INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

THIRD MEETING OF MINISTERS OR OF THE
HIGHEST-RANKING AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN
THE MEMBER STATES (REMIM-III)
November 13, 2008
Santiago, Chile

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DRAFT RESOLUTION

PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS
AND GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY

THE THIRD MEETING OF MINISTERS OR OF THE HIGHEST-RANKING AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE MEMBER STATES,

HAVING SEEN the report presented by the Secretary General to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) (CP/doc.4298/08), which concludes that in 2007 only 17 of the 43 areas or departments of the General Secretariat and two of its 28 national offices reported on integration of the gender perspective into their annual activities, which indicates that a fully satisfactory level of compliance has not been reached;

BEARING IN MIND:

That, through the adoption of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) [AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)], the governments of the Hemisphere committed to developing decisive strategies to integrate a gender perspective in all spheres of public life as a way of attaining the ultimate goal of promoting and protecting women's human rights and gender equity and equality, and achieving equality of rights and opportunities between women and men;

That international forums such as the Summits of the Americas, the Special Conference on Security, held in Mexico, and the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Bolivia, have reiterated the mandate to promote gender equity and equality in all areas; and

That this year marks the eighth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, through resolution AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), of June 2000;

CONSIDERING:

The mandate emerging from the aforementioned resolution for the OAS to facilitate the integration of a gender perspective into all the work of its organs, agencies, and entities, and to provide support to governments in the systematic compilation and dissemination of statistical data disaggregated by sex;

OAS General Assembly resolutions AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2192 (XXXVI-O/06), AG/RES. 2324 (XXXVII-O/07), and AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08), which took note of the reports presented by the Secretary General on compliance with the IAP, and, as reflected in those reports, of the results of the actions taken in this respect by the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the contribution of the Government of Canada to the project titled " … ," designed to promote gender mainstreaming in the OAS General Secretariat and in the ministries of labor of the countries of the Hemisphere; and

NOTING ALSO:

That since the adoption of the IAP, the OAS has made significant efforts, facilitating the integration of a gender perspective in all work of its organs, agencies, and entities. However, such a perspective has yet to be fully integrated in all areas addressed by those organs, agencies, and entities, especially those assigned to the General Secretariat; and

The need for the OAS General Secretariat to step up efforts to ensure that a gender perspective has been integrated into the activities carried out by all of its areas or departments and its national offices,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the seventh report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), presented in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2324 (XXXVII-O/07).

3. To celebrate the mandate assigned to the OAS Permanent Council by the OAS General Assembly at its last regular session to continue its efforts to integrate a gender perspective into its resolutions, activities, and initiatives, and to hold a meeting, in the first half of 2009, with the participation of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, to exchange best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the IAP;

4. To urge the member states of the CIM to:

a. Participate in the above-mentioned special meeting of the Permanent Council, especially by sharing best practices and lessons learned regarding the differentiated impact on girls and women, including young women, of labor and social policies that may contribute to eliminating workplace

discrimination against them and to increasing their full and equal access to decent, dignified, and productive work;

b. Continue their efforts to develop public policies and strengthen institutional mechanisms for the advancement of girls and women, including young women, that promote respect for their human rights and gender equity and equality, including equal opportunity for women and men at all levels;

c. Begin or continue, as appropriate, to compile statistics and analyze data disaggregated by sex and race in all sectors, so as to better understand and address the differentiated impact of policies, programs, and projects on specific populations, among them girls and women, including young women; and

d) Step up their efforts for full implementation of the mandates of the Fourth Summit of the Americas by developing support programs that take into account the differentiated impact of labor and social policies on young people, women, and men and that can contribute to eliminating discrimination against women, including young women, in the workplace and to increasing their full and equal access to decent, dignified, and productive work.

5. To thank the Government of Canada for its contribution to the project titled " … ," and to invite the member states of the CIM to participate actively in its execution.

6. To urge the Secretary General to:

a) To step up his efforts, with support and advice from the CIM, to promote the IAP and implement it fully so as to achieve by 2010, or earlier, the integration of a gender perspective in at least 70% of the programs, actions, and policies of the Organization of American States;

b) Continue requesting and urging the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to include in their annual reports to the OAS General Assembly initiatives to integrate a gender perspective into their policies, programs, projects, and activities; and to forward that information to the CIM for inclusion in the annual report to the OAS that it prepares each year;

c) Support the CIM and participate actively in the implementation of the OAS Gender Analysis Training Program, financed by the Government of Canada;

d) Present to the Fourth Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States a report on the implementation of this resolution.

7. To request the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM to:

   a. Prepare and present to the Fourth Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States a preliminary document containing a proposal to establish a measurement mechanism and disaggregated statistical data that facilitate the follow-up of the programs and actions of all OAS organs, agencies, and entities.

   b. Report to the Fourth Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the CIM and other resources.