

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

AMBASSADOR JOÃO CLEMENTE BAENA SOARES

Ambassador João Clemente Baena Soares was elected Secretary-General of the Organization of American States (OAS) at the special session of the General Assembly held in Washington, D.C., on June 12, 1984. He took office on June 20 of that year for a five-year term. On November 14, 1988, the Eighteenth Regular Session of the General Assembly held in San Salvador, El Salvador, reelected Ambassador Baena Soares for a second five-year term (1989-1994).

Prior to his election to the OAS, Ambassador Baena Soares was Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil. He was also Special Secretary for Political and Economic Matters (1977-1979) and Chief of the Department of International Organizations (1974-1977).

Born in Belém do Pará, Brazil, on May 14, 1931, Ambassador Baena Soares graduated from the Instituto Rio Branco and holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (1953). In 1962 he carried out studies for a doctorate in public law at the National Law School of Rio de Janeiro.

Ambassador Baena Soares is married to Glaucia de Lima Baena Soares and has three children.