

## CANDIDATE PROFILE



**Name:**

MARIA ELENA CRUZ

**Department/Office:**

Secretariat for Legal Affairs

**Education:**

Certificate in Advanced Accounting, USDA Graduate School, Washington, D.C.  
High School Diploma, Bell Multicultural High School, Washington, D.C.

**Experience:**

María Elena joined the OAS in 1999 as an Accounting Technician in the Department of Financial Services. She has been a staff member since 2001. After 10 years in that department she joined the team at the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, where she has been an Administrative Technician since October 2009.

She also served as a volunteer member of the Staff Association's Nominating Committee in 2015.

In addition, she serves as an Elected member of the Staff Committee 2016-2017

**Personal Statement:**

In the years that I've spent at the Organization, I have come to know, value, love, and above all, believe in the OAS, one of the greatest strengths of which is its staff.

It would be a privilege to represent them all, particularly the General Services staff, and to support a permanent dialogue, not only between the Staff Association and Management, but also between the Staff Association and the staff, on the basis of mutual respect and transparency.

I will work tirelessly to protect our well-being and dignity in the workplace, especially in defense of our rights as staff members in times of crisis.