreign ministers and to select participants. At the suggestion of CEJIL, with the support of other organizations, the representative of CLADEM was chosen to speak on behalf of women, and Flavia de Lima spoke about the Inter-American System. The forum discussed the following issues: a) Assessment of civil society participation in the preparatory process -- the role of civil society was found to be still too limited, partly because NGOs had failed to understand the importance of having a voice in the OAS so as to influence decisions affecting the hemisphere, and partly too because in some countries the NGOs had not gained access to work directly with their foreign ministries. The plenary therefore agreed to urge the States to abide by an existing mandate, developing conditions by which more civil society organizations could become involved. This civil society participation should take place, according to the agreement: 1) when initiatives are first being developed; 2) when agreements are being built; and 3) when resolutions are ultimately implemented. b) Issues to be raised in the meeting with foreign ministers: 1) There was still no mechanism for evaluating compliance with the Convention of Belém do Pará 10 years after it was adopted. 2) The budget of the Inter-American Court and Commission of Human Rights needs to be discussed in response to a move to slash the Commission's funding as was done to the Court in 2003. 3) The Member States should be urged to move quickly to approve and adopt the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Inter-American Convention against Racism. 4) Hemispheric security. 5) The Commission for Hemispheric Security should open a dialogue with civil society. 6) The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights should be asked to prepare a report on economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR), with the participation of independent experts, taking into account the gender perspective and ethnic origin.

Meeting of Foreign Ministers with civil society organizations (June 6th, 2004). The foreign ministers were present almost in their entirety, giving a clear sign of the growing importance of civil society views in such events as the GA. In an exchange with the NGOs, several foreign ministries took the floor to outline their positions on the issues under discussion. Because the meeting was attended by such a large number of civil society participants, each one had very limited access to the floor. Moreover, the foreign ministers needed to leave the meeting early to prepare their presentations for the GA, which was scheduled to open that very afternoon. As a

result, many of the organizations present were unable to address the entire assemblage. The presentation by CLADEM was very well received and warmly applauded for introducing issues of women's rights in events such as the GA. CLADEM is the only network for the defense of the human rights of women that attends these events.

Activity to evaluate the Hemispheric Forum of the meeting with Foreign Ministers (June, 8th 2004). The evaluation pointed to an attitude observed among some of the participating NGOs that had failed to abide by the rules adopted in the preparatory meeting to limit discussion to certain topics agreed to in advance. Instead they had taken the opportunity to raise issues that had been either discussed or accepted by consensus. The evaluation also found that the Steering Committee of the Hemispheric Forum had met far too late, leaving too little time to negotiate items for the final document. The main conclusions were: 1) The pending challenge is to develop national processes for enriching proposals and for focusing on those items most needing advocacy. 2) Working groups should be set up under the guidance of a network familiar with GA resolutions, and efforts must be made to obtain GA documents prior to the preparatory meeting. 3) A single, unified agenda should be followed by all participants.

Meeting of CEJIL and ICNGO with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (June, 7th 2004). The Commission reported on the conditions under which it is working, especially with budget cuts at a time when the number of cases is rising. Systematic budget reductions for the Inter-American Court and Commission are a source of concern to human rights NGOs, especially as certain target populations, including women and indigenous people, are looking more and more to the system for de facto recognition of their rights. Meeting participants agreed to work with their foreign ministries to oppose any Assembly approval of budget cuts for the Commission. A subsequent meeting of foreign ministers could then hear proposals from the new Secretary General, as had been suggested by the delegations of Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. A budget reduction would have a worrisome impact not only on case hearings but also on the work of specific rapporteurs, including the rapporteur for women that lack any budget outside what they receive from the Commission.

ICNGO meeting for evaluation and resolutions (June, 8th 2004). The meeting began with a brief evaluation of ICNGO activities during the GA, difficulties the group had surmounted to ensure maximum attendance by civil society organizations, and the challenging effort to obtain documents and set an agenda. The meeting then made important decisions for the next GA: 1) Make contact with the OAS Secretariat of Summits to report on problems being faced and to share comments. 2) Organize initiatives with the new Secretary General, as there appears to be a better outlook for in-depth discussion of human rights issues. 3) When general hearings take place, the Coalition will meet on the previous Friday. 4) Work with Foreign Ministries on issues of human rights, the Inter-American System, challenges, opportunities and risks. 5) Issues to be addressed in meetings with foreign ministries and with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights should be studied in advance.

Other activities. On June 8th 2004, Flavia de Lima and members of the ICNGO attended a meeting with representatives of the Government of Brazil, including the Secretary of Human Rights, to discuss ombudsman institutions for the protection of human rights and for Afro-descendants. The Government of Brazil asked the Coalition to pay special heed to issues involving indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, especially in connection with the draft American Declaration and the Inter-American Convention. The Coalition is willing to step up its cooperation work and to support both documents more vigorously. The Coalition also set up three working groups on: violence against women, the rights of indigenous peoples, and security, terrorism and human rights. Flavia de Lima, addressing the issue of violence against women, emphasized the need to incorporate concerns of both race and gender, bearing in mind that black women are the group most victimized by violence in the world. Eduardo Nieva (the

only indigenous representative in the Coalition) attended an ICNGO-sponsored activity on indigenous rights on June 7th 2004. Juan León, Chairman of the Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, was invited to attend, along with
other Ecuadorian indigenous leaders, the President of the Inter-American Commission and the Commission's Special Rapporteur for Indigenous Peoples, and Santiago Cantón, Executive Secretary of the Commission, along with other interested individuals. The meeting began with an exposition on the current situation of indigenous peoples in the Americas, with practical cases involving claims for land, territories and natural resources, problems with administration of justice, continuing need for legal legislative recognition and for existing rights to be enforced, and other items that are critical for these communities to protect and defend their rights. The Special Rapporteur was asked to prepare a report in this regard, and those present promised their support.

Academic Symposium: Open Classroom-Summit on International Leadership in the Americas 2004, convened by the IIHR and the *Auditoría Democrática Andina* (June, 8th 2004, Auditorium of the *Centro Internacional de Estudios Superiores de Comunicación para América Latina*). As in past years, the IIHR organized this academic symposium for people who had been accredited to the Summit in advance, including the three IIHR scholarship holders. The symposium plenary included a panel discussion on the Inter-American Court and Commission on Human Rights. Three dialogue-workshops focused on normative, institutional and procedural features of the Inter-American System, commemoration of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women (Convention of Belém Do Pará) and current challenges to economic, social and cultural rights in the Inter-American system. A workshop addressed the elimination of violence against women. Prior to the symposium, on June 6th 2004, a book presentation was held in the auditorium of the **Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar (UASB)**, Quito campus. The ceremony, cosponsored by the host university and the IIHR, formally introduced *El Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos: Aspectos Institucionales y Procesales*, by Dr. Héctor Faúndez. A second book presentation followed on June 7th , 2004, to introduce *Los derechos humanos de las mujeres: Fortaleciendo su promoción y protección internacional*, a book developed by the IIHR and CEJIL. The ceremony took place in the auditorium of the **Universidad Simón Bolívar-Quito**.

Coordination Meetings with the IIHR. Upon their arrival in Quito on June 7th 2004, Julieta Montaño, Flavia de Lima and Eduardo Nieva held a preliminary meeting with Gilda Pacheco, Director of the IIHR Department of Civil Society Entities, and Isabel Torres, Program Officer on the Rights of Women. They shared expectations and agreements on activities scheduled for their stay. Finally, the three people that the IIHR had supported in the General Assembly met again on June 8th to take stock of perceptions and experiences. They had been asked, in order to facilitate evaluation of the entire process, to prepare a document drawing their own conclusions and identifying their achievements, the impact their work had made on participating entities, and the ways the experience had contributed to their home organizations.

1.3.1.2 Method

The process, which had been underway since 2003, consisted of advocacy activities to persuade the OAS to recognize and include the demands and interests of target populations. This advocacy took place at the following levels: a) nongovernmental organizations associated with the Inter-American System; b) specific discussions within the bodies of the OAS system, such as the Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; c) negotiations with the States at the General Assembly of the OAS. The strategy established and already implemented in 2003 continued in effect. The main thrust was to ensure that the people representing the organization-networks could attend and participate

actively in various OAS events By participating, they gained a wealth of experience and familiarity with specific issues, that they were able to exercise later in activities held by the project. Their advocacy work was greatly invigorated by their understanding of how the meetings function and
their greater familiarity with stakeholders having political clout.

1.3.1.3 Background / Rationale

Thus the project acquired a clear perspective of the process and adopted an emphasis on actions taken in the sphere of the OAS. It continued to advocate strongly for the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and greatly enhanced the presence and participation of individuals representing the organization-networks of the three target populations associated with the International Coalition of NGOs to make sure their specific interests were addressed in the General Assembly. The people who had taken part in earlier events held in 2003 were included so that the project could draw on the skills they had acquired in advocacy and negotiation. The results and products of the activities in which they participated were clearly enriched by their familiarity with the operation of these forums and their understanding the Inter-American System.

1.3.1.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The IIHR called on representatives of the organization-networks that had participated in the project in years past. It also coordinated the logistics and objectives of their participation and set strategies for advocacy, particularly involving the General Assembly of the OAS. It has now received, reviewed and evaluated their reports and is preparing follow-up activities. The organization-networks helped define and coordinate objectives and strategies for advocacy, both among themselves and with the ICNGO and the IIHR, and took an active role in all the activities in addition to preparing and submitting their reports.

1.3.1.5 Intermediate Steps

- Send notices to organization-networks and participants from the previous year.
- Coordinate logistics.
- Set strategies for participation and advocacy.
- Follow up on preparing and delivering reports.
- Set strategies to monitor advocacy work for ensuring participation in the 34th General Assembly of the OAS.

1.3.1.6 Results or Outputs

- Accreditation of Eduardo Nieva, representative of the *Comisión de Juristas Indígenas de Argentina* (Commission of Indigenous Jurists of Argentina), to participate in the Third Meeting of Negotiations in the Quest for Points of Consensus organized by the OAS Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Dr. Nieva was appointed to sit on the technical team that guided the proposals of indigenous peoples, so as to return to the plenary of the meeting with a unified position.
- Julieta Montaño of CLADEM-Bolivia, Eduardo Nieva of the CJIA and Flavia de Lima of NEN-Brasil were accredited to participate in preparatory activities and in the 34th GA of the OAS.
- These representatives designed a strategy for advocacy, negotiation and follow-up for participation in the many forms and activities that took place in the framework of the GA.
- Issues involving women, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants were successfully

included on the agendas of both the ICNGO and the GA.

- The agenda of the ICNGO was enriched with the Inclusion of new perspectives, including the relationship between race and gender, corruption and discrimination, the Inter-American Convention against Racism, hemispheric security and ESCRs.
- New strategies were developed for civil society organizations participating in the GA to maximize their impact.
- The NGOs developed closer relations with the Inter-American Court and Commission on Human Rights.
- The project conducted advocacy activities with some of the participating governments to strengthen areas that concern target populations.
- The project succeeded in introducing fundamental principles on collective rights and customary law into the text of the Draft American Declaration.
- Reports were completed on participation in each meeting and results obtained.

1.3.1.7 Impact Indicators

"An expanded and strengthened human rights agenda for the ICNGO"

The three people representing the organization-networks continued to be active, making sure that the agenda of the ICNGO reflected the interests and demands of target populations: women, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. The project also built up the crosscutting themes of gender, indigenous peoples, fighting racism and discrimination in all proposals.

"Inclusion of the interests and demands of target population organization-networks on the ICNGO agenda for negotiations with the States "

The ICNGO once again set up working groups on substantive issues: violence against women, rights of indigenous peoples, and security, terrorism and human rights in the Inter-American system. The results of this work were placed on the agenda for submission to foreign ministers meeting with civil society organizations.

"Inclusion of the fundamental principles of collective rights and indigenous customary law in the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples "

This was a central issue when the Draft Declaration was submitted to a negotiating round with indigenous peoples. An indigenous conclave held prior to the meeting provided a forum for technical discussion of various articles in the Draft Declaration. At issue were collective rights and indigenous customary law, minimum international standards to which this population is entitled (ILO Convention 169), local norms that also apply (national constitutions and other primary and secondary legislation), and jurisprudence created by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. This preparation equipped indigenous representatives to discuss more effectively with experts and State representatives present in the meeting.

"Increased capacity by the specialized team"

This was a landmark success for the project. Project representatives acquired valuable experience in the advance meetings of the ICNGO and in deliberations of the Working Group to prepare the Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the OAS. This experience built them into a strong team capable of generating its own advocacy agenda, in consultation with the IIHR technical team, for use in plenary meetings of the ICNGO and other opportunities for lobbying and negotiating directly with foreign ministries interested in some of the working issues.

Means of verification:

- Activity reports.
- Reports or minutes of working meetings with counterparts.
- Strategy documents for advocacy or negotiation.
- Online information available in the Spanish-language specialized sections of the IIHR web site: *Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism* and *Women's Rights*.
- Reports and statistics from the Webtrends tracking system to verify hits and visits to these sections.
- IIHR reporting guidelines for project counterparts, to facilitate full, uniform retrieval of information on activities.

1.3.2 National Project: Legislation for Indigenous Peoples (Colombia)

1.3.2.1 Description

The national project in Colombia is in the hands of the *Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia* (National Indigenous Organization of Colombia, ONIC). Its objective is to foster conditions favorable for approval of Colombia's land management legislation, with participation by women's movements and Afro-descendants, by coordinating the various groups involved. As stated in the previous report, actions proposed for the final quarter of 2003 had to be postponed until the first quarter of 2004. Even so, in these first six months, the humanitarian and human rights situation of indigenous people in Colombia has worsened. This is due partly to the impact of the domestic armed conflict, which has seriously disturbed the public order, intensified the harassment of indigenous people by armed groups in some regions of the country, triggered an increase in the rates of murder, internal displacement, threats, forced recruitment, occupation of land and sacred sites, and refused to recognize traditional authorities. In response, ONIC has found itself engaged in many activities to support and accompany those indigenous groups that have suffered the most harm, using its own resources or support from sympathetic organizations. The project devoted special attention to the visit from Dr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of the Indigenous Peoples, who toured the major indigenous regions from March 8th-16th 2004, together with representatives of the ONIC. As a direct result, the IIHR was asked to extend project development through to December 2004 and was given until July to start up activities that had been scheduled originally for April and June of this year. Project staff submitted a proposed action plan compatible with the national plan.

The current board of the ONIC has been building support for its planning work so that the national organization will be equipped to respond more efficiently and effectively to the critical situation affecting the indigenous peoples of Colombia. It has also been working with regional offices to keep them more involved in formulating strategies and plans of action. This process began in late June and is expected to last until the end of the year. It serves a number of specific objectives: a) evaluate strategies for political advocacy as the Land Management Law (LOT) works its way through the legislature; the bill has already received Senate approval and is awaiting the floor debate in Congress; b) realign political advocacy strategies for the indigenous movement as the LOT moves through the legislative process; c) step up the lobbying effort with indigenous representatives and sectors, democratic congressional representatives, NGOs and social movements; d) design strategies to disseminate information on the LOT and to publicize the position of indigenous organizations, seeking the inclusion of amendments favorable to the rights acquired by indigenous peoples in past decades, especially under the new national constitution of 1991.

1.3.3. National Project: Nondiscrimination for Afro-descendant populations (Panama)

1.3.3.1 Description

This plan is assigned to the Panamanian Committee against Racism. The main objective is to foster conditions that will promote equal opportunity in the labor market for the Afro-descendant population of Panama. A number of initiatives and activities that had not been considered in the original project were later added to the plan as adjustments were made during implementation in the first quarter of 2004. Two of the additions are the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians, and the sectors own political platform.

1.3.3.1.1 Workshop-meetings

Introduction of the draft bill to the Legislative Assembly. On Thursday, April 1st 2004, the Afro-Panamanian Forum introduced a draft bill to the Legislative Assembly's National Board for Citizen Participation. The intent of the bill is to adopt measures promoting equal opportunity access to the labor market in the Republic of Panama and eliminating discriminatory practices. The formal ceremony took place in the Blue Room of the Legislature. Many invited representatives of the media (written press, radio and television) attended, along with leaders of various civil society organizations. Presiding over the meeting were Pedro Bolívar, the Assembly's National Director for Citizen Participation; James Bernard, Secretary General of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Panama; Natasha Velotti, Legal Advisor for the National Federation of the Disabled; Aníbal Culiolis, Alternate Legislator for the party Partido Popular; and Alberto Barrow, member of the Coordinating Board for the Afro-Panamanian Forum. The initiative received extensive media coverage.

Evaluation of electoral results. Following the general elections of May 2nd 2004, the Afro-Panamanian Forum held two meetings to evaluate the election outcome and its implications for the future of the country's Afro-descendant population. The exercise also assessed the impact of efforts by organizations working on different social, economic and political aspects of this component of national life. These discussions by members of the Forum yielded conclusions, albeit still in rudimentary form, that will be useful for developing a more long-term strategy for making sure the proposals of the Afro-Panamanian Forum are incorporated into the government platform for the next five years. Although the new government team is still being formed, its composition is expected to have significant impact on Forum's future course of action. The Forum adopted three very specific agreements following its evaluation of the outcome of May elections: a) to convene a meeting with legislators-elect, especially those of African descent, to introduce them to the Forum's proposals; b) to prepare inputs and materials with an eye to beginning the conceptual phase of the Profile National Master Plan for Sustainable Development, tailored to each component; c) to set up working teams for each area of the Plan, clearly defining the particular responsibilities of each one.

Preparation of the Profile National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians. During the month of June 2004, in keeping with agreements of the Coordinating Committee of the Afro-Panamanian Forum and following the evaluation of elections and the degree of impact that Afro-Panamanian organizations had, considerable time and effort went into preparation and conceptual development of materials and inputs to consolidate the Profile National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians. The short-term objective is to produce a central document that will serve as a basis for initial discussions with

the new government team that will be inaugurated on September 1st 2004. These discussions will be useful in developing criteria to formulate plans, programs and projects leading to public policies that strengthen the economic, political and social integration of the country's Afro-descendant population. Gerardo Maloney deserves special recognition for his work analyzing the material and developing projections, and Eunice Meneses undertook specific follow-up activities. Both are members of the Coordinating Committee of the Afro-Panamanian Forum. For this purpose and throughout consultation activities agreed to with the IIHR, Melvin Brown has conducted studies and prepared draft documents covering several components of the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians. Conceptual designs for discussion have already been developed on the following areas of the Plan: 1.- Identity and self-esteem for Afro-Panamanian communities and populations; 2.- Good governance; 3.- Institution building; 4.- Finances and banking; and 5.- Ancestral lands. All these working materials were preceded by Melvin Brown's basic document *La Ruta hacia un Desarrollo Sostenible.* Two thousand copies were printed and have been distributed among leaders of Afro-descendant communities, nongovernmental organizations, political leaders and the media.

Dissemination.

Selective distribution of Project materials continued throughout this period (April-June 2004):

- The Strategic Plan of Action for Afro-Panamanian Advocacy had already been distributed to several sectors of Panamanian society in April 2004 just prior to the May elections. Project implementation therefore focused on reaching the political class with the full set of printed materials produced during development of the Plan. Distribution of materials targeted political leaders from various party groupings, along with their legislative representatives and management teams, and public personalities, academics and directors of NGOs. Packets contained the Afro-Panamanian Political Platform, the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians and the draft bill on equal opportunity access to the labor market in Panama. Document distribution activities provided an opportunity to exchange viewpoints about the proposals. Several of the political and social figures approached expressed political will to cooperate with future moves to empower the Afro-descendant population.

- On Tuesday, 15 June 2004, the Women's Institute of the *Universidad Nacional de Panamá* hosted a formal book launching for *Género, Discriminación Racial y Legislación en Panamá* by Mariblanca Staff Wilson, published by the Panamanian Committee against Racism. The book launch featured the author, the director of the Women's Institute and Agatha Williams, member of the Committee and specialist in Afro-Panamanian issues, Alberto Barrow of the Panamanian Committee against Racism, and Cristina Zeledón, IIHR Officer from the Program to Fight Racism, who was in the country on a technical advisory mission for the National Project for Panama.

- The project has continued to disseminate information by updating and regularly expanding the specialized section of the IIHR web site, *Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism*, to include information on advocacy work and other activities conducted in the framework of the national project for Panama. By June 31st 2004, the various areas of the section (in Spanish) contained more than 1750 records with diverse types of information (About us, Documents, Legal standards, Glossary, Other sites, FAQs) as well as an up-to-date directory of 220 indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations. The Webtrends tracking system reports that from January1st through June 31st 2004, the section received a total of 18,302 hits, averaging 155 per day and lasting an average of 8 minutes, 20 seconds.

1.3.3.2 Method

The plan calls for the following strategies: a) increase the visibility of concerns and proposals of Afro-descendant men and women in Panamanian society; b) strengthen the organizations and political platform of Afro-descendants; and c) create mechanisms or legislation for equal opportunity in the labor market and in decision-making positions. On-going activities to carry out the earlier work plan have moved in two different directions. a) Regular planning and coordination meetings were held with organizations that were present for the Strategic Encounter to further the proposals described above (1.3.3.1). In this connection, a central document is being prepared as a basis for approaching the new government team to advocate on behalf of the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians. b) The project has also continued to expand the base of support organizations and win over more legislators to favor the draft bill on equal opportunity access to the labor market in Panama.

Two different approaches have been adopted for distribution of materials containing the three proposals for the national plan: selective distribution targeting the political class (political leaders of different party groups, legislative representatives and party management teams); and broader distribution to raise awareness and inform other types of stakeholders, including public figures, academics and leaders of NGOs.

Meetings held during this period (April-June 2004) were based on the participatory methodology that had already proven its effectiveness. The environment was favorable for sharing experiences and opinions and generating new knowledge, proposals and positions with a focus on the outcome of the project; the meetings also produced consensus-based documents.

As in the previous period, the project continued to rely on technology platforms developed by the IIHR (e-mail, discussion groups and electronic networks) to distribute meeting notices and to send and receive information among all the people associated with the plan. It also continually posted up-to-date information on the specialized Web section *Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism.*

1.3.3.3 Background / Rationale

The basic design of this plan came from the Strategic Encounter of Organizations-Networks for Advocacy (Costa Rica, August 2003) and was further enriched as activities were completed from September to December of 2003 and January to March of 2004. Strategies employed during the current period have included coordination and contact among stakeholders. In keeping with the original project proposal, work has also focused on information, training, communication and dissemination to support the draft Law for Equal Opportunity Access to the Labor Market in Panama. Several new initiatives have also received considerable momentum, as described in section 1.3.3.1, including the Afro-Panamanian Political Platform and the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians, proposals that dovetail with the project and have brought substantial progress.

1.3.3.4 Institution(s) responsible and coordination

The ten original organizations participating in the plan under the coordination of the Panamanian Committee against Racism and Diggers Museum have continued to identify other stakeholders and civil society organizations willing to lend their active support to the project's objectives. They have also taken the responsibility to hold meetings or workshops, including technical organization and logistics, and have prepared general informational documents and produced narrative and financial project reports. The IIHR has monitored performance of the work plan, lending technical assistance, evaluating implementation of plans, supervising activity reports and

monitoring the outcome of proposals for the period. Following up on earlier meetings, in June of this year Cristina Zeledón, head of the Panama national plan, met with Melba I. D'Anello, Democracy and Governance Officer of USAID-Panama, to report on project progress, exchange opinions on the immediate outlook for elections in Panama and discuss other items of interest for
the work in that country. The IIHR representative was also interested in gaining a better understanding of the situation of the Afro-Panamanian population. With the support of Alberto Barrow of the Afro-Panamanian Committee against Racism, she was able to pay a visit to some of the poor neighborhoods in the city of Colón and observe the precarious health, education, housing and employment status in which this population lives. She spoke with leaders of several local organizations and entities in this, one of the poorest and most neglected areas of the country. On the last day of her mission, the IIHR project director met with directors of the Afro-Panamanian Forum to examine progress made through June, discuss advocacy and negotiation strategies that had been used, give an activity report and define new openings, sectors, strategies and actions for the following four months of the project, marking completion of the national plan for Panama.

1.3.3.5 Intermediate Steps

- Identify stakeholders and other NGOs that are critical for development of the plan.
- Map key political stakeholders, legislators and organizations that can support the draft bill based on the outcome of the May, 2004 elections.
- Select and invite civil society entities and representatives from the branches of government.
- Design internal strategies by project leaders to further the development plan.
- Prepare logistics and methods for meetings and workshops.
- Prepare and disseminate informational and publicity materials.
- Prepare activity reports.
- IIHR monitoring and support of the process.
- Perform general follow-up on implementation of work plans.
- Send missions for technical assistance and institutional support at critical moments.
- Organize the IIHR visit to poor neighborhoods in the city of Colón, home to much of the Afro-Panamanian population.
- Continuously update material included in the specialized section of the Institute web site, Indigenous Peoples, *Afro-descendants and Racism*.

1.3.3.6 Results or Outputs

- The project created the conditions necessary for broad discussion of the draft bill and for a climate more favorable to approval of the bill.
- Organizations participating in the project to work up a national development plan now have more effective channels for maintaining contact with one another.
- Strategic alliances inside the Afro movement emerged and grew stronger, and the project built and strengthened partnerships with women's and indigenous organizations and with political, government and legislative stakeholders.

- The project documented all work completed so far, as well as projections for future activities, and the Afro-Panamanian Forum undertook very specific monitoring tasks of the entire process.
- Conceptual outlines have been developed to guide the work group in fleshing out the contents for the following areas: 1.- Identity and self-esteem for Afro-Panamanian communities and populations; 2.- Good governance; 3.- Institution building; 4.- Finances and banking; and 5.- Ancestral lands.
- A base document was prepared under the title: *La Ruta hacia un Desarrollo Sostenible.* Two thousand copies were printed and have been distributed among leaders of Afro-descendant communities, nongovernmental organizations, political leaders and the media.
- More channels were opened for information, discussion and analysis of the draft bill and the plan for sustainable development; the project adopted a more selective strategy for the political class and for a broader target population (public personages, academics and directors of NGOs).
- The electoral season provided an opportunity to introduce project documents to all presidential candidates and to political advisers; five candidates committed their support for the Afro-Panamanian Political Platform.
- The project continued to strengthen existing strategies for advocacy, negotiation and lobbying and to identify new ones, especially with the President-elect's transitional team after the May elections.
- IIHR held a technical mission to monitor the work and participated in a number of activities involving different aspects of the plan, including an interview with USAID/Panama and a visit to poor neighborhoods in the city of Colón including meetings with local leaders.
- The *Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism*specialized section of the IIHR website continued to expand, improve, and receive more visitors. As of June 30th 2004, the sited contained over 1,750 records, including 220 indigenous and Afro-descendant organizations; it reported 18,302 hits, averaging155 per day and each lasting an average of eight minutes, 20 seconds.

1.3.3.7 Impact Indicators

"Afro organizations better skilled in working together and conducting advocacy"

The organizations participating in the Afro-Panamanian Forum began coordinating with one another more effectively, and the Forum improved its skills for organizing and conducting activities on diverse occasions and in venues associated with the Afro-Panamanian population.

"Broadened partnerships among stakeholders and sectors"

Afro-descendant, indigenous, peasant and ecumenical populations built greater momentum for this work.

The campaign season and elections provided an opportunity to promote partnerships with the political class and newly elected legislators (May 2004) by introducing the Afro-Panamanian Political Platform, the National Master Plan for Sustainable Development of Afro-Panamanians and the Law for Equal Opportunity Access to the Labor Market in Panama.

"NGOs, civil society entities, decision-makers and other stakeholders that are more aware of discrimination against the Afro descendant population in the labor market"

The project continued to publicize the contents of the draft bill among various sectors involved with or interested in the issue (as explained in earlier paragraphs) and worked systematically with the campaign teams of presidential candidates, building their commitment to support the proposal if they were elected. Newly elected legislators were targeted with a similar approach.

The contents of the plan were widely circulated, and the project released special-interest articles on the topic of discrimination against the Afro-Panamanian population in the labor market, both in the national media and through other channels, including the specialized section *Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism* and other electronic information networks.

Means of verification:

- Second report on implementation of the Strategic Plan of Action for Afro-Panamanian Advocacy.
- Proposals and negotiation documents (Political Platform, draft bill, National Development Plan).
- Opinion pieces and press releases in the Panamanian media.
- Specialized documents.
- Invitations to diverse activities: workshop/meetings, television presentations and the like.
- Documents with a design for communication strategies.
- Online information available in the specialized section of the IIHR web site: *Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism*.
- Reports and statistics from the Webtrends tracking system to verify hits and visits to *Indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and Racism.*.

1.3.4. National Project: Legislation for equality between men and women (Peru)

1.3.4.1. Description

The objective of the plan of action in Peru is to foster conditions that are favorable for approval of the Equal Opportunity Law currently on the legislative docket. Three strategies are being considered for implementing this project: a) coordination and mobilization; b) political advocacy; and c) communication and information. NGOs of women of diversity (indigenous and Afro-descendant women) will be invited to all activities, along with various other civil society entities. The plan seeks interaction among social and political stakeholders: executive and legislative branch, political parties and the Ombudsman (*Procuraduría de Derechos Humanos*).

The 10 project counterpart organization-networks in Peru have joined together as the Women's Equal Opportunity Collective.

1.3.4.1.1. Workshop-meetings

The following activities took place as part of the strategy for **coordination and mobilization**:

***Meetings for coordination and planning*.** The 10 organization-networks of the Women's Equal Opportunity Collective held two working meetings in Lima on April 22nd and June 7th , 2004. The purpose was to coordinate activities and evaluate completion of plan objectives alongside scheduled activities still pending.

A meeting took place on June 15th 2004 during the IIHR technical assistance mission to report on implementation of the work plan.

Working meetings with other organizations. On May 15th 2004, the project held a working meeting in the province of Santa, region of Ancash, in coordination with the Casa de la Mujer de Chimbote. The 100 women in attendance came from public institutions and local social organizations. They received an expository presentation of the draft bill along with documentation on the bill and current legal opinions from the congress. Participating women expressed an interest in taking part in support campaigns to spread information on the bill.

On June 4th 2004, the project held a working meeting in Lima with women who run soup kitchens as part of the *Federación de Mujeres Organizadas de la Central de Comedores Populares Autogestionarios* (FEMOCCPAALC). The purpose was to train the 11 participating women leaders on principles of equality and nondiscrimination, women's rights and the draft bill. These women

are reportedly now training members of their organization, multiplying the spread of information and widening the effort to collect signatures in support of the draft bill.

On June 28th 2004, a working meeting took place in Lima with 15 members of the *Lundú* and *Perú Afro* Afro descendant women's organizations from the area around San Luis de Cañete. The meeting provided an opportunity to gather and record views on the rights of Afro women.

On June 30th 2004, the project offered a special presentation in response to an express request, sharing information on the work of the Women's Collective with 20 members of the *Consorcio Sociedad Democrática* (CONSODE), *Centro de Estudios Sociales y Publicaciones* (CESIP), *Mesa de Vigilancia Ciudadana, Pathfinder*, CHANGE and *Conferencia Nacional sobre Desarrollo Social* (CONADES).

Workshop with women miners On April 28th 2004, the Collective joined forces with the *Central Nacional de Mujeres Mineras* (Amalgamated Union of Women Miners) to hold a workshop in Lima with 10 women leaders living in La Oroya (four hours from Lima). These women, wives of mine workers, originally formed their autonomous group to support demands for improved working conditions in the mines. They have now expanded their agenda to include women's rights. Participants learned about the draft bill, shared ideas, and engaged in serious discussion about issues in mining zones that run counter to equal opportunity between men and women, and the situation of families in this environment.

Workshops in Cuzco Two workshops took place in Cuzco (province of Anta) for peasant women; 15 attended on May 30th and 20 were present on June 12th . In addition, an open forum took place on June 1st in Cuzco (Chincheros, province of Urubamba) with the participation of 70 teachers and teenage students in their final years of secondary school. Presentations given in these activities addressed women's rights and the importance of a law for equal opportunity between men and women.

Workshop in Lambayeque On June 3rd 2004, a workshop in Lambayeque (Chiclayo) was attended by 90 women from a range of social and political organizations in the region. The event began with a general presentation on the draft bill. Participants were then divided into groups,

each one focusing on a different issue (name and purpose of the law, education, violence, and employment, access to credit and family responsibility, health, political and citizen participation). Additional presentations were then given in plenary, followed by a broad discussion of the issues.

Forum in Arequipa On June 9th 2004, the project held a forum in Arequipa to introduce the draft bill. It was attended by 156 people, including local authorities and representatives of social and political organizations and academic institutions. Participants agreed to initiate advocacy with regional authorities and congressional representatives and joined the signature campaign targeting the Congress.

1.3.4.1.2. Consultations on the draft bill

The project has continued to spread information and collect contributions and support for the draft bill from women's organizations (national, regional and local), using e-mail and conventional mailings.

Participants who had attended workshop/meetings last year were kept informed, and the electronic mailing lists continued to grow. During this quarter, four digital newsletters and four press releases were sent out in May and June to 1000 representatives of women's organizations,

professional associations and universities. As a result, the directory of contacts has grown and kept current, so that more and more recipients are being reached.

1.3.4.1.3. Political advocacy

On June 14th and 15th 2004, the IIHR conducted a **technical assistance** mission to Peru for advocacy work with the Congress. Colombian Senator Piedad Córdoba joined the IIHR team at the request of the Collective because of her experience as a Member of Congress who had promoted similar laws in her own country. Her trip was made possible with the use of Swedish funds.

The mission undertook specific activities targeting the National Congress:

***Meetings with legislative advisors*.** On May 27th 2004, the project met with Luis Ramírez Mio, senior advisor to Congressman Rafael Aita Campodónico; on June 11th 2004, with Julio Rodríguez, senior advisor to Congressman Natale Amprimo; on June 15th 2004, with Jorge Cevallos, senior advisor to Congressman Gustavo Pacheco; meetings were held in May and June 2004 with Joana Soto, advisor to the Justice and Human Rights Committee, and Vanesa Salazar, advisor to the Women and Social Development Committee. The purpose of these meetings was to lobby for the draft bill to be added to the legislative agenda for discussion by the current Congress, which was scheduled to adjourn in June 2004. The meetings also set up activities with the technical assistance mission.

When the IIHR technical assistance mission arrived, it met on June 15th 2004 with Luis González Norris, senior advisor to Congressman Henry Pease, President of the Congress; and with Jorge Cevallos, senior advisor to Congressman Gustavo Pacheco, President of the Justice and Human Rights Committee. Congressman Pacheco has publicly expressed his support for the draft bill in the media and to the Collective.

Meetings with legislators. The IIHR technical assistance mission, together with the visiting Senator from Colombia (see "Technical Assistance"), held individual meetings on June14th 2004 with Members of Congress Natale Amprimo, President of the Constitution Committee, and Javier Díaz Canseco. Congressman Amprimo has reportedly sent a letter to the President of Congress requesting debate on the draft bill. Both legislators expressed their intention to defend the bill in debate and cast a favorable vote once the Committee opinion on the bill comes onto the floor of the Congress for discussion.

Project spokespersons in these meetings with members of Congress and legislative advisors repeatedly emphasized the importance of pushing the draft bill onto the legislative docket. They noted that the State of Peru was bound by commitments it had acquired under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, article 2) and had yet to adopt a mechanism to implement constitutional principles of equality and non-discrimination.

Presentation to the Congressional Committee on Women and Social Development On June 14th 2004, the Committee on Women granted a hearing to the IIHR representative and the senator from Colombia. Present were all the members of the Committee: Judith de la Mata (Chair), Martha Moyano, Dora Núñez, Rosa Yanarico, Paulina Arpazi and Glodomiro Sánchez. The representative of the IIHR pointed out how important it was to push this draft bill onto the legislative agenda. It would bring the State of Peru into compliance with commitments it had acquired under the terms of CEDAW (article 2) and would provide a mechanism for abiding by constitutional principles of equality and non-discrimination. The visiting senator spoke on

Colombia's experience when similar legislation was enacted and put into force, marking a major step forward in public policy for gender equality and equity.

Committee members agreed to contact their colleagues on the Justice and Human Rights Committee responsible for giving a legal opinion on the draft bill, and ask them to step up the process and approve the text so it could be debated in plenary during the current legislative year.

Public demonstration before Congress. On June 15th 2004, 70 members of women's organizations took part in a symbolic public activity before Congress to demonstrate their support for the draft bill. They used pins produced as part of the publicity campaign, bearing the slogan "Women for Equal Opportunity," along with flags, banners, ponchos, and radio announcements.

Copies of the 300 signatures supporting the draft law were presented to Members of Congress Paulina Arpaza, Judith de la Mata and Luis Iberico.

Other actions The Collective has received invitations to attend a number of activities and give papers on the theme of equality between men and women. This demonstrates that the Collective

is achieving recognition as an entity that has drawing power and is knowledgeable. More information about these activities can be found in the section on workshops and meetings.

Special session of the Justice and Human Rights Committee One of the responsibilities of this committee is deliver a legal opinion on the draft law before it can be taken up by the plenary. On 23 June 2004, the committee held a special session and invited members of the Collective to lend technical advisory assistance in the discussion of the opinion. The favorable opinion emerged following two hours of discussion, a clear testimony to the success of the advocacy process pursued by the project (more information in the section on results and impact).

1.3.4.1.4 Communication and dissemination

The project has adopted an information strategy based on coordinating the publicity activities that various organizations already undertake as part of their work. These organizations have agreed to spread the information through their own media: radio and television programs, print and digital newsletters, web sites, e-mail discussion lists and the like.

The information campaign during this quarter (April-June 2003) included the following activities:

Distribution of information In line with the 2003 plan of action, the slogan for the campaign, "Women for Equal Opportunity," appeared on a full range of materials (folders, brochures, advocacy manuals, fliers, stickers, posters, pins and ponchos). Much of the material was duplicated for the second half of the year to lend greater continuity to the information campaign: 1000 brochures, 5000 stickers, 2000 posters, 130 folders. More showy symbols have also been produced, including five streamers and 50 pennants. These materials have been handed out at workshop/meetings and in public activities.

Newsletter Four electronic newsletters and four press releases were produced and distributed to the mailing list of organizations and news media.

Press conference. The auditorium of the Foreign Press Association (APEP) in Lima was the venue of a press conference on June 14th 2004. The event included participation by members of the IIHR technical assistance mission and the senator from Colombia (see section on technical assistance). Notices were sent to addresses appearing on the media mailing list.

In addition to the written press, television and radio, invitations went out to various women's organizations, which sent a total of 35 representatives. The press conference aroused considerable media attention, including reports in the newspapers *Expreso*, *Perú 21* and *La República* (June 14th 2004), *Perú 21*, *La Razón* and *Ojo* (June 15th 2004), and *El Peruano* (June 21st 2004), television coverage on Channel 7 and a broadcast on the evening news (June 14th 2004). As part of the press conference, the visiting senator from Colombia was interviewed by *CPN Radio* and TV Channel 5; and the IIHR representative, by *Milenio Radio*, TV Channel 7 and the *El Peruano* newspaper.

The technical assistance and advocacy mission by the IIHR and the senator delivered information to the following media: TV Channel N (cable) through a live interview on the June 14th 2004 morning newscast; an interview for the television program "*Barra de mujeres*" broadcast on 20 June 2004 and rebroadcast twice, and additional interviews with the visiting senator on *Radio 11.6* and *Radio Nacional*.

Use of the media. Interviews with members of the Collective speaking about the draft bill have appeared in a variety of news media: two radio interviews in Lambayeque (Chiclayo) on June 3rd ; an interview on the television program *Periscopio de TV* on June 3rd ; several newspaper items and coverage of the forum in Arequipa in the papers *El Pueblo*, *Correo*, *La República Regional* and *Noticias* on June 9th , and TV Channel 5 (cable) on June 14th

Specialized section on Women's Rights of the IIHR web site. Dissemination activities included an on-going drive to expand and update the content and specialized materials posted in the Spanish-language *Women's Rights* section of the IIHR web site, including materials produced by this project and information on advocacy work in Peru.

As of June 30th 2004, the *Women's Rights* section contains 1812 records with diverse information divided among the various subsections (*Para Compartir, Documentos, Protección de derechos*), as well as a directory of 380 organizations working to promote women's rights.

1.3.4.2 Method

The project has pursued its plans of action using participatory methods to involve or widen its base of support. It has sought ways to draw in other nongovernmental civil society organizations, including those that do not necessarily stand to benefit from the new legislation. The project also continues to build working relations with social and political stakeholders and to build greater ethnic diversity.

The Women's Equal Opportunity Collective, made up of 10 organization-networks that attended the Strategic Encounter in Costa Rica (2003), meets together to coordinate and plan activities. Members have divided into internal working committees for each strategy of the plan: a) coordination and mobilization; b) political advocacy, and c) communication and dissemination.

Workshop/meetings are participatory and inclusive, and participants are encouraged to develop their own opinions and share experiences. Workshops have been held in different provinces to spread information among women in diverse geographic areas and sectors instead of concentrating everything in the capital city.

Advocacy work during the quarter under report targeted the Congress, a critically important sphere of action if debate of the draft bill is to move quickly onto the legislative agenda.

The project used a variety of communication methods to reach urban and rural women and

national, regional, and local organizations. It combined mass media with the use of personal letters and e-mail. It also had access to high-technology communication platforms to facilitate the sending and receipt of meeting notices or information to large numbers of individuals via e-mail, discussion lists and electronic networks. The *Women's Rights* section of the IIHR web site, which is continually updated and expanded, is a very useful adjunct to the communication program, with theme-specific information as well as useful hints on processes.

1.3.4.3 Background / Rationale

The national plan to support legislation on equality between men and women in Peru originally emerged from the Strategic Encounter of Organizations-Networks for Advocacy (Costa Rica August , 19th -21st ,2003). This plan set in motion the national project in Peru and has relied on three strategies: a) coordination and mobilization; b) political advocacy; and c) communication and dissemination. The plan for January-October 2004 is a continuation of work begun last year, with the activities realigned on the basis of those accomplishments.

According to reports by the Collective, the current political situation in Peru as regards approval of the draft bill is as follows:

- Indicators continue to show stubborn equality gaps between women and men, revealing a continuing need to enact positive laws that contribute to equal rights. For example: women earn 25% less than men for equal work; approximately 312,000 women have no identity card, restricting their ability to claim legal recognition for their children, apply for public health services, conduct legal business and other formalities, and so forth; men in rural areas post an illiteracy rate of 8.8%, while illiteracy among rural women is 25%; of 120 congressional representatives, only 22 are women (18%).
- The current Minister for Women, Ana María Romero-Lozada, has stated that the top priority during her term will be to fight poverty and work for social development. She is considered a conservative in the area of women's rights.
- Several women's rights issues have already stood at the center of public debate and drawn heavy criticism from conservative sectors. As an example, the Roman Catholic Church expressed opposition to a decision by the Ministry of Health to approve emergency oral contraceptives for distribution as part of public health contraception programs.
- Due to a reshuffling of cabinet ministers, advocacy activities targeting the executive branch need to start over.
- Congressional committees will elect new officers in August; this means that advocacy work will need start over with new representatives.
- The second regular legislature of the annual session of Congress for 2003-2004 will adjourn on 15 June, and the draft bill has not yet gone onto the legislative docket. This means that the process of advocacy in Congress needs to be stepped up.

As for the impending changeover in the Congress, during this past quarter the Justice and Human Rights Committee finally issued a favorable opinion of the draft bill (more information can be found in the section on results and impact).

1.3.4.4 Institution(s) responsible and coordination

Counterpart organizations responsible for carrying out the plan in Peru, *Centro de la Mujer Peruana Flora Tristán* and *Movimiento el Pozo*, took charge of convening various workshop/meetings and handled technical and logistical organization; they prepared informational bulletins, letters and other forms of communication and sent them out or distributed them; they expanded relationships with other civil society entities; they scheduled meetings with congressional representatives; they prepared the narrative report of project implementation for the second quarter of 2004, and coordinated and planned their work with member organizations of the Collective.

The IIHR monitored implementation of all activities under the plan of action, provided technical assistance and conducted a technical assistance mission in June. The Institute also kept the specialized section of the web site, *Women's Rights*, up to date. It posted online the

documentation on advocacy produced by the project and information on activities conducted in Peru to complete the national plan.

1.3.4.5 Intermediate Steps

- Perform general follow-up on implementation of work plans.
- Update the map of political and parliamentary stakeholders and key organizations that can support the legal initiatives.
- Update the directories of organizations.
- Set up the database of women's civil society organizations.
- Identify key organizations to be invited to workshop/meetings, send notices and record confirmations.
- Plan workshop/meetings, organize methodology and logistics and hold the meeting.
- Plan meetings with congressional representatives and their advisors, schedule appointments and take part.
- Convene and organize the public demonstration in front of Congress.
- Convene and organize the press conference and request interviews or spots in the written press and on the radio.
- Prepare and send informational materials, publicity and position papers for consultations, sharing with political figures or handing out in workshop/meetings.
- Prepare materials to be posted online and continuously update material on the *Women's Rights* section of the IIHR web site.
- Produce and review the second quarterly implementation report.
- Convene or attend meetings for coordination and planning.
- Prepare and present papers in forums that address issues involving legislation for equality.

1.3.4.6 Results or Outputs

- On 23 June 2004, the Justice and Human Rights Committee issued a favorable legal opinion, meaning that the draft bill for equal opportunity will come under debate by the Standing Committee that meets during legislative recess between sessions (the 2004-2005 legislatures begins sessions in August 2004).

- Advocacy work has continued with congressional representatives, who expressed their intention to defend the bill and cast a favorable vote when the opinion on the draft bill comes up for legislative debate.

- The up-to-date, expanded database now lists more than 400 women (e-mail or postal addresses) representing national, regional or local organizations.

- Over 300 signatures of support for the draft bill were collected and delivered to Members of Congress.

- The topic of equal opportunity has taken its place in public discourse through coverage in the written and radio news media.

- The communication and information drive has continued; four mailings were sent out by digital or postal delivery containing documentation on the draft bill and informational material; four newsletters were prepared and distributed, as were four press releases. An estimated 1000 people received this material.

- The material available through the *Women's Rights* section of the IIHR web site was kept up to date, and the number of records grew steadily. As of 30 June 2004, the section contained 1812 records with diverse information and a directory of 380 organizations.

- Numbers of visitors have held steady, according to the Webtrends tracking system. Analysis of movement on the site during the quarter from April 1st through June 30th 2004 shows a total of 6971 hits on *Women's Rights*, averaging 76 visitors per day, each one lasting an average of nine minutes, six seconds.

1.3.4.7 Impact Indicators

"The women's social movement better skilled at working together and conducting advocacy."

The greatest achievement during this quarter was advocacy with the Congress. The draft bill had been scheduled to appear under the heading of social equity on the annual Congressional agenda for the 2003-2004 sessions that ended July 15th . However, the Justice and Human Rights Committee had yet to issue its favorable opinion, without which the bill cannot come before the plenary. On June 23rd 2004, the Justice and Human Rights Committee issued a favorable legal opinion, meaning that the draft bill for equal opportunity will come under debate by the Standing Committee that will meet during legislative recess between sessions (the 2004-2005 legislatures begins sessions in August 2004). This opens the door for swift approval.

Organizations belonging to the Women's Equal Opportunity Collective greatly improved their coordination and teamwork. They also began to cooperate and work together more effectively with other organizations in the women's movement. A number of organizations have expressed interest in joining the Collective, and an expanded committee is now being set up.

The IIHR technical assistance mission, with participation by a visiting senator from Colombia, gave a strong push to press coverage and dissemination of information on equal opportunity.

The project continued to support joint work with other organized sectors of the women's movement and representatives of ethnic diversity (Afro-descendant women).

The material in the *Women's Rights* specialized section of the IIHR web site was continuously updated and expanded. Between April and June 2004, the number of visitors grew steadily, indicating that many organizations are interested in receiving information.

"Broadened partnerships among multiple stakeholders."

Counterpart organizations widened their advocacy agendas in response to information and requests for support received during consultation and negotiation with other women's organizations.

An expanded committee was set up to support the work of the Collective.

Three hundred signatures were collected in support of the draft bill and have been delivered to Members of Congress as a way to exert pressure and advocate for this new legislation.

"Greater knowledge among NGOs, stakeholders and decision makers on the draft bill and its contents."

Proactive advocacy within the Congress led to the issuing of a favorable opinion by the Justice and Human Rights Committee. This means the draft bill will come under debate by the Standing Committee that meets during the recess between legislative sessions (the 2004-2005 legislatures begins in August). This opens the door for swift approval.

Information processing was an on-going task. Incoming data had to be examined and classified, and newsletters and other documents on the draft bill were sent out. As a result, women in a variety of organizations became better informed and more knowledgeable.

Organizations and the general public had access to greater information about women's rights and the draft bill because of the use of written press and radio

Information on women's rights received broader coverage through direct contact and advocacy with Members of Congress who support the draft bill and members of several congressional committees that are key for pushing the bill through the legislative process.

Means of verification:

- Second quarterly report, with attachments, on implementation of the plan of action.
- Reports or minutes of working meetings with counterparts.
- Documentation for the workshop/meetings: invitations, programs, folders and support documentation provided to participants.
- Lists of participants in each workshop/meeting.
- 300 signatures of women supporting the drive for equal opportunity, later delivered to members of Congress.
- Digital newsletters, press releases and information packets.
- Updated and expanded databases of women's organizations and media outlets.
- Report on the IIHR technical assistance mission.
- Favorable opinion of the draft bill by the Justice and Human Rights Committee of the Congress.
- Online information available in the *Women's Rights* specialized section of the IIHR web site, available over the Internet.
- Reports and statistics from the Webtrends tracking system to verify hits and visits to the specialized section.
- IIHR reporting guidelines for project counterparts, to facilitate full, uniform retrieval of information on activities.
- Materials produced as part of the information drive.

1.4 LESSONS LEARNED

In 2004, this project has consolidated the strategy of using a specialized group to conduct advocacy, lobbying and negotiation in the ICNGO and the Inter-American System (General Assembly of the OAS, Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Draft

American Convention against Racism and Racial Discrimination) to ensure that the rights and interests of target populations are effectively included. In all activities, participants in the group had a striking influence on the outcome, taking ownership of key issues of interest to their target populations both through formal declarations and by setting up work groups, forums and other venues for participation.

In view of progress achieved by the project in these years, it would be worthwhile to consider a similar initiative for the future. A process approach would be preferable to a specific project, given the importance of opening new channels, promoting alliances and strategies for advocacy and strengthening past achievements as described in this and earlier reports. The emphasis should still be placed on three levels -- activities in the Inter-American System (OAS), in the United Nations system and in the three selected countries -- to continue consolidating successes on high-priority issues and in spheres of action relevant to the different target populations.

The case of Colombia continues to be highly complex because of the critical human-rights situation and threats to public order affecting indigenous peoples, with increasingly serious consequences. The ability to manage the project under highly flexible conditions has proved to be extremely important at this very difficult time. Critical humanitarian situations (murder of indigenous leaders, forced displacement of indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations, suicides among young indigenous, etc.) have constantly forced the leaders of ONIC, our counterpart, to give immediate responses in many different places around this large country, for the protection and defense of human rights. The same flexibility was also extremely useful for the work in Panama with the electoral campaign that culminated in May 2004.

As a result of project work in Panama, participating organizations acquired or developed new skills and capabilities, creating a political platform, a national sustainable development project for Afro-descendants and a draft bill for equal opportunity in employment. These project activities produced strategic alliances with a diversity of stakeholders, as well as opportunities to build consensus and propose joint actions for advocacy, lobbying and negotiation. The process of empowering this population has been gaining momentum ever since the national plan in Panama began.

Project work in Colombia began with a national event in February 2004, as a result of which the draft bill on land management became firmly established on the indigenous agenda. The bill is now wending its way through Congress and has triggered a move by ONIC leaders to raise awareness and sensitize members of participating organizations throughout the country. ONIC has also developed strategies for advocacy, lobbying and negotiating in the legislature and for coordinating more effectively with indigenous Members of Congress.

The strategy used by the national project in Peru proved to be appropriate and effective. Even though the Collective was created for a very specific purpose (to foster favorable conditions for approval of the Equal Opportunity Law currently before the legislature), it quickly achieved a very visible role within the women's movement because this issue encompasses a variety of initiatives. Equal opportunity addresses the rights of women of all social classes and sectors, even beyond the feminist position. It has engaged the interest and participation of many grassroots women including members of soup kitchens, women miners, workers, Afro-descendant and indigenous women, young women, and others. Similarly, the change in the legislative climate suggests that the advocacy strategy practiced with women's organizations, decision-makers and Members of Congress is succeeding in changing unreceptive environments and transforming weaknesses into opportunities.

It is clear that the project needs to be managed with great flexibility. Situations in participating countries are highly dissimilar, and changes frequently occur in high government offices that influence decisions on the draft bill or public policies for equality, as in Peru.

Effective, efficient project implementation has benefited from the constant presence of the IIHR, monitoring and following up on project activities, lending technical assistance, and staying in touch electronically and through personal visits.

Advocacy work was strengthened by the presence of political figures from other countries, such as the visit to Peru by the Colombian senator. This contact brought peers together to share their experiences with positive law for women's rights.

Specific rights still need to be asserted in the general setting of universal human rights law; clearly, this is enriched when many diverse sectors of groups of society are represented.

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 - PROJECT "PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF INCLUSION"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	COUNTRIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Preparation International NGO Coalition for OAS GA	Washington, USA												
Special Session Working Group Indigenous Rights	Washington DC, USA												
Round Negotiations on Draft Declaration	Washington DC, USA												
NGO Forum prior to OAS GA	Washington DC, USA												
Participation in OAS GA	Ecuador												
Work Plan Peru	Peru												
Work Plan Colombia	Colombia												
Work Plan Panama	Panama												
Technical Assistance Mission	Peru												
Technical Assistance Mission	Colombia												
Technical Assistance Mission	Panama												

B. CONFLICT PREVENTION

1. PROJECT: "CITIZEN SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL AND LOCAL APPROACH"

1.1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK

During the second quarter of 2004 (April-June), the team proceeded to develop the strategy for the citizen security project in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and the diagnostic assessment of the security situation got under way.

The political situation affected the dynamic of the project, making it necessary to start all over again during this quarter. On March 31st, the Minister of Security of the Buenos Aires province and his team resigned following public outrage at the recent crime wave and, in particular, the abduction and murder of a young man. These events caused a great commotion and led to calls for a joint citizen security plan for the country and the province. As was explained in the last report, far from constituting a setback, this change in the leadership at the ministry opened a door for the successful development of the project and the strategy. On April 13th, the new Security Minister, Carlos León Arslanián, was appointed. His record on security and the defense of human rights demonstrates the national and provincial governments' political commitment to addressing problems such as growing insecurity and the perception of insecurity, and the corruption that is rife among the Buenos Aires police force.

This situation made it necessary to carry out a new political mission. Advantage was also taken of the mission to move ahead with the project's technical work, beginning the corresponding diagnostic assessment of the security situation. Through this mission, carried out May 15th -20th, the project obtained the backing and technical support of the Minister and his team for the activities that are going to be implemented.

Following this mission, the team was able to draw up a detailed schedule of the activities to be implemented under the project this year and begin to coordinate them. The next mission to Argentina will be used to complete the diagnostic assessment, the information-gathering process and the analysis of documentation, and hold the meetings still required. The groundwork will thus be laid for the public citizen security policy, in permanent coordination with the Minister of Security and his team. This mission has been scheduled for the first week of August. In addition to the team of the IIHR's Security Program, two international consultants and two Argentine consultants will take part.

After this mission, the team will spend one month working on the guidelines for the security policy, based on the core elements identified. The diagnostic assessment and the recommendations made for the public policy will be presented in October in a seminar in Argentina, where they will be fine-tuned and validated with different sectors of society. After incorporating the inputs obtained from the academic, political and legislative sectors and the citizenry in general, the policy will be presented publicly in December, at a high-level political and academic seminar. This event will be covered extensively by the media, with the backing of the Ministry's team.

Although two missions had originally been planned to assist with the implementation of the public policy designed, drafted and agreed on, one of these had to be used for the new political mission described above. The other implementation mission has been postponed until the first quarter of 2005, for two reasons. Firstly, following the changes at the Ministry of Security the project was forced to reinitiate the political contacts once the new Minister had taken up his post. This meant that the original implementation schedule had to be pushed back, although the delay will actually facilitate the project objectives. Secondly, it is not politically and technically feasible to negotiate with a ministry and design and implement a security policy in such a short space of time.

Finally, the project will be assisting the Dominican Republic in implementing the public security policy, as agreed in 2003. Two missions are scheduled for the second half of this year, once the new Government has taken office and the Secretary of State for the Interior and the Police and the Police Chief of the Dominican Republic have been appointed (our counterparts in the process).

1.2 ANNUAL GOAL

- Technical assistance to public institutions and civil society organizations in designing and implementing a public citizen security policy in Dominican Republic and in the province of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

1.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

1.3.1 Political mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina

1.3.1.1 Description

The team carried out a mission to Argentina May 15th -20th . The members was composed of Juan Navarrete, Director of the IIHR's Department of Public Institutions, IIHR Security Program Officer Isabel Albaladejo, and Carlos Basombrío, a specialist in security issues and a former Deputy Minister of the Interior of Peru, who took part as a consultant.

The purpose of the mission was to negotiate the terms of the implementation of the project with the new Minister of Security and his team, and secure his support for it. The mission also had a technical dimension, as more information was garnered and documentation studied for the diagnostic assessment of the security situation.

The first meeting was with Carlos León Arslanian, Minister of Security of the Province of Buenos Aires, and members of his team, including the undersecretaries at the Ministry. The Minister was pleased with the Institute's technical assistance and cooperation. He has had a working relationship with the IIHR for years. In addition to explaining the challenges and difficulties facing the new cabinet, the staff outlined the security plan they intend to promote and we able were to decide the areas in which the IIHR's assistance is more pertinent. The core lines of action are the reform of the organizational-functional structure of the province's police force, police

doctrine, careers in the police, human rights training for the police, and measures to combat corruption. In addition to the focus on the police, the efforts include community participation in crime prevention and security strategies, which calls for an analysis of the so-called “Security Forums” and the drafting of recommendations so that they operate correctly. Therefore, the diagnostic assessment and the aspects of public security policy that are being worked on are related to the two core elements: the police and community management of security, as part of a public policy.

The team then held a series of meetings to ascertain the current situation and gather input for the diagnostic assessment of the core elements described. The meetings were with the province’s Human Rights Secretary, Remo Carlotto; Gustavo Palmieri, Director of Institutional Violence and Public Security of the Legal and Social Studies Center (CELS); Mariano Ciafardini, the Director of National Crime Policy; local specialists involved in these issues, such as Marcelo Fabián Sain and Enrique Font; and several mayors in the province. As the government plans to decentralize security, the mayors are going to play an important role in this regard.

1.3.1.2 Method

As soon as the new minister and his cabinet had taken up their posts, the team proceeded to forge political and institutional ties with them, sending letters to request meetings and following them up with telephone calls. Letters and emails were also sent to coordinate meetings with a number of other people.

These efforts made it possible to program meetings with the people identified. Throughout last year, the project identified the different actors involved in the security area, particularly during a mission to document Argentina’s experience with regard to security for the Comparative Study of Citizen Security in Latin America. As a result of this, and the first political mission carried out in March of this year, the project now has a group of experts who work for public institutions and civil society organizations who are sympathetic to the strategy of the project and are providing both technical and logistical support. In addition to those mentioned in the previous section, these institutions and specialists include the Human Rights Office of the University of La Plata (Buenos Aires province).

1.3.1.3 Background / Rationale

In the process of designing a public policy on citizen security such as the one we are involved in, an initial political mission is essential to secure the political will and commitment of the respective authorities. Although a mission of this kind was carried out in March this year, the change of authorities made another one essential. The meetings held during the mission made it possible to obtain the legal and political endorsement of the authorities who will be in charge of implementing the security plan that is to be developed, and to coordinate the strategy based on the needs and the social, economic and political situation observed. Without a prior mission of this kind, any subsequent action would be unsustainable.

It is worth recalling the reasons why this work on citizen security is so relevant. The province of Buenos Aires is in need of urgent assistance in this field. Practically half of the country’s population (14 million people) lives in this region, and the crime rate has risen alarmingly since

2001. The authorities' response to the rise in crime has been to adopt dramatic short-term measures. No effort has been made to map the crime situation (to identify and understand the causes with a view to contributing to social development), to conduct a criminological diagnostic assessment, or to rectify the lack of planning and intelligence systems, based on which strategic plans could be designed.

Furthermore, the police force of Buenos Aires province has long been accused of corruption. Organized crime, kidnappings, drug trafficking, auto theft, and prostitution have all benefited from police connivance that extends all the way to the top. For years there have been calls for reform, to dismantle the networks of police corruption, establish internal and external oversight systems, and focus the police on the work they are supposed to be doing, i.e., guaranteeing citizen security as part of a public service, based on the principle of due process, the rules established in international human rights instruments and the principle of citizen protection.

The measures that Arslanián has implemented in the space of only three months show how determined the administration is to provide an effective solution to the lack of security in the country. This political will needs to be supported with technical assistance from international organizations and specialists that will help change the situation.

The mission carried out under the project was extremely important. Fresh contact with the authorities was needed following the change of minister in April this year, to present the project and reach agreement on the dynamic that is now making it possible to implement the actions agreed on. As stated in the last report, following the resignation of the authorities and the appointment of replacements, the mission carried out in May was mainly political, although it was also used to advance the technical assessment.

1.3.1.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The Director of the Department of Public Institutions, Juan Navarrete, Security Program Officer Isabel Albaladejo and consultant Carlos Basombrío took part in the mission. The general coordination of the project and the prior arrangements were handled by the team of the IIHR's Security Program, with administrative backup. Of course, the intervention strategy due to get under way in August will be carried out in close coordination with USAID.

1.3.1.5 Intermediate Steps

The intermediate steps in this phase were:

- Identification, contacting and hiring of the external consultant who took part in the mission and with whom the assessment got under way (Carlos Basombrío)

- Identification of the people with whom meetings would be held and coordination of the agenda with them

- Dealings with Security Ministry officials and the Provincial Governor, such as letters and phone calls to coordinate meetings

- Research and analysis of documentation on the political situation and security problems prior to the mission (newspapers, the Web, etc.), and study of reports on human rights

1.3.1.6 Results or Outputs

The result of the mission was that the new authorities approved the startup of the project, agreement was reached on a timetable and the strategy to be implemented, and information was garnered that allowed us to move ahead with a diagnostic assessment of the police force, the crime situation and the models for community participation in security issues.

1.3.1.7 Impact Indicators

"Strengthening of inter-institutional ties with regard to Public Security"

"Updated information about the citizen security situation and problems in Buenos Aires, Argentina"

The project has secured a greater commitment from the new political authorities for the development of public policies on citizen security, and has begun to compile and update information for the diagnostic assessment on security. The change in the political leadership responsible for security issues guarantees a strong commitment to security and to the efforts to combat police corruption, one of the ills affecting the citizenry in Argentina. The new minister has already dismissed over five hundred police officers for abuse and corruption, some of whom have since been indicted. The core topics on which the IIHR is working are in consonance with the ideas of the new political and police authorities, who, in the final analysis, have the power to make the recommendations proposed effective and sustainable.

1.4. LESSONS LEARNED

As we suggested might be the case in the first report, we now know that the objective of our work (the design and implementation of public security policies) always depends on the commitment and determination of the people who have the power to execute those policies. Changes and the political situation are also determining factors in the development of security initiatives. In this case, the resignation of the previous Minister of Security and the appointment of a new team made it necessary to carry out a new political mission, with the consequent delay in the initial programming. However, this change and the approach adopted by the new political authorities will make it possible to achieve more ambitious and successful results, as we set about reducing insecurity and violence by designing and implementing security strategies that are underpinned by full respect for fundamental rights and freedoms.

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – PROJECT "CITIZEN SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA: DEVELOPING A NATIONAL AND LOCAL APPROACH"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Political mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina												
Political mission and start of assessment in Buenos Aires, Argentina												
Mission to assess citizen security in Argentina												
Design of public policy for Buenos Aires province												
Seminar Workshop in Buenos Aires												
Finalization design security policy and recommendations												
Seminar presentation assessment and citizen security policy, Buenos Aires												
Implementation mission in Buenos Aires (postponed until February 2005)												
Implementation Mission in Dominican Republic												

2. PROJECT: STRENGTHENING THE OMBUDSMAN IN LATIN AMERICA

2.1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK

The goals of the project are to make ombudsman's offices more accessible and independent and equip them to do their job better, and to increase the number of ombudsman's offices in Latin America as a mechanism for protecting human rights and channeling complaints regarding human rights violations. With these objectives in mind, during the reporting period (April-June 2004) the project worked with the Human Rights Institute of Santo Domingo to design the academic program of a seminar to support the process aimed at securing the appointment of an ombudsman in the Dominican Republic.

The staff are also in the process of planning the Ninth Congress of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman (FIO), scheduled to take place in November of this year, in Quito, Ecuador. Contact with the Ombudsman of Ecuador is ongoing, to design the academic program and methodology of the activity and coordinate the issuing of the respective invitations.

USAID generously approved the implementation of two activities aimed at strengthening ombudsman's offices using unexecuted resources from activities that the IIHR implemented in 2003. The project carried out a technical mission in support of the Senate of Paraguay, which is in the process of appointing a new national ombudsman.

To strengthen relations between the Central American Council of Ombudsman (CCPDH) and the Caribbean Ombudsman Association (CAROA), a representative of the CCPDH attended the annual meeting of the CAROA.

2.2 ANNUAL GOALS

- To make the authorities of countries that still do not have an ombudsman's office aware of the importance of having one.
- To coordinate efforts related to common concerns undertaken by ombudsman's offices in the region, and contribute to the design of a regional horizontal cooperation strategy for monitoring and providing follow-up to public policies on citizen security.

2.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

2.3.1 Support for the process of securing the appointment of an ombudsman in the Dominican Republic

2.3.1.1 Description

In July 2004, it will be 3½ years since the Legislative Branch of the Dominican Branch approved Law 19-01, thereby creating the institution of the ombudsman. The Executive Branch signed the bill into law but, the provisions of Article 4 notwithstanding, no ombudsman has yet been appointed in the country.

The appointment process comprises two stages:

A) the House of Representatives is required to draw up short lists of candidates for the eight positions involved - the ombudsman, two substitutes and five deputy ombudsman to take charge of specific areas (human rights, the environment, women's affairs, children and young people, and consumer protection).
B) the Senate is then required to select the ombudsman from the short lists of candidates drawn up by the House of Representatives.

This process remains bogged down in the first stage, as no consensus has been reached on the candidates to be included in the short lists.

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program and the Institute of Human Rights of Santo Domingo are therefore organizing a meeting to promote the appointment of the country's first ombudsman.

This activity was originally scheduled to be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in July 2004. However, presidential elections took place on May16th this year and a new government will be taking office on August 16th . To persuade the authorities to appoint an ombudsman, and of the importance of doing so, we believe it essential to postpone this activity until September. By that time, the new authorities will be in place and we will be able to exert a positive influence over the political class regarding the appointment of the ombudsman.

This activity is targeted at roughly 40 people, including academics, representatives of civil society and political parties and social communicators.

Three international experts specializing in ombudsman's offices will take part.

2.3.1.2 Method

A meeting will be held to present the main arguments in favor of appointing an ombudsman in the Dominican Republic, as a vitally important contribution to the defense of human rights and democracy. The media will also be invited to the event.

During the mission, the members will also visit members of Congress.

The experts invited to take part will be former or current ombudsman recognized for their independence of judgment and for having had an impact during their time in office.

2.3.1.3 Background / Rationale

Since 1985, the IIHR has supported ombudsman's offices under its technical assistance and training program. These institutions are essential to defend human rights, curb the abuse of political power and consolidate democracy, all of which are necessary if political and social stability and sustainable development are to be ensured in the region. In Latin America, the work of the ombudsman now complements that of the courts, parliaments, comptrollers' offices and electoral bodies.

This activity will support the process of appointing the ombudsman. The institution was created under legislation enacted in 2001, but the first ombudsman has still not been appointed.

2.3.1.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The counterpart of the IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program for the organization of this activity is Vielka Polanco, of the Human Rights Institute of Santo Domingo.

During the period under review (April-June 2004), we maintained close communication with our counterparts regarding the preparations for the meeting in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The first step was to establish which institution would perform the various tasks involved in the activity.

Closer to the date of the activity, the staff will contact Manuel Ortega, Democracy Office Director, and Lissette Dumit, Justice Program Specialist, of USAID/Santo Domingo, to give them details of the activity and invite them to take part.

2.3.1.5 Intermediate Steps

During the reporting period, the staff contacted the Director of the Institute of Human Rights of Santo Domingo, Vielka Polanco, to discuss and reach agreement on the academic program for the meeting, the methodology to be used to carry it out and the best time to hold the event (from the political standpoint). It was decided that September this year would be the best time. The IIHR has also been in contact with the Coalition for Transparency and Institutionality (CTI), an umbrella organization of civil society entities in the Dominican Republic, to obtain input regarding the strategy to be adopted during the mission.

2.3.1.6 Results or Outputs

Between March and July, the staff contacted the national counterpart for the project and began to define the content and methodology of the meeting. It was also decided that the activity should be held after the May 16th elections, once the new administration has taken office. It was therefore decided that the activity should take place in September this year.

These outputs are the first step in achieving the expected results, which are the implementation of the meeting, a national agenda that includes the appointment of the first ombudsman in the Dominican Republic, and institutional and governmental support for the implementation of the institution.

2.3.1.7 Impact indicators

"Progress in the process of securing the appointment of an ombudsman in Dominican Republic"

Although the activity has not yet taken place, the appointment of an ombudsman in Dominican Republic is nearer to becoming a reality.

2.3.2. Support for the organization of the Ninth Congress of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman (FIO)

2.3.2.1 Description

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program will be helping to organize the Ninth Congress of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman (FIO), due to take place November 8th -12th this year, in Quito, Ecuador.

The FIO congress is the Ibero-American meeting of bodies that afford citizens an opportunity to defend their rights. Ombudsman's offices are independent, state-run institutions whose main function is to promote human rights and ensure they are respected.

The annual meetings of the FIO play an important role in the process of integrating the ombudsman's offices. At these congresses, the members share innovative practices and expertise, and discuss new approaches to human rights issues and mechanisms for tackling specific topics. They also issue statements regarding recent developments that involve human rights.

Between March and July, we coordinated technical aspects of the event with the President of the Federation, Venezuela's Ombudsman Germán Mundaraín, and Claudio Mueckay, the Ombudsman of host country Ecuador. We dealt with matters such as the agenda, the issuing of the invitations and the international experts who would take part.

In early July, IIHR President Sonia Picado and Executive Director Roberto Cuéllar met with both the Ombudsman of Ecuador and the Ombudsman of Venezuela to continue the planning for the Ninth FIO Congress.

2.3.2.2 Method

A participatory methodology will be designed to allow the ombudsman to present their experiences and innovative practices regarding common concerns, and to exchange ideas, thereby enhancing their human rights defense and promotion work.

2.3.2.3 Background/Rationale

The IIHR serves as the Technical Secretariat of the FIO Steering Committee. The Technical Secretariat's duties include implementing academic activities and specific projects, organizing technical missions, holding training courses, and preparing information-oriented documents. Hence, each year the IIHR assists the institution hosting the FIO congress, the biggest international event involving ombudsman, in organizing the activity.

The FIO's annual meetings play an important role in integrating the ombudsman, as they permit an effective exchange of views and knowledge, the discussion of new approaches to human rights, and mechanisms for dealing with specific issues. The Federation also issues statements regarding current situations involving human rights.

2.3.2.4 Institution(s) responsible and coordination

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program, in its capacity as the Technical Secretariat of the FIO, the Federation's President, Germán Mundaraín, and the Ombudsman of Ecuador, Claudio Mueckay.

Closer to the date of the activity, the staff will contact Carl Terrick, Program Officer, Peter Natiello, Democracy Office Director, and Lucrecia Tola, Democracy Officer, of USAID/Quito, to inform them of the activity and invite them to take part.

In early July, IIHR President Sonia Picado and Executive Director Roberto Cuéllar met with officials of the Ombudsman's Office of Ecuador to continue planning the Ninth FIO Congress. The staff have also been in contact with Germán Mundaraín, the Ombudsman of Venezuela and President of the FIO, to determine what support the IIHR can provide for this Congress and General Assembly.

2.3.2.5 Intermediate Steps

The project has been negotiating the academic content of the congress, and the methodology that will be used, with the Ombudsman of Ecuador (who will be hosting the event) and the FIO's governing body.

2.3.2.6 Results or Outputs

Between March and July, the project contacted the Ombudsman's Office of Ecuador (the host country) and the President of the FIO, and began planning the content and methodology of the Congress, and discussing the names of distinguished international experts who could take part.

These results constitute progress toward achieving the expected results - the implementation of the Congress and the strengthening of the ombudsman's offices through the joint activities decided on at the FIO Congress.

2.3.2.7 Impact indicators

"Ombudsman's offices strengthened through the joint activities decided on at the FIO Congress"

The contacts with the counterparts for the FIO Congress and the profile of the international experts who will take part strengthen the ties between the members of the FIO and the IIHR.

2.3.3. Support for the Senate of Paraguay in appointing an ombudsman

2.3.3.1 Description

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program took part in an activity entitled "The Ombudsman's Office in the Democratic Process," held May 11th -13th in Asuncion, Paraguay.

The Chair of the Human Rights Committee of Paraguay's Senate, Ana María de Acha, expressly asked the IIHR to organize a technical mission to contribute to the discussion and analysis of the important role that ombudsman play in guaranteeing the protection and promotion of human rights and strengthening democracy. This issue is highly pertinent, as the Senate is in the process of appointing an ombudsman.

The mission members were Jorge Mario García Laguardia, former Ombudsman of Guatemala; Carlos Constenla, Ombudsman of Vincent López, Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and President of the Ombudsman Association of Argentina; Juan Navarrete, the IIHR's Director of Public Institutions; and IIHR project Officer María Teresa Chiriboga.

Various activities were carried out during the mission, including a meeting with current Ombudsman Manuel María Páez Monges and a large meeting at the National Congress, with more than 100 people from different sectors of Paraguayan society (senators, representatives, representatives of NGOs, universities, the media, candidates for the post of ombudsman, etc.).

The second activity was inaugurated by the President of the Congress, Carlos Mateo Balmelli, First Vice President Miguel Carrizosa Galiano, and the Chair of the Senate Human Rights Committee, Ana María de Acha.

Specific meetings also took place with the congressional leaders and deputy leaders of the different parties, members of the Senate Human Rights Committee, representatives of civil society organizations and the candidates for the post of ombudsman.

In the meetings with the different sectors, the mission discussed and analyzed the importance of the ombudsman as a democratic institution, as a mechanism for channeling citizens' complaints, and as a guarantor of the effective and full exercise of fundamental human rights. It also shared different experiences that ombudsman in the Americas have had in promoting and protecting human rights.

On the last day, the members of the mission (Jorge Mario García Laguardia, Carlos Constenla, Juan Navarrete and María Teresa Chiriboga) took part in a press conference with the Chair of the Senate Human Rights Committee, Ana María de Acha. The mission also took part in two radio programs.

The mission's activities were widely reported in the press and on radio and television.

2.3.3.2 Method

The methodology designed for this activity involved separate meetings with different sectors of Paraguayan society:

a) A large meeting at the National Congress with more than 100 people from different sectors of Paraguayan society (members of both houses, representatives of NGOs, universities, the media, candidates for the post of ombudsman, etc.)

b) Specific meetings with the leaders and deputy leaders of the various parliamentary parties of both houses of Congress, and members of the Senate Human Rights Committee

c) A meeting with representatives of civil society organizations

d) A final meeting with the candidates for ombudsman` post

A press conference was held in which the members of the mission and the Chair of the Senate Human Right Commission took part. The mission also participated in two radio programs. The mission's activities were widely reported in the press and on radio and television.

2.3.3.3 Background/Rationale

In 2003, USAID sponsored four seminars organized by the IIHR on the application of international human rights law at the domestic level. These seminars were targeted at four of Mexico's State Human Rights Commissions: San Luis Potosí (July 16th -18th), Querétaro (July 21st -22nd), Guerrero (August 25th -26th) and Guanajuato (August 28th -29th).

As many as 219 officials of the State Commissions took part, accompanied by judges who received training so they can include the standards of international human rights law in their rulings and actions.

A budget of US $58,096 was allocated for the implementation of these activities (budget line item 3.4). However, the four Commissions themselves covered some of the costs involved (internal transportation of some participants, refreshments, lunches, etc.). The major savings achieved under this component of the project demonstrated the commitment of Mexico's State Human Rights Commissions to the organization of activities of this kind, and the seriousness with which they are carried out.

The project asked USAID for permission to use the funds that had not been executed for a workshop for officials of Paraguay's Senate (who will shortly be appointing a new ombudsman), civil society and the media.

With USAID's invaluable support, the staff then organized the technical support mission for the Senate of Paraguay. It took place May 11th -13th 2004, in Asuncion.

The Ombudsman's Office of Paraguay was created to defend and promote human rights, and afford civil society a means of supervising and monitoring the work of the authorities. The first ombudsman was appointed October 11th 2001 and his mandate was due to expire June 30th 2003. Congress enacted Law 2103 (May 2003) to permit the current ombudsman to continue to perform his duties and exercise the powers conferred on him by the Constitution until such time as his successor is appointed.

The Ombudsman's Office of Paraguay has not yet managed to consolidate the institution so that it can effectively perform the duties conferred on it under the Constitution. The latter include, in general terms, the defense of human rights, the channeling of complaints from the public and the protection of the community's interests.

2.3.3.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The counterpart of the IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program was Ana María de Acha, Chair of the Senate Human Rights Committee.

The project sent a letter dated April 28th 2004 to Steve Marma, Democracy Office Director, with a copy to Raúl Quiñones, Justice Program Specialist, of USAID/Asuncion, to inform them of the activity and invite them to take part.

2.3.3.5 Intermediate Steps

The project maintained close communication with the Chair of the Senate Human Rights Committee, Ana María de Acha, to coordinate the activities involved.

The staff then designed the work program for the three-day activity, identified the international experts who were to participate in the technical assistance mission, and made the necessary arrangements with them.

2.3.3.6 Results or outputs

By means of this technical assistance mission, the project was able to place on the national agenda the issue of the important role that ombudsman play in protecting and promoting the human rights of the population.

2.3.3.7 Impact indicators

"Increase in the number of ombudsman's offices in Latin America or existing ones consolidated as a mechanism for protecting human rights and denouncing violations"

The aim of the technical mission was to support the appointment of the Ombudsman of Paraguay by contributing to the discussion and analysis of the important role that ombudsman play in protecting and promoting citizens' human rights and strengthening democracy. This issue is highly pertinent, as the Senate of Paraguay is in the process of appointing an ombudsman. Therefore, the mission contributed to the attainment of the impact indicator of increasing the number of ombudsman's offices in Latin America or consolidating existing ones as a mechanism for protecting human rights and denouncing violations.

2.3.4. Third Regional Conference of the Caribbean Ombudsman Association (CAROA)

2.3.4.1 Description

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program took part in the Third Regional Conference of the Caribbean Ombudsman Association (CAROA), held May 10th -14th in Runaway Bay, Jamaica. The theme of the meeting was "the ombudsman as a champion of social justice and human rights."

The Central American Council of Ombudsman (CCPDH) was invited to participate in this Regional Conference to share Central America's experience with regard to the defense, promotion and protection of human rights.

The Council asked the Ombudsman of Costa Rica, José Manuel Echandi, to represent it at the activity. The IIHR was also invited to take part, in view of its experience in promoting and strengthening the institution of the ombudsman. Lorena González Volio, of the Ombudsman and Human Rights Program, represented the Institute at the event. Prior to the conference, the IIHR negotiated the inclusion in the work program of the subject of women's rights and the CEDAW

Convention and its Optional Protocol. Isabel Torres, of the IIHR's Women's Rights Program, gave the respective presentation.

The Ombudsman of Costa Rica, José Manuel Echandi, spoke during the inaugural ceremony of the Third Regional Conference, stressing the need to coordinate efforts and strengthen ties between the Caribbean and Central American ombudsman. Lorena González also took part in the inaugural ceremony. She underscored the IIHR's inter-American vocation and contribution to integration and the need to continue with the cooperation efforts.

During the conference, José Manuel Echandi gave a presentation on the human rights work of the Central American ombudsman, citing instances in which they had pooled efforts to resolve cases involving human rights violations. He also mentioned the joint training carried out on common legal issues, and the technical and political support that the Council had given its members, highlighting the IIHR's contribution.

Isabel Torres, of the IIHR's Women's Rights Program, described the progress achieved by women in the last 30 years and presented information about discrimination against women worldwide, the CEDAW Convention and its Optional Protocol and the mechanisms for monitoring the Convention, and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women.

CAROA responded very positively to the presentation on women's rights and the CEDAW Convention, and to a specific workshop on the subject implemented with funding from another cooperation agency. The delegates decided to include in the final resolution adopted by the conference two points related to the rights of the women. These are transcribed below:

> "The Ombudsman/Public Defender should examine all existing legislation in their respective states in order to identify and seek to amend any instance of gender bias;
>
> The Ombudsman/Public Defender should make every effort to ensure that their respective States ratify all international conventions for the protection of women's rights and in particular the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women."

The IIHR also presented its specialized Web page "Ombudsnet," the Integrated Information and Communication System for the ombudsman's offices in Latin America and the Caribbean. It distributed copies of several English-language specialized publications and materials produced by the Institute as well.

2.3.4.2 Method

To promote an exchange of views between the Caribbean ombudsman and their Central American counterparts, the project provided an opportunity for Costa Rica's Ombudsman to give a presentation on the work of Central American ombudsman institutions. He was also able to learn first hand about the situation of the Caribbean ombudsman, and then share the knowledge he acquired with his Central American colleagues at the meeting of the Central American Council of Ombudsman held June 23rd -25th , in Panama. The subject of women's human rights and the international instruments that exist for protecting them was also included. As a result, the members of CAROA also acquired new knowledge they can use to broaden their mandates to encompass the human rights of all the citizens of their respective countries.

2.3.4.3 Background/Rationale

Under the USAID-sponsored project Strengthening the Ombudsman in Latin America, and in collaboration with Eduardo Mondino, the Argentine Ombudsman and former President of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsman, and the Ombudsman of Panama, Juan Antonio Tejada Espino, the IIHR organized the Eighth FIO Congress and Annual Assembly. It took place November 17th -21st 2003, in Panama City.

A budget of US $18,109 (budget line item 3.1) was allocated for the organization of this activity. Some ombudsman were able to finance their own participation, however. As a result, a total of US $6,182 was not executed under this component of the project.

The IIHR therefore asked USAID to allow it to use these unexecuted funds to strengthen ties between the Central American Council of Ombudsman (CCPDH) and the Caribbean Ombudsman Association (CAROA). This was done by having a representative of the Central American ombudsman take part in the meeting of CAROA (Jamaica, May 10th -14th). The project also facilitated the participation of an official of the IIHR's Women's Rights Program, who gave a presentation on women's rights, the CEDAW Convention and its Optional Protocol, and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women.

The IIHR felt that the Caribbean ombudsman could learn from the experience of their Central American counterparts. In Central America, the role of the ombudsman includes promoting and protecting citizens' human rights. When the people demand respect for their human rights, and effective guarantees for enforcing them when they are violated, it is to the ombudsman that they look for assistance.

In the Caribbean, the role of the ombudsman is more that of a "watchdog", overseeing the State's obligation to defend human rights - i.e., more along the lines of the Swedish model. The ombudsman processes complaints lodged against civil servants and endeavors to persuade the latter to change their minds, to operate more efficiently and with greater respect for their citizens' rights. In general, the ombudsman's work consists of receiving citizens' complaints about cases of maladministration, taking immediate action, conducting an investigation and issuing an opinion. The aim is to ensure that such cases are dealt with and corrective action taken. Caribbean ombudsman review administrative acts, study any faults or omissions, and press civil servants to carry out their duties properly.

The Caribbean ombudsman have not yet adopted the Latin American model, under which the ombudsman promotes and safeguards the entire range of human rights.

However, the Caribbean ombudsman recently expressed interest in extending their mandate to include the oversight and promotion of human rights and made the theme of the CAROA's last meeting "The Ombudsman as the Champion of Fundamental Rights and Social Justice."

The objective of this initiative was to strengthen ties between the Central American ombudsman and their Caribbean counterparts by permitting an exchange of views and horizontal cooperation between the two regions.

This support forms part of the mission of the IIHR, and of its Ombudsman and Human Rights Program specifically, of providing specialized training and technical assistance to ombudsman's offices and promoting efforts to strengthen them.

2.3.4.4 Institution(s) responsible and coordination

The IIHR's Ombudsman and Human Rights Program coordinated the arrangements with the President of the Caribbean Ombudsman Association (the Ombudsman of Antigua and Barbuda, Hayden Thomas) and the organization's Honorary Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Laurent.

On April 28th , the project sent a letter to Ambassador Mosina Jordan, Mission Director, with copies to Robin Brintley, General Development Officer, and Dennis Darby, Justice Program Specialist, of USAID/Kingston, to inform them of the activity and invite them to participate.

2.3.4.5 Intermediate Steps

The staff were in close communication with the President of the CCPDH, Juan Antonio Tejada Espino, who designated the Council's representative to CAROA's regional conference. They also coordinated the arrangements with the President of CAROA, Hayden Thomas, and Honorary Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Laurent, to plan the participation of the IIHR and the CCPDH.

2.3.4.6 Results or outputs

The technical assistance mission promoted and strengthened ties between the CCDPH and CAROA, and the opportunity to share experiences enriched the work of the ombudsman of both regions.

CAROA responded very positively to the presentation on women's rights and the CEDAW Convention, and the implementation of a specific workshop on the subject with funds from another cooperation agency. The delegates decided to include two points related to women's rights in the resolution adopted at the end of the conference.

2.3.4.7 Impact indicators

"Coordinate joint efforts by the region's ombudsman's offices on topics of common interest"

The participation of a representative of the Central American Council of Ombudsman in the Third Regional Conference of the Caribbean Ombudsman Association strengthened the ties between these two regional networks. This will enable the Caribbean ombudsman to gradually adopt the Latin American model, under which the institution not only investigates cases of maladministration but promotes and safeguards all human rights.

2.4. LESSONS LEARNED

During the period under review, the staff contacted the counterparts for the different activities and designed the respective content. This makes it difficult to measure the impact they are going to have.

However, one initial achievement was the favorable response and commitment assumed by each of the counterparts selected by the IIHR.

Promoting closer ties between the Latin American and Caribbean ombudsman is essential, since this will enable the Caribbean ombudsman to gradually adopt the Latin American model, under which the institution not only investigates cases of maladministration but promotes and safeguards all human rights.

Supporting national efforts to secure the appointment of an ombudsman must be one of the IIHR's main strategies. It is roughly 15 years since the first of these institutions was created in the Americas and they must be consolidated further to prevent them from being left leaderless or run by individuals who have not been appointed as provided by law.

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – PROJECT "STRENGTHENING THE OMBUDSMAN IN LATIN AMERICA"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Support for the efforts of the Paraguayan Senate to appoint an ombudsman												
Third Regional Conference of the Caribbean Ombudsman Association – CAROA												
Support for the appointment of an ombudsman in Dominican Republic												
Support for the organization of the Ninth Congress of the FIO												

3. PROJECT: EARLY WARNING AND RAPID RESPONSE SYSTEM

3.1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK

The situation in the Americas is changeable and in recent years scenarios have arisen that posed a real risk to democracies and, therefore, to the effective exercise of human rights. Developments in Argentina, Venezuela, Guatemala, Colombia and Bolivia are some cases in point.

In some instances, the crises have been acute and unpredictable, and immediate action was needed to prevent or minimize consequences that posed a threat to human rights and democratic governance. Therefore, it is most important that the necessary financial and political resources be available, so that action can be taken in line with the priorities of both USAID and the IIHR.

The IIHR implements projects throughout the Americas with a variety of sectors, and enjoys high credibility and legitimacy. Combined with its technical capabilities, this allows it to offer advisory services and specific, direct assistance both to state agencies and non-governmental organizations, and also to act as a mediator. This in turn makes it easier to achieve objectives in the short term, which are essential in the case of the "urgently needed" actions proposed under this project. The results of the first stage of this project (in Guatemala, September-December 2003) confirm this.

There are no short-term, specialized assistance activities to report for the period April-June 2004.

3.2 ANNUAL GOAL

To provide a technical and academic response, from the human rights perspective, to unforeseen situations that require urgent action because they pose a threat to the rule of law and democratic governance, in at least one country in the region

3.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

3.3.1 Description

Stemming from the nature of this project, during the reporting period (April-June 2004) the IIHR did not identify any country as being in need of action. When it does, the Institute will draft a work plan targeted at and/or incorporating the strategically important actors and state and civil institutions involved. They may be strategically important because they exercise leadership in the situation or because they are vulnerable. The objectives proposed in the plan will vary according to the country and situation, given that this is a "rapid response" project. The work plan will include the activities to be implemented, the objectives, the schedule, and the places where implementation will take place, the beneficiaries and the budget.

3.3.2 Method

The method to be used is set out in the annual plan approved for 2004. First, USAID or the IIHR will identify a country where an emerging situation calls for an immediate technical intervention by the Institute. USAID and the IIHR must be agreed as to the relevance of the intervention, and USAID will then authorize the IIHR to take action within the framework of this project.

3.3.3 Background / Rationale

As mentioned in the annual plan for 2004, the original objective under the USAID-IIHR general cooperation agreement was to develop a regional system to detect and remedy institutional weaknesses that posed a threat to human rights and democratic governance, paying special attention to the human rights situation.

The changeable situation in the Latin American and Caribbean countries was originally cited as the justification for this project. The information gathered by the IIHR while implementing its activities, and specific requests from various beneficiaries, USAID, and other international cooperation agencies also confirmed how important it is to be able to provide a rapid, qualified response to different situations. As a result, in August 2003 the IIHR asked USAID to approve a modification to the original design of the project, reducing it to a system for monitoring threats to human rights, in the specific field of citizen security that would conclude in 2003. The funds allocated in the budget that had not been executed were used to implement a "Rapid Response" project, to tackle situations that both USAID and the IIHR feel require urgent action, for the remainder of the agreement (2005).

The first activity to be implemented within the framework of this rapid response system, in September 2003, was related to the pre-electoral and electoral process in Guatemala. The direct beneficiaries were the Elections Tribunal and the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman of Guatemala.

3.3.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The IIHR's Executive Director is responsible for identifying the target country and situation. He will then ask the corresponding Operating Department to implement the action required. This will be coordinated directly with USAID-Washington.

3.3.5 Intermediate Steps

According to the plan approved for 2004, the intermediate steps continue to be:

- Identification of a country and situation that warrant a rapid technical response because there is a threat to human rights
- Agreement reached with USAID-Washington, which authorizes the action
- Drafting of a work plan

3.3.6 Results or outputs

No results or outputs have been generated during the reporting period.

3.3.7 Impact indicators

"Implementation of a rapid response plan of action in a specific country, to minimize threats to the effective exercise of human rights"

Since no short-term, specialized assistance activity was carried out, the progress achieved with regard to this performance indicator cannot yet be evaluated.

3.4 LESSONS LEARNED

As no activities were carried out in the period April-June 2004), it is still too early to evaluate the lessons learned.

C. DEMOCRATIZATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

1. Project: Strengthening Electoral Institutions

1.1. GENERAL FRAMEWORK

Two important presidential elections were held during the reporting period (April-June) - in Panama (May 2nd) and the Dominican Republic (May 16th). The excellent organizational set-up of the Electoral Tribunal of Panama and the credibility it enjoys are both worthy of note. It conducted a process that adhered to the highest international standards and norms governing political rights. There was also a distinctive, unique feature to the observation mission. When the Electoral Tribunal informed candidate Martin Torrijos that he was the virtual winner of the elections, the second thing he did was to visit the mission of observers and IIHR-CAPEL staff to thank them for their involvement in, and support for, the process.

In the Dominican Republic, the elections went off normally, without the disturbances predicted during previous technical assistance visits to the country. On the contrary, the Dominican Republic gave the world a lesson in public spiritedness. The turnout was very high (72.8%), well above the most recent historical averages.

The Inter-American Electoral Network continues to grow. A further 10 names were added to the distribution list of the UNIORE Newsletter, including contacts made during the horizontal cooperation missions to Panama and the Dominican Republic. The project also promoted the final version of the *Syllabus for the teaching of electoral subjects in Latin America,* which is posted on the IIHR-CAPEL Web page. The Electronic Forum on the internal democratization of political parties kicked off on May 2nd , and will be in operation through July 15th . Several documents on political parties, pertaining to the Equal Representation project, were posted on the Web page to disseminate their contents more widely and obtain feedback. Furthermore, the Web page was modified, incorporating new sections containing data and statistics. The Statute of the IIHR-CAPEL was also included, in English and Spanish.

The Final Report of the workshop *Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region*, held March 30th -31st in Chile, was produced and circulated at the end of June. Priority was given to the participants in the workshop, the donor agency and visitors to the IIHR-CAPEL Web page, especially the participants in the Forum on the democratization of political parties that is active at the time of writing.

Project: Technical Assistance to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Ecuador

We are including, in Annexes 1 and 2, (Annexes included with the Spanish language version of the reports) a status report on the activities carried out under the project Technical Assistance to the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Ecuador. The project has been operating in the country for 1 ½ months. As noted in the previous Quarterly Report (January-March), this project is the concrete result of negotiations with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal conducted during the exploratory missions implemented during that period. We feel it important to report on what we have been doing, including the National Electoral Training Program for Polling Officials, Coordinators of Polling Stations and Members of Political Parties (Annex 2). Nevertheless, we cannot give a more detailed report in view of the fact that the respective amendment to the agreement is about to be signed between the IIHR and USAID-Washington.

1.2. ANNUAL GOALS

The project “Strengthening Electoral Institutions” has two annual goals:

- To consolidate the activities of the Inter-American Electoral Network aimed at strengthening the electoral bodies involved

- To strengthen electoral bodies selected and those engaged in electoral and political reform processes in 2004

1.3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

1.3.1. Inter-American Electoral Network

1.3.1.1. Description

UNIORE's member organizations make up the Network, which provides links for regular communication and information sharing. Civil society organizations with a stake in electoral issues (Lima Agreement), academics and members of political parties are also involved in its activities.

The Network operates year-round. During this quarter (April-June), it continued to facilitate information sharing and communication among its members. Another 10 electoral officials and judges signed up with the Inter-American Electoral Network, following contacts made during the horizontal cooperation missions to Panama and the Dominican Republic.

1.3.1.2. Method

The Network's most concrete activities take place via CAPEL's web page (www.iidh.ed.cr/comunidades/redelectoral). The organizations that make up the network of networks contributed information such as details of their senior management and current political-electoral legislation. In its capacity as the Executive Secretariat, the IIHR-CAPEL produced UNIORE's newsletters for March/April and May. The Network also continued to provide virtual communication tools, such as the International Electoral News Service (SINE), prepared by the Electoral Tribunal of Panama and disseminated widely via email.

1.3.1.3. Background / Rationale

The IIHR-CAPEL continued to systematize information in its capacity as the Executive Secretariat of the Association of Electoral Bodies of Central America and the Caribbean (Tikal Protocol, 1985), the Association of Electoral Bodies of South America (Quito Protocol, 1989), and the Inter-American Union of Electoral Bodies (UNIORE, 1991), which comprises the two associations and the electoral bodies of Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

The continuity of the electoral network made it possible to keep all the members abreast of the latest developments, and more electoral officials and judges were included in the horizontal cooperation missions and the activities of research projects such as the *Model Syllabus for the teaching of electoral subjects in Latin America*.

1.3.1.4. Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The IIHR-CAPEL Team of Specialists, in coordination with the associations of electoral bodies and the Electoral Tribunal of Panama (SINE). Communication and contact with members of

electoral bodies and civil society organizations involved in political-electoral issues and local USAID offices, for informational purposes or to identify joint initiatives.

1.3.1.5. Intermediate Steps

- The Election Calendar, the Directory of Electoral Bodies, electoral legislation and the academic presentations sent in by electoral judges were updated
- The IIHR-CAPEL and other institutions provided continuous input for SINE news items.
- Start up of the Electronic Forum "Internal democratization of political parties"
- The names of people contacted during the horizontal cooperation missions were added to the mailing list

1.3.1.6. Results or Outputs

- **Distribution List of the Electoral Network**

During this quarter, 10 email addresses were added to the Electoral Network's distribution list. Most of them were obtained during the observation mission to the Dominican Republic.

- **Electronic Forum**

The electronic forum "Internal democratization of political parties" kicked off on May 2nd and will be in operation through July 15th . The forum was created as a result of the recommendations made in five reports generated at the workshop *Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region*, on the subjects of democratization, institutionalization and transparency. Fourteen people have signed up so far, and three people are playing an active part.

- **Official launch of the *Syllabus for the teaching of electoral subjects in Latin America***

As the final stage of the project *Syllabus for the teaching of electoral subjects in Latin America,* the official presentation of the document took place in May. In Issue 41 of the UNIORE Newsletter, the Director of CAPEL invited the public to study the document, which is posted on the "Projects" section of the department's Web page.

- **Sections of CAPEL's Web page**

  Directory of Electoral Bodies

In recent months, several changes have taken place in the electoral bodies that are members of UNIORE. The respective changes were made to the Directory of Electoral Bodies posted on the Web page. The changes are as follows:

ARGENTINA
The members of the National Electoral Chamber of Argentina are:

Jorge Horacio Otaño Piñero
Secretary for Electoral Matters

María del Carmen Traverso
Secretary

Hernán Gonçalves Figuereido
Deputy Secretary

CHILE

Luis Fernando Luengo has rejoined the Elections Tribunal.

COLOMBIA

The new President of the National Electoral Board is Luis Eduardo Botero, and the new Vice President is Clelia América Sánchez de Alfonso.

HONDURAS

During the second half of May, major changes took place in Honduras' electoral body. On May 15th , the name of the National Elections Tribunal was changed. It is now called the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, and the members are as follows:

Jacobo Hernández Cruz
President

Aristides Mejía
Regular Member

José Saúl Escobar
Regular Member

Yolanda de Vargas
Alternate Member

Augusto Aguilar was also appointed as General Secretary of the Tribunal, effective May 26th.

PARAGUAY

The new President of the Higher Electoral Court of Justice of Paraguay is Juan Manuel Morales Soler.

Also included in the Directory were the new website addresses of the electoral bodies of Chile (Elections Tribunal), Colombia (National Electoral Council), Honduras (Supreme Electoral Tribunal) and Uruguay (Electoral Court).

- **Electoral Legislation**

The following documents were added:
Bolivia: amendments to the Political Constitution
Honduras: Electoral and Political Organizations Act and amendments to the Political Constitution

- **Academic inputs**

The following two contributions were received:
Partidos: condiciones y costos de su reforma. Fernando F. Sánchez
La administración electoral en Venezuela y los nuevos retos derivados de la Constitución de 1999. Jesús Castellanos Vásquez

- **Projects**

The following documents of the "Equal Representation and Political Party Reform" project were introduced:
Preliminary systematization of research documents. Cases: Bolivia, Chile and the Dominican Republic (Status report on the research)
Annex 1: Bolivia
Annex 2: Dominican Republic
Annex 3: Chile
Annex 4: Analysis of matrixes (comparative table)
Annex 5: Supra-party regulatory matrix (the three countries)
Annex 6: Dates of statutes

- **Links**

The project contacted the administrator of the site http://www.elecciones-en-latinoamerica.de/ to ask that a link to CAPEL's Web page be included. This was done.

- **New subsections**

Useful data and statistics

This new section contains important documents for researchers, students and the general public. The following have been made available so far:

Tipo de voto en América Latina
Cuadro comparativo sobre reforma electoral en América Latina
Tipo de asignación de escaños en los sistemas electorales latinoamericanos
Relación entre el tipo de inscripción electoral, el tipo de voto y el porcentaje de abstención en América Latina
Modalidad en la inscripción de electores en América Latina
Resultados electorales en América Latina
Institucionalización de los partidos políticos - grupo 1
Institucionalización de los partidos políticos - grupo 2
Transparencia de los partidos políticos - grupo 2
Democratización interna de los partidos políticos - grupo 2
Democratización interna de los partidos políticos - grupo 3

- **What is the IIHR-CAPEL?**

A subsection was inserted into this section of the CAPEL Web page containing the department's Statute, both in English and Spanish.

1.3.1.7. Impact Indicators:

"Network of electoral bodies in the region expanded and strengthened"

"More documentation and comparative experiences"

"Electoral bodies have more up-to-date knowledge"

"Easier access to up-to-date political-electoral information"

During the period under review (April-June), 10 people's names were added to the mailing list of the Inter-American Electoral Network. These are electoral officials who asked to be included during the project's horizontal cooperation missions to Panama and, in particular, the Dominican Republic.

The project also published the final version of the *Syllabus for the teaching of electoral subjects in Latin America* and is currently operating the electronic forum on the internal democratization of political parties. Quite a few modifications have been made to the Directory of Electoral Bodies, reflecting the changes that have taken place in the organizations in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Honduras and Paraguay. Amendments to the constitutions of Bolivia and Honduras were also posted on the Web page, along with the Electoral and Political Organizations Act of Honduras. Several documents of the Equal Representation and Political Party Reform project were also included, to disseminate their contents and inputs more widely. A subsection called Useful Data and Statistics was constructed that contains more than 10 systematized research projects, and a link was created on the Web page on electoral topics at www.elecciones-en-latinoamerica.de. Lastly, CAPEL's Statute was posted on the Web page, in English and Spanish.

Means of verification

- Inter-American Electoral Network
- Two UNIORE Newsletters
- Distribution list (540 people)
- CAPEL's Web page

1.3.2. UNIORE Newsletters

1.3.2.1 Description

Two newsletters were published and distributed between April and June (March/April and May). The months of March and April were combined, as a very important workshop (Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region) was held March 30th -31st , in Chile, and a technical assistance mission to the Dominican Republic was also carried out at the end of the month (March 28th -31st). As a result, there was not enough time to systematize the results of the two activities and disseminate the corresponding newsletter at the beginning of April. The June Newsletter will also be combined with the July issue, as there was little to report in June.

The newsletters for March/April and May were circulated among the members of UNIORE, civil society organizations involved in electoral issues (particularly those of the Lima Agreement), certain organizations belonging to the Inter-American Network for Democracy (RID), and academics, members of political parties, donors and local USAID offices.

1.3.2.2. Method

The monthly newsletters were distributed electronically and posted on the specialized IIHR-CAPEL web page, the IIHR's website and the SINE (Panama). The information for March and April was combined, as has been done previously. The June Newsletter will also be combined

with the July issue. These newsletters continue to increase horizontal cooperation among the electoral bodies, as they are a two-way communication tool. They include articles by UNIORE members who wish to share points of interest regarding specific national situations, or discuss emerging issues. The IIHR-CAPEL receives the information and edits the Newsletter.

1.3.2.3. Background / Rationale

Produced in response to reiterated requests from the electoral bodies for an expeditious means of disseminating information about important electoral developments in the western hemisphere, these newsletters have helped to keep the target population informed of matters related to political rights in the Americas that are of interest to them. The newsletters constitute a permanent information strategy and, combined with electronic links and electoral news, ensure that information circulates easily and rapidly.

1.3.2.4. Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The IIHR-CAPEL, in coordination with the members of UNIORE. The information contained in the UNIORE newsletters is sent to, and shared with, USAID-Washington. The newsletters are emailed to the local USAID offices, and to the members of the Inter-American Electoral Network.

1.3.2.5. Intermediate Steps

- Information continued to be compiled
- Graphic production and design of the material
- Information posted on CAPEL's specialized section of the IIHR's Web page, and on the SINE
- Newsletters for March/April and May translated into English

1.3.2.6. Results or Outputs

Two monthly newsletters (for March/April and May) were produced during the period under review. These newsletters are available on the SINE and on CAPEL's specialized section of the Web page (www.iidh.ed.cr/comunidades/redelectoral). Hard copies were also distributed during the horizontal cooperation missions to Panama and the Dominican Republic (the March/April issue).

1.3.2.7. Impact Indicators

"Electoral information disseminated more widely in the hemisphere"

"More documents and experiences shared on electoral topics and processes in the region"

"Users of the Network more conversant with electoral topics and processes in the region"

During this quarter (April-June 2004), only a further ten people signed up with the Electoral Network and for the UNIORE Newsletter. This was because only two horizontal cooperation missions were carried out (Panama and the Dominican Republic).

Means of verification:

- Inter-American Electoral Network (Web page)
- UNIORE newsletters
- Distribution list

1.3.3. Horizontal Cooperation Missions

1.3.3.1. Description

During the reporting period, two horizontal cooperation missions were carried out involving members of the associations of electoral bodies and the Inter-American Electoral Network. These missions were to Panama, for the general elections on May 2nd (26 international observers and 5 IIHR-CAPEL officials) and the Dominican Republic, for the general presidential elections on May 16th (38 international observers and 2 IIHR-CAPEL officials). The lists of international observers and mission reports are attached. (Annexes 3-6)

1.3.3.2. Method

The IIHR-CAPEL promoted and facilitated these horizontal cooperation and technical support missions as a means of providing sustained technical cooperation at the bilateral or multilateral level, or short-term support.

In the case of Panama, the Electoral Tribunal asked the IIHR-CAPEL to handle the entire mission and assist in organizing it. The work included preparing the academic program, assigning the observers routes and evaluating the process. In the case of the Dominican Republic, the Central Electoral Board asked only for specific support for certain activities, e.g., as the co-sponsor of a meeting of the international observers with civil society organizations (Participación Ciudadana), and assistance in conducting the evaluation session.

The technical mission covered roughly four days before each election and one day after, in order to be able to evaluate Election Day. Recommendations were made regarding ways in which the electoral process could be improved. As much information as possible was gathered during the mission, by means of one-on-one meetings with representatives of political parties taking part in the elections, sessions to discuss the situation, and surveys.

1.3.3.3. Background / Rationale

The technical missions to observe the elections in Panama and the Dominican Republic gave the members of the associations an opportunity to learn from each other and exchange technical expertise in specific situations. The purpose of the missions was twofold: to monitor the application of basic international standards vis-à-vis political rights in a national election; and, to serve as the basis for an assessment of possible technical assistance programs to strengthen the political system.

1.3.3.4. Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The IIHR-CAPEL, in coordination with senior electoral officials of the countries selected (members of the Inter-American Electoral Network) and local USAID offices.

1.3.3.5. Intermediate Steps

- Request from the host organization
- Issuing of invitations to form part of the mission to members of the Inter-American Electoral Network
- Identification of priority areas
- Collaboration in the design of the work program and the evaluation session

1.3.3.6. Results or Outputs

In Panama, the mission drafted a set of technical recommendations. The observers began by acknowledging the fact that the elections had not only taken place normally, but that this was due to the excellent work of the Electoral Tribunal, whose careful planning of the different aspects of the process had reaffirmed the high credibility that it enjoys.

In the Dominican Republic, the mission also concluded with a report containing specific recommendations regarding electoral logistics, such as the elimination of use of the indelible ink, the number of hours that polling stations are open and the secrecy of the vote.

The respective evaluation reports for these countries are attached as annexes (annexes 4 and 6).

1.3.3.7. Impact Indicators

"Modification of electoral legislation or practices as a result of the implementation of recommendations or lessons learned from the missions"

"The members of the inter-American electoral network have more comparative knowledge of electoral legislation and practices"

During the period under review (April-June), the missions of observers made a series of technical recommendations - mostly in the Dominican Republic, as Panama's Electoral Tribunal has attained outstanding levels of professionalism and excellence as far as the organization and implementation of electoral processes is concerned. The observers' evaluation of the process and the role played by the Electoral Tribunal was very positive. Indeed, the attached report (Annex 4) highlights a number of points that other electoral bodies could make use of to improve the organizational and logistical aspects of an election.

The recommendations in the Dominican Republic concerned the secrecy of the vote, and specific logistical matters such as the elimination of indelible ink and the number of hours that polling stations are open. The observers applauded the very high turnout in the elections, which went off normally and correctly. They drew attention to the fact that Election Day was notable for the spirit of cooperation that prevailed among the political parties, despite the relatively rarified atmosphere and latent suspiciousness in the run up to the voting. The mission endorsed the use of voter lists with photos, as they are not only more secure but also make it easier for voters to

ascertain where they are supposed to vote. The delegates of the political parties received copies and found them very useful for monitoring the voting. The mission also applauded the elimination of colegios cerrados,[1] *which helped the process to flow smoothly, and of the system of separate voting for men and women. All these factors contributed to the high turnout.*

No amendments to electoral legislation were made, but the mission reports continue to deal at length with improvements that could be made in electoral practices.

Means of verification

- Summary of the Conclusions of the Session Held to Evaluate the Elections in Panama (Annex 4)
- Summary of the Conclusions of the Session Held to Evaluate the Elections in the Dominican Republic (Annex 6)
- UNIORE Newsletters
- International Electoral News Service (SINE)
- 10 new email addresses

1.3.4. Workshop: *Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region*

1.3.4.1. Description

At the end of this quarter, the project completed and published the document containing the conclusions of the workshop *Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region*, held March 30th -31st this year, in Chile. The report was circulated primarily among the workshop participants, the donor agency and the users of the IIHR-CAPEL Web page (www.iidh.ed.cr/comunidades/redelectoral), in particular, the participants in the online forum on the democratization of political parties (one of the core topics addressed at the workshop in Chile) that is currently in operation.

1.3.4.2. Method

The Conclusions document is divided into the following sections:

- Context
- Issuing of invitations and implementation
- General framework of the discussions
- Core topics addressed in the workshops: thematic focuses
- Priorities for work identified
- Annexes

[1] "Closed" polling stations, a system where voters registered within a certain time at the polling stations and were later called in to vote.

Most of the annexes are included in the hard copy of the report, but certain complementary information was posted on the IIHR-CAPEL Web page for reasons of space.

In addition to compiling and systematizing the information generated at the workshops, the IIHR-CAPEL wished to highlight certain quantitative and qualitative aspects of the group that took part, obviously thinking about the multiplier effect they could generate in the countries of the region.

1.3.4.3. Background / Rationale

The immediate, direct background was the implementation of the workshop (March 30th -31st this year, in Santiago, Chile).

The workshop brought together 52 participants: representatives of political parties from the six countries in the region, senior electoral officials, civil society organizations, and other international entities interested in the subject that operate in the region. Some 67% of the participants were men and 33% women.

1.3.4.4. Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The team of specialists, in coordination with the Office of the Director of the IIHR-CAPEL

1.3.4.5. Intermediate Steps

- The structure of the Conclusions document was designed.
- The reports of the facilitators / rapporteurs of all the thematic workshops were compiled.
- The first draft of the report was prepared.
- The IIHR-CAPEL team of specialists revised the document and the characteristics and length of the document were discussed with the Director's Office.

1.3.4.6. Results or Outputs

A clearer, more precise grasp of what the political actors in countries in the region are interested in vis-à-vis internal democratization, within the framework of the three core issues studied in the workshop:

- Institutionalization
- Democratization
- Transparency

All the above is set out in a concise, easy-to-read report, complemented with extensive annexes for those who wish or need to study the matter in depth.

1.3.4.7. Impact Indicators

"Political parties more knowledgeable about internal democratization"

"Strengthening of ties between political parties and electoral bodies"

This workshop and, of course, the document containing its conclusions, provides the region with the following inputs:

- A core conceptual working document that sets out the main guidelines and the questions discussed in the workshop

- A systematization of the main conclusions arrived at in the workshops on the specific topics of institutionalization, democratization and transparency

- Priorities for work identified, to influence the internal democratization of parties in the region

Means of verification:

- Final Report of the Workshop (Annex 7)

1.4. LESSONS LEARNED

During the period under review (April-June), and thanks to the assistance received from the TSE-Ecuador and USAID-Ecuador, agreement was reached on an additional electoral technical assistance project with the TSE-Ecuador, for the municipal elections slated for October this year.

The project reinforced an important lesson learned during the previous quarter, related to the prospects for work in strengthening political parties and possible activities for the IIHR-CAPEL in this field. The staff systematized the documents of the workshop *Agenda for Strengthening Political Parties in the Andean Region,* held in Chile at the end of March this year. This systematization (a copy of the Report is attached, in Spanish, in Annex 7) made it possible to determine the initial priorities for further work on this subject in the future.

The following priorities were identified in the report for work aimed at democratizing parties in the Andean region:

- Set up a solid network, which will have to be continually renewed, to strengthen political parties in the Region. It should include regular activities and monitoring mechanisms, with special emphasis on the dissemination of successful or relevant experiences in the fields of institutionalization, democratization and transparency.

- Facilitate a cross-sectoral mechanism for institutional renewal and the democratization of political parties, including the identification of multiplier agents within political groupings.

One of the objectives of this process should be to create opportunities for self-criticism and ideas for bringing about change within the parties.

- Implement workshops and seminars to study political systems (presidential, parliamentary, mixed or partial) and evaluate mechanisms for governance.

- Promote studies and forums to debate the role of the media in the democratization and transparency of political life and their responsibility in the area of democracy.

- Assisted by international cooperation, implement education and training programs on the topics discussed, based on initial modules that the parties should then take over and continue. The training programs should focus on the development of abilities and skills, and the education programs on the promotion of a more democratic political culture that is more open to change.

- Conduct comparative analyses of legislation on electoral matters, parties and the financing of political activities, to detect the shortcomings of each system, propose possible reforms or share jurisdictional practices and methods that would broaden the scope of such legislation and make it more effective.

- Create forums of civil society organizations and political parties, to help them better understand each other's role in society and develop ways in which they can work together to promote democratization and transparency in politics.

- Facilitate the definition and dissemination of "democratic indicators," especially useful for objectively evaluating mechanisms such as the establishment of quotas for the equal representation of both genders, ethnic groups or regions.

- Study the influence of globalization on the basic doctrine, life and activities of political parties, including the importance and implications of phenomena such as terrorism, trade liberalization and the protection of human rights.

As a result of this systematization, and its dissemination during the horizontal cooperation missions carried out between April and June, the name of the IIHR-CAPEL and its involvement in this field has been reinforced and the Program is better positioned for future work. This positioning has also been facilitated by the IIHR-CAPEL's presence in activities involving political parties, e.g., its participation in the meeting on the current state and outlook for the political parties in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic, organized by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Organization of American States (OAS) and International IDEA. The IIHR-CAPEL took part to share ideas based on its own recent research on the democratization of political parties in this part of the Americas.

This was an important period for the Inter-American Electoral Network. The project continued to strengthen ties with the electoral bodies and, in particular, contacts with the National Electoral Council of Venezuela were intensified to discuss ways in which the Executive Secretariat can help in the run up to the vote for the recall of the President. These contacts were facilitated by the Electoral Network and IIHR-CAPEL's involvement in the two most recent electoral processes in UNIORE member countries (Panama and the Dominican Republic). During the assistance and observation missions, the new leadership of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Honduras met privately with the IIHR-CAPEL to restart talks on future areas of joint cooperation.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the work of the IIHR-CAPEL as a bridge between electoral and political bodies is widely acknowledged. This was highlighted in the presidential elections in

Panama, when President-elect Martin Torrijos visited the delegation of international observers to thank and commend it for its work and its support for Panama's democratic system.

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – PROJECT "STRENGTHENING ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	COUNTRY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
18th Tikal Protocol	Panama												
11th Quito Protocol	Paraguay (date to be decided)												
7th Conference UNIORE	Panama												
UNIORE Newsletter	Costa Rica												
Electoral Network of the Americas	Costa Rica												
Electronic Forum on Control of Electoral Spending	Costa Rica												
Electronic Forum on Democratization Parties	Costa Rica												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	El Salvador												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Panama												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Dominican Republic												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Uruguay												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Nicaragua												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Bolivia												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Venezuela (to be decided)												
Exploratory Mission	Nicaragua (to be decided)												
Exploratory Mission	Bolivia												
Exploratory Mission	Venezuela (to be decided)												
Workshop on democratization of political parties	Costa Rica												
Workshop political parties	Chile												

2. PROJECT: EQUAL REPRESENTATION AND POLITICAL PARTY REFORM

2.1. GENERAL FRAMEWORK

This project is taking place in a framework that focuses on three countries representative of three regions in the Americas: the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean, Bolivia in the Andean region and Chile in the Southern Cone.

During this quarter (April-June 2004), the external consultant hired for the project (Rotsay Rosales, professor in the School of Political Science of the University of Costa Rica) concentrated on finalizing the classification and full cataloging of information and began preparing a final report.

As had been planned, national counterparts active in civil society in each country compiled doctrinal information and sent it to IIHR headquarters. This information will be very useful for final data analysis. Counterparts contributing this work were: in Bolivia, Carlos Villegas, Director of CIDES and his colleagues; in Dominican Republic, Javier Cabrera with the support of a team from the NGO *Participación Ciudadana*, and in Chile, Pedro Mujica, Academic Coordinator of the NGO *Corporación Participa*.

Certain remaining gaps in the project methodology received close attention during this quarter (April-June 2004). Of most concern was the question of how to classify and present doctrinal information received from the countries. At the time of writing of this report, an appropriate methodological approach has been designed and is now in use.

2.2 ANNUAL GOALS

The project on Equal Representation and Political Party Reform is pursuing the following annual goal:

Validate findings and proposals to make political parties more democratic, translate them into functional models or practices, and disseminate them.

2.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

2.3.1 Status Report on Internal Democratization of Political Parties

2.3.1.1 Description

The work during this period focused on compiling doctrinal information on internal democratization of political parties in the three countries of the sample (Bolivia, Chile and the Dominican Republic).

Source material came from the first progress report on the research (contained in the document *Sistematización preliminar de documentos de investigación. Casos: Bolivia, Chile y República Dominicana. Avance de investigación del Proyecto "Representación Equitativa y Reforma de Partidos Políticos*"). A report is now available with a systematic compilation of doctrinal information (see appendix –previously attached in Spanish version documents-), a conceptual discussion and preliminary findings.

The doctrinal information was analyzed and expressed in table format on the following basis:

- "Doctrinal information" is defined broadly. It consists of documentation produced in the Dominican Republic, Bolivia and Chile on the topics of "Transparency," "Democratization" and Institutionalization during the period 1999-2004. Information on formal organizational documents governing the political parties is listed and analyzed in a separate table in the section on rules and regulations, including both intraparty and supra-party norms. This information is therefore excluded from the present doctrinal analysis, which instead contains theoretical considerations, academic papers, regulatory reform proposals, proposals for political action, material from the written press, and thoughts on citizen perceptions.
- Given this broad definition of "doctrine," it was felt best to classify information according to two dimensions:
    a) The three project areas, each with 13 core issues (horizontal rows)
    b) The "originators" or sources of documents including authors (vertical columns).
- Each cell in the table is used to record central or key ideas from the documents under analysis and a quotation that illustrates or gives an example of these ideas, explained or further discussed by the consultant if deemed necessary. Some of the boxes (at the intersection of columns and rows) contain information on source documents and authors. Others do not, generally revealing disparate degrees of study, analysis or discussion of the 13 core themes over the past five years. For example, this could suggest that the country has gaps in doctrinal knowledge; that there is greater or lesser academic and research interest in covering certain themes; that specific short-term sociopolitical conditions in the country during the period have led to greater public exposure of certain issues, but little note of others; or that politicians are more interested in attaching priority to certain issues than to others. It could also be that, because of constraints inherent in document compilation process itself in each country, certain texts remained outside the study. It is important to understand that this ***is not an exhaustive State of the Art***, but a meticulous compilation of doctrine in each country over the past five years, addressing the core themes defined by the project.
- The first column lists the main proposals and considerations for political party reform derived from documents produced by sources within the parties. These are texts whose authorship is attributed to party members or activists, whether individually or on behalf of some party structure.
- The second column lists the principle proposals and considerations for political party reform derived from documents published in the written press. Authorship of these texts may be highly variable, encompassing opinion makers or columnists, editorialists, regular contributors to the media, and occasional contributors.
- The third column is used to tabulate theoretical and doctrinal production in the strictest sense. These are documents whose authorship is attributed to people associated with academia or whose texts are characterized by the type of objectives and structure commonly identified with academic work: university theses, monographs, articles or essays from specialized journals and books, papers or texts taken from seminars or similar events and sustained by theory or doctrine, and systematic compilations of work by researchers or consultants.
- The fourth column tabulates ideas and proposals produced by foundations, nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations and civil society associations. The basic differentiating factor is the attribution of authorship to an entity or organization. For example, this column would be used to tabulate information from a study produced by the United Nations Development Program or the results of DEMOS in the Dominican Republic.
- Column five lists jurisprudence accessible to or produced by national electoral agencies; these agencies are responsible for processing available jurisprudence and developing

official positions in each country. It could include appeals filed, motions, and rulings handed down over the past five years.

A complementary activity took place in Chile at the end of March 2004 -- a workshop entitled *Agenda para el fortalecimiento de los partidos políticos en la región andina* (Agenda to strengthen political parties in the Andean Region). Information about this activity can be found in the section on the project for strengthening electoral institutions. The workshop renewed contact between political leaders in Bolivia and Chile, brought them up to date on current research, and proposed dates for "give back the information" meetings in coming months when the research is complete.

2.3.1.2 Method

In each country of the study, national counterparts with extensive experience in the field and in academic work took on the task of visiting libraries, universities, documentation centers, party headquarters and other information storage sites to compile documents related specifically to internal democracy in the country's political parties, preferably over the past five years. Once this information had been collected, it was sent to IIHR-CAPEL, which forwarded it to chief consultant Rotsay Rosales.

The document *Sistematización preliminar de documentos de investigación. Casos: Bolivia, Chile y República Dominicana. Avance de investigación del Proyecto Representación Equitativa y Reforma de Partidos Políticos* can be considered a first progress report. It was agreed that the consultant would prepare an additional document covering the analysis and tabulation of doctrine (not developed broadly in the preliminary analysis).

2.3.1.3 Background / Rationale

The information survey was put together through fieldwork in earlier phases. The current period thus focused more on reassessing the project and refining methodology. Even though IIHR staff were no longer engaged in fieldwork, in practice, local counterparts continued to be active in the field.

IIHR-CAPEL is aware that this issue needs to be considered soberly. As stated earlier, we are still convinced that "… once material has been collected, the decision on methodological design opens an extremely wide spectrum of theoretical, academic, practical and informational possibilities that have very useful applications to the multiplicity of purposes established …."

2.3.1.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The consultant Rotsay Rosales is in charge of processing and validating the information in close coordination with the IIHR-CAPEL technical team.

Project leaders in the different countries are: Bolivia, Director of CIDES; Dominican Republic, Director of *Participación Ciudadana*, and Chile, Director and Academic Coordinator of *Participa*.

2.3.1.5 Intermediate Steps

Prepare a methodological plan for processing the information and compiling the first research progress report.

Launch the work of the consultant (Rotsay Rosales, professor in the School of Political Science of the University of Costa Rica).

Coordinate with national counterparts and with the consultant Rotsay Rosales.

Transfer doctrinal information to the pre-established format.

Strategy for doctrinal analysis and verification of initial findings.

2.3.1.6 Results or products

Three complete reports with doctrinal information collected in Bolivia, Chile and the Dominican Republic, including a guide for researchers on how to manage the information.

Preliminary findings contained in the working document *Análisis doctrinal. Institucionalización, democratización y transparencia de los partidos políticos 1999-2004* (attached).

- The information compiled in Chile and Dominican Republic consists mostly of theoretical/doctrinal material and public opinion documents. Considerable public opinion documents are also available from Bolivia, along with numerous graduation theses.
- All three countries sent in similar volumes of documents. Differences, while small, are mostly topical -- varying proportions of documents addressing each different area or core theme. For example, the topic of "Transparency" has been studied profusely, especially financing of political parties and accountability (even more so in the case of Chile) applying generally to all parties. Extensive information on this topic is also available in the Dominican Republic.
- In general, the specific topic of "internal democratization of parties has not been studied widely in these three countries. As a result, doctrinal material tabulated for core themes associated with this topic consists basically of tangential or secondary coverage and documents whose central focus is something else. Most of the references on this subject address core themes four and five of the project -- election of party authorities and selection of candidates to vie for positions in the general election.
- All three countries have information on "Pluralism" and "Inclusion" (core topics 11 and 8). In the specific case of Chile, most of the documents involve women and the indigenous. The Dominican Republic and Bolivia focus more on the inclusion of young people, and the Dominican Republic also includes material on the production of internal party documents or party figureheads. A major issue in Bolivia is the inclusion of women, and more particularly, the inclusion of ethnic groups.
- In comparative terms, Chile has more public opinion documents on party discipline. More documents on democratization were compiled in the Dominican Republic and Bolivia.
- Institutionalization is probably the topic on which the fewest documents or texts were compiled. The little information that was found refers to the core themes of decision-making mechanisms and formal rules.
- As part of the process of document compilation contracted by IIHR-CAPEL directly in each of the three countries, the project consultant received numerous documents containing internal party rules, regulations and legal structures (by-laws, declarations, etc.). The consult reviewed them all but did not include them in this table because they were tabulated separately in analytical tables on regulations and norms.

2.3.1.7 Impact indicators

"A validated strategy for the strengthening and institutional democratization of political parties"

"More proposals to promote strengthening of internal democracy in political parties"

During this quarter, the project moved ahead in developing methodologies and obtaining findings. A critically important task at this stage was to apply guidelines on processing doctrinal information and classifying it in table form. The resulting table will be used as the basis for organizing and weighing information and articulating key conclusions on democratization of political parties in Chile, Bolivia and Dominican Republic (countries of particular relevance in the Latin American context, all of which held major elections in 2004).

Means of verification:

Working document *Análisis doctrinal. Institucionalización, democratización y transparencia de los partidos políticos 1999-2004* (attached in previously sent spanish version of the reports)

Final report from the workshop *Agenda para el fortalecimiento de los partidos políticos en la región andina* (Chile, 30-31 March 2004)

2.4. LESSONS LEARNED

Methodology: the unfinished portion of the initial methodological structure was completed with the addition of a section on doctrinal analysis. All areas are now covered, and work can begin on preparing the Final Report.

Political: under current political circumstances, there is an urgent need to share the findings of this project with local political figures in the countries covered by the research. The project can thus contribute to the anticipated process of reconfiguring political parties as institutions that are a critical component of representative democracy.

Relationships with counterparts: in this project, IIHR-CAPEL partnered very effectively with local counterparts to address issues of internal democratization and inclusive representation, both of which hold great potential for academic and practical work. This is especially true in view of that fact that the project has opened doors and awakened interest in this field among certain circles of civil society and in the political parties themselves.

Relationships with local USAID offices: USAID is a particularly influential counterpart in the countries studied. The experience with reciprocal work was good in the Dominican Republic and Bolivia; openings still need to be found in Chile.

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – PROJECT "EQUAL REPRESENTATION AND POLITICAL PARTY REFORM"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Systematization of practices translated into models and recommendations												
Summary document distributed (hard copies, on CD-Rom and in electronic format)												
Identification of multiplier agents in countries selected												
Working meeting												
Mission and local forum: Bolivia												
Mission and local forum: Dominican Republic												
Mission and local forum: Chile												

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 – PROJECT "STRENGTHENING ELECTORAL INSTITUTIONS"
Updated July 2004

ACTIVITIES	COUNTRY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
18th Tikal Protocol	Panama												
11th Quito Protocol	Paraguay (date to be decided)												
7th Conference UNIORE	Panama												
UNIORE Newsletter	Costa Rica												
Electoral Network of the Americas	Costa Rica												
Electronic Forum on Control of Electoral Spending	Costa Rica												
Electronic Forum on Democratization Parties	Costa Rica												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	El Salvador												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Panama												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Dominican Republic												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Uruguay												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Nicaragua												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Bolivia												
Horizontal Cooperation Missions	Venezuela (to be decided)												
Exploratory Mission	Nicaragua (to be decided)												
Exploratory Mission	Bolivia												
Exploratory Mission	Venezuela (to be decided)												
Workshop on democratization of political parties	Costa Rica												
Workshop political parties	Chile												

2. Project: Equal Representation and Political Party Reform

2.1. GENERAL FRAMEWORK

This project is taking place in a framework that focuses on three countries representative of three regions in the Americas: the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean, Bolivia in the Andean region and Chile in the Southern Cone.

During this quarter (April-June 2004), the external consultant hired for the project (Rotsay Rosales, professor in the School of Political Science of the University of Costa Rica) concentrated on finalizing the classification and full cataloging of information and began preparing a final report.

As had been planned, national counterparts active in civil society in each country compiled doctrinal information and sent it to IIHR headquarters. This information will be very useful for final data analysis. Counterparts contributing this work were: in Bolivia, Carlos Villegas, Director of C**2. Project: Equal Representation and Political Party Reform**

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Certain remaining gaps in the project methodology received close attention during this quarter (April-June 2004). Of most concern was the question of how to classify and present doctrinal information received from the countries. At the time of writing of this report, an appropriate methodological approach has been designed and is now in use.

2.2 ANNUAL GOALS

The project on Equal Representation and Political Party Reform is pursuing the following annual goal:

Validate findings and proposals to make political parties more democratic, translate them into functional models or practices, and disseminate them.

2.4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

2.3.1 Status Report on Internal Democratization of Political Parties

2.3.1.1 Description

The work during this period focused on compiling doctrinal information on internal democratization of political parties in the three countries of the sample (Bolivia, Chile and the Dominican Republic).

Source material came from the first progress report on the research (contained in the document *Sistematización preliminar de documentos de investigación. Casos: Bolivia, Chile y República Dominicana. Avance de investigación del Proyecto "Representación Equitativa y Reforma de Partidos Políticos*"). A report is now available with a systematic compilation of doctrinal information (see appendix –previously attached in Spanish version documents-), a conceptual discussion and preliminary findings.

The doctrinal information was analyzed and expressed in table format on the following basis:

- "Doctrinal information" is defined broadly. It consists of documentation produced in the Dominican Republic, Bolivia and Chile on the topics of "Transparency," "Democratization" and Institutionalization during the period 1999-2004. Information on formal organizational documents governing the political parties is listed and analyzed in a separate table in the section on rules and regulations, including both intraparty and supra-party norms. This information is therefore excluded from the present doctrinal analysis, which instead contains theoretical considerations, academic papers, regulatory reform proposals, proposals for political action, material from the written press, and thoughts on citizen perceptions.
- Given this broad definition of "doctrine," it was felt best to classify information according to two dimensions:
    c) The three project areas, each with 13 core issues (horizontal rows)
    d) The "originators" or sources of documents including authors (vertical columns).
- Each cell in the table is used to record central or key ideas from the documents under analysis and a quotation that illustrates or gives an example of these ideas, explained or further discussed by the consultant if deemed necessary. Some of the boxes (at the intersection of columns and rows) contain information on source documents and authors. Others do not, generally revealing disparate degrees of study, analysis or discussion of the 13 core themes over the past five years. For example, this could suggest that the country has gaps in doctrinal knowledge; that there is greater or lesser academic and research interest in covering certain themes; that specific short-term sociopolitical conditions in the country during the period have led to greater public exposure of certain issues, but little note of others; or that politicians are more interested in attaching priority to certain issues than to others. It could also be that, because of constraints inherent in document compilation process itself in each country, certain texts remained outside the study. It is important to understand that this ***is not an exhaustive State of the Art***, but a

meticulous compilation of doctrine in each country over the past five years, addressing the core themes defined by the project.

- The first column lists the main proposals and considerations for political party reform derived from documents produced by sources within the parties. These are texts whose authorship is attributed to party members or activists, whether individually or on behalf of some party structure.
- The second column lists the principle proposals and considerations for political party reform derived from documents published in the written press. Authorship of these texts may be highly variable, encompassing opinion makers or columnists, editorialists, regular contributors to the media, and occasional contributors.
- The third column is used to tabulate theoretical and doctrinal production in the strictest sense. These are documents whose authorship is attributed to people associated with academia or whose texts are characterized by the type of objectives and structure commonly identified with academic work: university theses, monographs, articles or essays from specialized journals and books, papers or texts taken from seminars or similar events and sustained by theory or doctrine, and systematic compilations of work by researchers or consultants.
- The fourth column tabulates ideas and proposals produced by foundations, nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations and civil society associations. The basic differentiating factor is the attribution of authorship to an entity or organization. For example, this column would be used to tabulate information from a study produced by the United Nations Development Program or the results of DEMOS in the Dominican Republic.
- Column five lists jurisprudence accessible to or produced by national electoral agencies; these agencies are responsible for processing available jurisprudence and developing official positions in each country. It could include appeals filed, motions, and rulings handed down over the past five years.

A complementary activity took place in Chile at the end of March 2004 -- a workshop entitled *Agenda para el fortalecimiento de los partidos políticos en la región andina* (Agenda to strengthen political parties in the Andean Region). Information about this activity can be found in the section on the project for strengthening electoral institutions. The workshop renewed contact between political leaders in Bolivia and Chile, brought them up to date on current research, and proposed dates for “give back the information” meetings in coming months when the research is complete.

2.3.1.2 Method

In each country of the study, national counterparts with extensive experience in the field and in academic work took on the task of visiting libraries, universities, documentation centers, party headquarters and other information storage sites to compile documents related specifically to internal democracy in the country's political parties, preferably over the past five years. Once this information had been collected, it was sent to IIHR-CAPEL, which forwarded it to chief consultant Rotsay Rosales.

The document *Sistematización preliminar de documentos de investigación. Casos: Bolivia, Chile y República Dominicana. Avance de investigación del Proyecto Representación Equitativa y Reforma de Partidos Políticos* can be considered a first progress report. It was agreed that the consultant would prepare an additional document covering the analysis and tabulation of doctrine (not developed broadly in the preliminary analysis).

2.3.1.3 Background / Rationale

The information survey was put together through fieldwork in earlier phases. The current period thus focused more on reassessing the project and refining methodology. Even though IIHR staff were no longer engaged in fieldwork, in practice, local counterparts continued to be active in the field.

IIHR-CAPEL is aware that this issue needs to be considered soberly. As stated earlier, we are still convinced that "… once material has been collected, the decision on methodological design opens an extremely wide spectrum of theoretical, academic, practical and informational possibilities that have very useful applications to the multiplicity of purposes established …."

2.3.1.4 Institution(s) Responsible and Coordination

The consultant Rotsay Rosales is in charge of processing and validating the information in close coordination with the IIHR-CAPEL technical team.

Project leaders in the different countries are: Bolivia, Director of CIDES; Dominican Republic, Director of *Participación Ciudadana*, and Chile, Director and Academic Coordinator of *Participa*.

2.3.1.5 Intermediate Steps

Prepare a methodological plan for processing the information and compiling the first research progress report.

Launch the work of the consultant (Rotsay Rosales, professor in the School of Political Science of the University of Costa Rica).

Coordinate with national counterparts and with the consultant Rotsay Rosales.

Transfer doctrinal information to the pre-established format.

Strategy for doctrinal analysis and verification of initial findings.

2.3.1.6 Results or products

Three complete reports with doctrinal information collected in Bolivia, Chile and the Dominican Republic, including a guide for researchers on how to manage the information.

Preliminary findings contained in the working document *Análisis doctrinal. Institucionalización, democratización y transparencia de los partidos políticos 1999-2004* (attached).

- The information compiled in Chile and Dominican Republic consists mostly of theoretical/doctrinal material and public opinion documents. Considerable public

opinion documents are also available from Bolivia, along with numerous graduation theses.

- All three countries sent in similar volumes of documents. Differences, while small, are mostly topical -- varying proportions of documents addressing each different area or core theme. For example, the topic of "Transparency" has been studied profusely, especially financing of political parties and accountability (even more so in the case of Chile) applying generally to all parties. Extensive information on this topic is also available in the Dominican Republic.
- In general, the specific topic of "internal democratization of parties has not been studied widely in these three countries. As a result, doctrinal material tabulated for core themes associated with this topic consists basically of tangential or secondary coverage and documents whose central focus is something else. Most of the references on this subject address core themes four and five of the project -- election of party authorities and selection of candidates to vie for positions in the general election.
- All three countries have information on "Pluralism" and "Inclusion" (core topics 11 and 8). In the specific case of Chile, most of the documents involve women and the indigenous. The Dominican Republic and Bolivia focus more on the inclusion of young people, and the Dominican Republic also includes material on the production of internal party documents or party figureheads. A major issue in Bolivia is the inclusion of women, and more particularly, the inclusion of ethnic groups.
- In comparative terms, Chile has more public opinion documents on party discipline. More documents on democratization were compiled in the Dominican Republic and Bolivia.
- Institutionalization is probably the topic on which the fewest documents or texts were compiled. The little information that was found refers to the core themes of decision-making mechanisms and formal rules.
- As part of the process of document compilation contracted by IIHR-CAPEL directly in each of the three countries, the project consultant received numerous documents containing internal party rules, regulations and legal structures (by-laws, declarations, etc.). The consult reviewed them all but did not include them in this table because they were tabulated separately in analytical tables on regulations and norms.

2.3.1.7 Impact indicators

"A validated strategy for the strengthening and institutional democratization of political parties"

"More proposals to promote strengthening of internal democracy in political parties"

During this quarter, the project moved ahead in developing methodologies and obtaining findings. A critically important task at this stage was to apply guidelines on processing doctrinal information and classifying it in table form. The resulting table will be used as the basis for organizing and weighing information and articulating key conclusions on democratization of political parties in Chile, Bolivia and Dominican Republic (countries of particular relevance in the Latin American context, all of which held major elections in 2004).

Means of verification:

Working document *Análisis doctrinal. Institucionalización, democratización y transparencia de los partidos políticos 1999-2004* (attached in previously sent spanish version of the reports)

Final report from the workshop *Agenda para el fortalecimiento de los partidos políticos en la región andina* (Chile, 30-31 March 2004)

2.4. LESSONS LEARNED

Methodology: the unfinished portion of the initial methodological structure was completed with the addition of a section on doctrinal analysis. All areas are now covered, and work can begin on preparing the Final Report.

Political: under current political circumstances, there is an urgent need to share the findings of this project with local political figures in the countries covered by the research. The project can thus contribute to the anticipated process of reconfiguring political parties as institutions that are a critical component of representative democracy.

Relationships with counterparts: in this project, IIHR-CAPEL partnered very effectively with local counterparts to address issues of internal democratization and inclusive representation, both of which hold great potential for academic and practical work. This is especially true in view of that fact that the project has opened doors and awakened interest in this field among certain circles of civil society and in the political parties themselves.

Relationships with local USAID offices: USAID is a particularly influential counterpart in the countries studied. The experience with reciprocal work was good in the Dominican Republic and Bolivia; openings still need to be found in Chile.

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