

DELEGATION
FOR
FRIENDSHIP
AMONG WOMEN

VISIT TO VENEZUELA

JANUARY 14- 24, 2010



MISSION STATEMENT

The Delegation For Friendship Among Women is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the economic and social empowerment of women around the world. We do this by linking women leaders, primarily in developing countries, to resources and experiences relevant to their issues and needs. We accomplish our mission primarily by engaging in study trips to diverse regions of the world; once back in the United States, our efforts to link women and resources continue. The purpose of each trip is unique, focusing on the concerns of women specific to that country and region.

BACKGROUND

Founded in Minnesota in 1970, the Delegation is distinguished by the diversity of its members who represent every region of the United States and whose backgrounds include business, academia, volunteerism, the professions, science, and the arts. The Delegation is an autonomous, self-funded group that receives briefings and information from the United States Department of State.

Delegates participate in international women's conferences and have met with women leaders in Abu Dhabi, Albania, Argentina, American Samoa, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Java, Kuwait, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Oman, The People's Republic of China, Peru, Poland, Romania, North Korea, South Korea, South Africa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Tonga, Turkey, Russia, Vietnam, Western Samoa, Yemen, and Yugoslavia.

The Delegation is committed to cultural appreciation, friendship, and peaceful coexistence among the many peoples of the world. All involved in the experience are enriched by developing a shared understanding and appreciation of both our differences and our similarities as cultures and as individuals.

The information and experiences of the delegates are formally communicated to professional and civic organizations in the United States, as well as privately to colleagues and friends.

**DELEGATION FOR FRIENDSHIP
AMONG WOMEN**

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ITINERARY

JANUARY 14, 2010, THURSDAY

Arrival in Caracas. Transfer to Hotel Altamira Suites.

7: PM meet in lobby

JANUARY 15, FRIDAY

Morning briefing at the American Embassy. Afternoon city tour, followed by a visit to a neighborhood to see health and educational missions. Evening Delegation meeting.

Lobby 9:15

JANUARY 16, SATURDAY

A visit to the Museum of Fine Arts and an overview of arts with an art historian. Afternoon visit with Jose Antonio Abreu and the El Sistema music program. Evening performance of Symphony Youth Orchestra.

JANUARY 17, SUNDAY

Meeting with Caritas Venezuela that works with poor and marginalized people to promote justice and combat the causes of poverty. Afternoon meeting with the Compassion Capital Fund that provides grants to faith-based organizations which provides social services to low-income families. Evening speaker from the National Endowment for Democracy.

JANUARY 18, MONDAY

Meeting with Union Nacional de Trabajadores, the new labor union formed after the old labor federation supported the coup against Chavez. Evening Meeting to discuss the changes in Venezuela's economy.

JANUARY 19, TUESDAY

Site visit to Banco de la Mujer: an organization that supports women and their livelihood, principally as a women's bank that gives micro credits to poor women. Evening speaker from the Coalition Against Trafficking In Women.

JANUARY 20, WEDNESDAY

Morning visit to Accion, an organization founded in 1961 to address the poverty in the cities, that today is one of the premier microfinance organizations in the world. Afternoon visit to a microenterprise women's business. Evening meeting with lawyer Eva Golinger, author of "The Chavez Code".

JANUARY 21, THURSDAY

Morning meeting at a hospital with a cancer specialist. Lunch on the way to Bartovento. Visit a cooperative chocolate factory. Evening dinner with Luis and Lilliana Perdom, active in the afo-venezuelan network.

JANUARY 22, FRIDAY

Visit Cooperativa Mudebar, a women's sewing cooperative in Bartovento. Afternoon visit to a education program that is similar to a community college, and to a primary school. Evening local cultural activity.

JANUARY 23, SATURDAY

Day excursion to a small village where slaves would go to be safe. Visit a free medical clinic staffed with Cuban doctors. afternoon return to Caracas.

JANUARY 24, SUNDAY

Morning departure for the United States.