The General Comptroller Office goes to School

Program to promote Citizen Participation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

CONTRALORÍA GENERAL DE LA REPÚBLICA BOLIVARIANA DE VENEZUELA
Impact of citizen participation on the new state policy

Citizen Participation

Origin and Foundation


1999 constituent, stated *inter alia* the following:

*....Omissis... with the supreme order to refund the Republic to establish a democratic, participative and protagonist society...Omissis....*
“All citizens have the right to freely participate in public affairs, directly or through their elected representatives.

The participation of people in creating, executing and controlling the public administration is the necessary mean to play a leading role in its full development, both individual and collective. It is the obligation of the State and the duty of society to facilitate the creation of more favorable conditions for their practice”.

Article 62 of C.B.R.V.
The bodies that make up the Fiscal Control National System are going to adopt, in accordance with the Constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Law, the necessary measures to fostering citizen participation in the exercise of control on public administration.

Article 6 of O.L.G.C.R.F.C.N.S.
Citizen participation
Legal Basis

• The Comptroller General of the Republic, by resolution of published Official Gazette of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, shall emit the standards designed to encourage citizen participation, with particular emphasis on the following aspects:

1. Assist community initiatives in the process of citizen participation in fiscal control.

2. Order, direct, organize and evaluate citizens complaints.

3. Establish promotion strategies of citizen participation to assist in the monitoring of fiscal management.

4. Promote citizen control mechanisms on projects of high economical, financial and social impact.

Article 75 of O.L.G.C.R.F.C.N.S.
STANDARDS TO FOSTER CITIZEN PARTICIPATION


Object of the Standards

The current standards are intended to promote the exercise of the right of citizens to participate in the control on public administration through the Citizen Assistance Offices and the bodies of Fiscal Control.

Article 1
Citizen participation
Legal Basis

STANDARDS TO FOSTER CITIZEN PARTICIPATION


Responsibility in Promoting Citizen Participation

Los integrantes del Sistema Nacional de Control Fiscal, contribuirán con la ciudadanía en el ejercicio de su derecho a participar en el control sobre la gestión pública, en el ámbito de sus competencias, manteniendo una actitud flexible y dialogante con la comunidad, respetando los intereses de los ciudadanos afectados por sus decisiones; adaptando el sistema institucional para un mejor aprovechamiento de los aportes de la ciudadanía.

Article 4
The Citizen Participation Program “The General Comptroller Office goes to School”, aims to train and prepare children and teenagers in control and citizen participation, thus educating citizens capable of active participation in society, aware of the actions to undertake to prevent corruption, towards a better governance in Venezuela. In this program education is used as a creative and transforming process.
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Program stages

- Selecting the campus where the program will be implemented.
- Introducing the program to the Educative Community.
- Adults induction (administrative and academic staff and workers).
- NPL Test Application to children.
- Children induction, according to NPL Test results.
- Nomination of children candidates to school comptroller.
- Electoral Campaign.
- School Comptroller Election according to the due process of Venezuelan Electoral National Council.
- Proclamation of the Elected Comptroller.
- Oath of the elected comptrollers.
- Induction talks to the sworn comptroller and his team.
- Induction for Parents and representatives of children comptrollers and their teams.
- Program Monitoring.
- Accountability by children comptrollers.
Selection of schools and visits shall be made to inform them about the implementation of the program “The General Comptroller Office goes to School”, as well as to request the school lists of students, academic and administrative staff and workers.
This program aims to prepare and illustrate adults and children in control and citizen participation. The idea is to educate citizens that actively participate in society and are well aware of the actions that might be undertaken to prevent corruption in view of a better public administration, as well as to promote principles like accountability, honesty, efficiency and effectiveness, based on values like freedom, life, equality, justice, peace, solidarity, common good, law, ethics, political pluralism, human rights, participation and transparency.
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Adults induction (administrative and academic staff, and workers)

*Talks to academic, administrative staff and workers* at the schools where the program shall be implemented, according to the legal aspects that govern this matter, Citizen Participation and Social Control, in order to clarify their roles and responsibilities in the program, and the collaboration to observe in this regard.
In order to take advantage of the natural learning qualities that the children involved in this Program have as human beings, NLP test are applied to direct strategies and proper instruments for disclosing the content of the program to make the teaching-learning process an optimal one for an audience of so special conditions.
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Induction to children according to NLP test results

Talks to all children about Control

- What is the School Comptroller? And how does it work?
- Object of Control by the Program.
- How can they participate?
- What irregularities should be reported? How to make complaints?, and to Whom should they be made?.
- Assistance by the National Electoral Council, to the election of school comptroller.
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Nomination of children candidates to school comptroller

The candidates nomination shall be made within two (02) business days following the expiration of the period for submitting the program.

4th, 5th and 6th grade students of each selected school shall be nominated (Second Phase of Elementary School).

Assistance by the NEC
Electoral Material Processing

Valid and invalid ballots, voters and voting books, and the ballot box will be provided by the governing body of the process.
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Assistance by the NEC
Delivery of the invalid ballots for the campaign

This shall be made with the intention that voters become familiar with the ballot to be used on the election day.

Electoral campaign
During the candidates campaign for school comptroller, every applicant to the position of school comptroller, should present his comptroller management program according to principles and values that seek to promote the program.
Proclamation of the school comptroller and his team, shall be made by the Electoral Committee which shall consist of the members of the Educative Community (Academic and administrative staff, workers and students).
The school comptroller election shall take place on the business day following the last day of the electoral campaign.

¿WHO VOTE?

All academic and administrative staff, and workers, as well as 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students.
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Oath of elected school comptrollers

This event shall take place at the time and location agreed by the fiscal control body responsible for the implementation of the program.
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Induction talks to the sworn comptroller and his team.

How to control?

These talks shall be carried out in order to prepare school comptrollers and their teams about the functions to observe in the school according to the programming and thematic set forth.
In order to prepare parents of the school comptrollers, the fiscal control body responsible for this program shall undertake induction sessions to equip them with tools to address behavioral changes that children might have when performing their obligations.
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Program monitoring

• Tracking the complaints, made by school comptrollers in a bimonthly report.
• Analysis of the delivered reports.
• Take corrective actions regarding problems detected, according to the severity of the findings, even ask for support to other public bodies, if necessary.
At the end of the year of his mandate, each school comptroller shall submit a report of his work, in which there will be summarized, the program of his electoral campaign, versus the outcomes of his tenure.
Towards consolidating citizen participation in Venezuela