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**Inclusion of a national non-governmental organization in the
Register in conformity with decision 43 (vii) of the
Trade and Development Board**

Community Action of Brazil/Rio de Janeiro-ACB/RJ

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. Community Action of Brazil/Rio de Janeiro-ACB/RJ, a national non-governmental organization, has applied for inclusion in the Register of such bodies provided for under Board decision 43 (VII), sections III and IV.
2. In accordance with Board decision 43 (VII) and further to consultations with the member State concerned, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included ACB/RJ in the Register.
3. Information concerning ACB/RJ is annexed to this note.

Annex

Background information on Community Action of Brazil/Rio de Janeiro-ACB/RJ

History

4. Community Action of Brazil/Rio de Janeiro-ACB/RJ was founded in 1966 by a group of businessmen interested in solving the major social problems Brazil was facing, particularly those jeopardizing the quality of life of people living in shantytowns (slums) and in housing projects. Since its foundation, ACB/RJ has acted in 64 slums and 16 housing projects, always in partnership with local/regional leaders, groups and organizations, developing communitarian and professionalization programmes and projects that have benefited more than 150,000 people.

Aims and objectives

5. ACB/RJ's goals include the following:

- To engage in advocacy, mobilization and strategic actions to defend citizenship rights and help the empowerment of social, economic and culturally excluded people.
- To stimulate, formulate and execute programmes/projects combating social inequality, misery and poverty, and promoting personal and intellectual growth, self-esteem, autonomy, and improved living conditions for people at risk.
- To act at a macro level by providing relevant practical experiences and knowledge leading to a policy-making process aimed at reducing social exclusion, and by participating in solidarity networks that advocate for a better society.

Members

6. ACB/RJ has thousands of individual members. Most of them are from Brazil and are linked to the private sector. Prospective members are recommended by other members and their membership is voted on during the ACB/RJ's General Assemblies, which take place at least twice a year. As the institution's Social Statute requires, there are three categories of affiliated members: honourable (founder) members, contributors (donors) and participants (those involved in the ACB's daily work).

Structure

7. ACB/RJ has three main headquarters: in Rio de Janeiro downtown—Candelaria; in the Cidade Alta City Popular Housing Project, located in the Cordovil district, in Rio de Janeiro's North Zone; and in the JOAO Village in the Mare Slum Complex. Each of these educational centres has a coordination and technical staff consisting of about 90 professionals.

8. The Superintendent and the Technical Team carry out the ABC/RJ's annual plans, social and financial balances, and evaluations. They are assisted by an Advisory Council, an Advisory managing and Executive committee comprising the President, the Vice-presidents and one of the Directors.

Decision Making Board

Advisory Council President: Erling Lorentzen (Norway)
 President: Rudolf Hohn (Brazil)
 Vice-President: Samy Cohn (Brazil)
 Vice-President : Omar Carneiro da Cunha (Brazil)
 Director : Alex Haegler (Brazil)

Senior Executive Staff

Superintendent: Marilia Pastuk (Brazil)

Financial Resources

9. ACB/RJ derives its resources from membership fees and donations.

Financial statement as of 31 December 2001 (in reals*)

	2001	2000
Income		
Contributions and donations	909 116	928 512
Financing	5 682	7 936
Return on investments		11 666
Fiscal tax exemption	129 794	134 921
Sub-total	1 044 592	1 083 035
Expenses		
Salaries and social expenditure	428 048	462 988
General and administrative costs	137 586	194 997
Assistance	467 782	506 762
Financing	1 687	2 759
Sub-total	1 035 103	1 167 506
Surplus (deficit)	<u>9 489</u>	<u>(84 471)</u>

* 1 real = 0.3537 US\$

Relations with other international organizations

10. ACB/RJ has relations with the UN Economic and Social Council through ABONG and the World Bank.

Publications

11. ACB/RJ publishes a newsletter, an evaluation report, and other materials.

Liaison

12. Mr. Rudolf Hohn, the President, and Ms. Marilia Pastuk, the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with UNCTAD.

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Working language

13. The working language of ACB/RJ is English.