

PERMANENT COUNCIL



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This document is being distributed to the permanent missions and will be presented to the Permanent Council of the Organization.

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL

March 1, 2005

Excellency:

I have the honor to address Your Excellency to transmit to you, pursuant to Article 35 of the Rules of Procedure of the Permanent Council and Articles 91.f and 126 of the Charter of the Organization, the Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to the General Assembly, for the period from March 2004 to February 2005.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

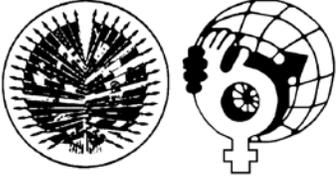
Luigi R. Einaudi
Acting Secretary General

His Excellency
Ambassador Manuel Cáceres Cardozo
Permanent Representative of Paraguay
to the Organization of American States
Chair of the Permanent Council
Washington, D.C.

Attachment

CIM

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN



No.02-015/05

February 28, 2005

Dear Acting Secretary General:

Pursuant to Article 91.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States, I am pleased to send you the documents listed below, to be transmitted to the Chair of the Permanent Council.

1. Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to the General Assembly, for the period from March 1, 2004 to February 28, 2005.
2. Draft resolution on Strengthening of the CIM.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carmen Lomellin".

Carmen Lomellin
Executive Secretary

Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi
Acting Secretary General
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

Attachment

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AT ITS THIRTY-FIFTH REGULAR SESSION**

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INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of Articles 91.f and 126 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) presents its annual report to the Permanent Council, so that the Council may then submit it with any observations and recommendations it deems appropriate to the Thirty-fifth Regular Session of the General Assembly.

This report summarizes the activities carried out by the CIM from March 1, 2004 to February 28, 2005. During this reporting period, the CIM worked intensively to bring about the adoption of a follow up mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará. It also organized the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States – REMIM II. Finally, work continued to implement the Inter-American Program on Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and to develop Phase II of the project on trafficking in persons.

Nilcéa Freire
President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During this reporting period, the CIM implemented the Biennial Work Programs approved by its 31st and 32nd Assemblies of Delegates, as well as the mandates received from the OAS General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas. :

- **Human Rights of Women and Elimination of Violence.** The most significant accomplishment in this area was the adoption of the **Statute of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention of Belém do Pará** at the Meeting of States Party held on October 26, 2004. The CIM carried out the preparatory process for this and will be the Secretariat of the Mechanism.

- **Trafficking of Women, Adolescents and Children in the Americas for Sexual Exploitation.** As a result of CIM's work on this issue, an Anti-Trafficking unit has been established at CIM. Field work continues in Bolivia, Mexico, and the Caribbean, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In addition to capacity-building activities in the Hemisphere, research is being carried out in Japan and Germany.

- **Integration of the Gender Perspective in Ministerial Meetings.** Recommendations on integrating a gender-perspective into science and technology programs and policies were developed and presented to the First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities in Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI-OAS. These were adopted as a component of the hemispheric initiatives of its Plan of Action. In the area of Gender and Justice, (SEPIA II), as a result of a specific proposal by the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States – REMIM II, the V Meeting of Ministers of Justice and of Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA V), included chapters addressing violence against women, trafficking in persons, and gender and justice in their final conclusions and recommendation.

- **Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States – REMIM II.** The Second Women's Ministerial, convened by the OAS General Assembly and organized by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), was held in Washington, D.C. on April 21- 23, 2004. The central issue addressed by the Ministerial was "*Women, Free Trade, and Economic Empowerment.*" A Declaration and five Resolutions were adopted on the following issues: "*Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,*" "*Women, Trade and Economic Empowerment,*" "*Violence against Women,*" "*Recommendations "to the V Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorney Generals of the Americas (REMJA V),"*" and "*Strengthening of the CIM.*"

- **XXXII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM.** The XXXII Assembly was held in Washington DC, from October 27-29, 2004. The Executive Committee for 2004-2006 was elected and nine Resolutions and two declarations were adopted. Mandates included were: *Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of the Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality; Recommended Actions on Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women, Adolescents and Children; Strengthening Relations with Civil Society Organizations; and Actions to Follow-up to the Convention of Belém do Pará.*

I. ORIGIN, LEGAL BASIS, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECTIVES

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) was established at the Sixth International Conference of American States (Havana, 1928) to prepare "juridical information and data of any other kind which may be deemed advisable to enable the Seventh International Conference of American States to take up the consideration of the civil and political equality of women in the continent."

The Ninth International Conference of American States (Bogotá, 1948) approved the first Statute of the Commission, which consolidated its structure and authorized the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) to establish the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM.

In 1953, the Commission signed an agreement with the OAS Permanent Council under which the CIM was recognized as a specialized Inter-American organization with permanent status and technical autonomy in the pursuit of its objectives.

The Tenth Inter-American Conference (Caracas, 1954) amended the CIM's Statute and confirmed it as a specialized organization with permanent status. It also expanded its powers and authorized it to amend its own Statute in the future.

Subsequently, in 1978, in accordance with Article 134 of the OAS Charter and the Standards for the Implementation and Coordination of the Provisions of the Charter Relating to the Inter-American Specialized Organizations, a new agreement between the Inter-American Commission of Women and the Organization of American States was signed.

The purpose of the Commission is to promote and protect the rights of women, and to support Member States in their efforts to ensure full access to civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, so that women and men may participate on an equal footing in all spheres of society, enjoy fully and equally the benefits of development, and share responsibility for the future.

The CIM fulfills its objectives through the following organs: the Assembly of Delegates; the Executive Committee, composed of the president, vice president, and five member countries, all elected by the Assembly; the delegates appointed by governments; the national committees of cooperation, chaired by the principal delegates, who perform the Commission's function on the national level; and the Permanent Secretariat, which performs the Commission's administrative, technical, and executive functions. The Assembly of Delegates is the supreme authority of the CIM, and its resolutions, together with those of the OAS General Assembly, set the guidelines for the work of the CIM.

The CIM Statute authorizes governments with a permanent observer accredited to the OAS to have permanent observer status with the Inter-American Commission of Women as well.

II. MANDATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The following OAS General Assembly resolutions have an ongoing impact on the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women:

- AG/RES. 587 (XII-O/82), "Day of the Women of the Americas," which declared February 18th as the DAY OF THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS in commemoration of the date in 1928 when the Inter-American Commission of Women was created in Havana, Cuba. Since 1983, the CIM has carried out different commemorative activities both at its headquarters and in Member States.

- AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), "Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000," which established that the Secretary General would present biennial reports to the General Assembly on the status of compliance with this resolution, explaining how the various areas of the General Secretariat had cooperated toward that end.

The Secretary General's last biennial report on compliance with this resolution was presented at the thirtieth regular session of the OAS General Assembly (2000). Resolution AG/RES. 1729/00 (XXX-O/00), "Seventh Biennial Report of the Secretary General on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), 'Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000'" takes note of this last biennial report; urges the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to continue working to achieve full and equal participation of women in development and in the decision-making process, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women; and instructs the Secretary General of the OAS to increase his efforts to guarantee equal opportunity for women's access to senior executive positions in the OAS, taking into account the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.

- AG/DEC. 1 (XX-E/94), "Commitment on a Partnership for Development and Struggle to Overcome Extreme Poverty," and AG/RES. 1 (XX-E/94), "General Policy Framework and Priorities: Partnership for Development," which defined the new concept and practice of partnership for development that the OAS would henceforth implement; it also defined the cooperation priorities of the OAS system: among them, to promote greater participation by women and underprivileged groups in political and civic affairs, in full exercise of their rights, and the eradication of extreme poverty.

- AG/RES. 1257 (XXIV-O/94), "Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará,'" by which the Convention was adopted, and which marked the achievement of one of the Commission's principal goals. The Convention came into effect on March 5, 1995. As of this writing, 31 countries have ratified it.

The following resolutions follow up on implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará:

- AG/RES. 1432 (XXVI-O/96), "Status of Women in the Americas," which urged Member States that had not yet done so to sign and ratify the Convention of *Belém do Pará*. It recommended that Member States strengthen existing measures or, if appropriate, create new ones for the advancement of women. It further recommended that they take gender analysis into account when developing and executing public policy. It urged the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) to consider the gender perspective in the formulation and execution of development projects; and reiterated the importance of implementing the Strategic Plan of Action of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

- AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará,'" which instructed the CIM Permanent Secretariat to report biennially to the OAS General Assembly on the progress made in its application and on the experiences and results achieved through initiatives and programs pursued in the Member States to counter violence against women. It further encouraged Member States to take appropriate measures to modify any legislation of a discriminatory nature in their legal systems.

- Through resolution AG/RES. 1626 (XXIX-O/99), the General Assembly received the "First Biennial Report to the General Assembly on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará.'"

- AG/RES. 1740 (XXX-O/00), "Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará,'" which urged the governments of those Member States of the Organization of American States that had not already done so to ratify or accede to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará," and encouraged them to continue promoting measures to eradicate violence against women in all its forms, in the public and private arenas, in keeping with the objectives established in the Strategic Plan of Action of the Inter-American Commission of Women, in the plans of action of the First and Second Summits of the Americas, and in the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.

- Through resolution AG/RES. 1768 (XXXI-O/01), the General Assembly received the "Second Biennial Report to the General Assembly on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará.'" The resolution took note of the progress made, encouraged governments that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention, and urged the CIM and Member States to continue to develop strategies to attain the objectives of this Convention, and to publish the results in the next CIM follow-up report.

- Through resolution AG/RES 1942 (XXXII-O/03), The General Assembly received the "Third Biennial Report on the Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention of the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém Do Pará'" which requests that the General Secretariat provides the necessary support for a meeting of experts, to consider recommendations as to the most appropriate manner to follow up on the "Convention of Belém Do Pará," pursuant to CIM/RES. 224 (XXI-O/02), and to convene, in coordination with the CIM, a conference of states party to the Convention, to decide on follow up to the Convention, with the participation of those states not parties to the Convention and of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to decide on the follow up of this instrument. Finally, the resolution encourages States that have not ratified the Convention to consider ratifying or acceding to the convention.

- AG/RES. 2012 (XXXIV-O/04), Violence Against Women Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Violence Against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará”, which encourages the Member States that have not done so to ratify the Convention of *Belém do Pará* and urges all OAS states to participate actively in the drafting of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention. It further suggests that States Party to the Convention set the XXXII CIM Assembly of Delegates as the deadline to adopt a decision on the recommendations of the meeting of experts on the adoption of a follow-up mechanism to the Convention of *Belém do Pará*. Lastly, it requests the CIM Permanent Secretariat to include a special section on compliance with this resolution in the biennial report on violence that will be presented next year to the General Assembly [AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97)].
- AG/RES. 1422 (XXVI-O/96), "Cooperation within the Inter-American System to Ensure Full and Equal Participation by Women in the Development Process," which invited the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to work in cooperation with the CIM by designing joint action programs within their respective spheres. Moreover, it requested that the Secretary General establish the necessary mechanisms required to ensure coordination on women's issues between the different areas of the General Secretariat and the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM, as necessary.
- AG/DEC. 18 (XXVIII-O/98), "Declaration on Equal Rights and Opportunity for Women and Men and Gender Equity in Inter-American Legal Instruments," which declared that all inter-American legal instruments relating to the rights of individuals be applied by the Member States of the OAS as well as by its organs, specialized agencies, and departments, so as to ensure equality of women and men before the law, equal opportunity for women and men, and gender equity. It called upon the Member States to take concrete steps to promote equality of women and men before the law, equal opportunity for men and women, and gender equity, and further recommended that any relevant inter-American instruments adopted in the future on the rights of individuals expressly ensure the equality of women and men before the law, equal opportunity for men and women, and gender equity.
- AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), "Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization," which requested the Permanent Council to consider the possibility of examining these reports with the assistance of the technical areas of the General Secretariat. It instructed the General Secretariat to make every possible effort to improve the financial status of the organs, agencies, and entities, and in particular, the Inter-American Commission of Women, within the allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources.
- AG/RES. 1635 (XXIX-O/99), “American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man,” which extended the mandate given to the Permanent Council in resolution AG/RES. 1591 (XXVIII-O/98) to study and propose, if appropriate, changing the title “American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man” to “American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Persons,” or any other agreed term, and replacing the word “man” in the text with “person,” or any other agreed term, where appropriate. It requested the Permanent Council to report on the fulfillment of this mandate to the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session.

- AG/RES. 1707 (XXX-O/00), "The Organization of American States and Civil Society," which instructed the General Secretariat to continue to take the necessary steps for the implementation and dissemination of the Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in OAS Activities, and reiterated the mandates assigned to the General Secretariat in resolution AG/RES. 1668 (XXIX-O/99). It also instructed the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly session on CSO participation and on the implementation of that resolution at its next regular session.

- AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), "Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," in which the General Assembly adopted that instrument and instructed the CIM to serve as the organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of said Program and the actions taken by the CIM to implement it. It urged the OAS General Secretariat to see that the gender perspective was included in all work, projects, and programs of the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, in fulfillment of the Program. It instructed the Permanent Council to propose to the OAS General Assembly, at its thirty-first regular session, the allocation of technical, human, and financial resources, within the program-budget of the Organization, so that both the General Secretariat and the CIM could implement this Program. Moreover, it requested that the General Secretariat allot the human and financial resources in the program budget for 2001 needed to implement both this Program and resolution AG/RES 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women." It further urged the organs of the OAS and specialized organizations of the inter-American system to provide the support necessary to implement the Inter-American Program.

- AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00), "Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas," which requested that the Member States in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) take concrete action to integrate a gender perspective as a cross-cutting theme in the Proposed Political Declaration and Plan of Action for the Third Summit of the Americas. It requested that the SIRG consider including a specific section related to women's issues within the area of "democracy and human rights." It recommended that the Meetings of Ministers or of the Highest-ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States be held every four years in order to contribute to the preparatory and follow-up activities of the Summits of the Americas. It further encouraged the governments to consider the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission of Women in the process of preparing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, and requested that the CIM prepare recommendations and provide technical support for this purpose. It instructed the General Secretariat and the CIM to transmit this resolution to all the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to ensure that they would take it into account in the preparation and implementation of their work plans and programs. It instructed the OAS General Secretariat to allocate the necessary resources to the CIM for the implementation of these mandates, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

- AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), "Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," which received the first report on the implementation and promotion of the Inter-American Program; reaffirmed the commitment of the governments to integrate a gender perspective into their national programs and policies; and urged the Secretary General to continue his efforts to implement the objectives of the Inter-American Program and promote the integration of a gender perspective in the Organization's

activities, policies, programs, projects, and agendas. It instructed the Secretary General and the Permanent Council to assign to the Inter-American Commission of Women, in the program-budget for 2002, the human and financial resources needed for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program and of actions taken to implement it; it further requested voluntary contributions to accelerate its implementation. It requested that the Secretary General report to the General Assembly, at its thirty-second regular session, on activities undertaken by all organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS to implement the Inter-American Program and to present pertinent recommendations.

- AG/RES. 1847 (XXXII-O/02), "Support for and Follow-up to the Summits of the Americas Process," which instructed the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to continue to give top priority to carrying out the initiatives assigned to them by the General Assembly, pursuant to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, and to report regularly to the Special Committee in this regard.

- AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), "Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," which received the second report on the implementation and promotion of the Inter-American Program; reaffirmed the governments' commitment to integrate a gender perspective into their national programs and policies, and instructs the Secretary General and the Permanent Council to: 1) continue allocating to the CIM, in the program-budget for 2003, the human and financial resources it needs to act as an organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program; 2) assign, from the 2003 Budget, the funds needed to hold meetings to follow up on the Program, including the ad hoc inter-Institutional Forum on Gender Equality; and 3) take into account, in the budget to be approved in 2004, the second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States, which should be convened in April 2004. It also requests the Secretary General to 1) instruct the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, through the appropriate channels, to include in their reports to the General Assembly an account of the measures taken to implement the Inter-American Program and 2) report to the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly on the implementation of this program.

- AG/RES. 1872 (XXXII-O/02), "Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS," which urged the Secretary General to reaffirm the urgent goal that women occupy 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 level and above by the year 2005; to appoint qualified women as representatives and special envoys; and to actively seek and support the nomination, election, or appointment of qualified women to all vacant positions in the OAS. It also requested that he continue his work to establish policies of gender equality in the workplace, monitor closely the progress made by OAS organs, agencies, and entities in meeting the goal, and report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-third regular session. The resolution also urged all Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the President of the CIM by identifying, and regularly submitting, through their permanent missions to the OAS, the most highly-qualified women candidates to occupy positions of trust within the OAS and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions, which will have been widely publicized in all Member States.

- AG/RES. 1883 (XXXII-O/02), "Observations and recommendations on the annual reports of the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization," which instruct the OAS organs,

agencies, and entities to include in their reports to the General Assembly a detailed account of the measures taken to implement the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and to mainstream the gender perspective into their programs, projects, and activities.

- AG/RES 1915 (XXXIII-O/03), "Increasing and Strengthening Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities," which endorses the Strategies for Increasing the Participation of Civil Society in OAS Activities approved by the Permanent Council [CP/RES 840 (1361/03)] and urges the General Secretariat, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), the Permanent Council and all other organs of the OAS to facilitate this process. It establishes that the informal dialogue between heads of delegations and civil society representatives be included as a regular activity in the draft schedule of the regular sessions of the OAS General Assembly. It recommends that the Permanent Council create a specific fund entitled the "Fund for Civil Society Participation," to support the participation of civil society organizations in OAS activities and urges Member States, permanent observers, and others to donate.

- AG/RES 1930 (XXXII-O/03), "Prevention of Racism and all Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance and Consideration of the Preparation of a Draft Inter-American Convention," which requests that the Justice Studies Centers of the Americas (JSCA) do a study on the experience of Member States and their methods for dealing with cases of racism, discrimination, xenophobia, and intolerance considered in the justice systems, focusing on the extent to which race, nationality, creed, sex, or social condition can be the basis of discrimination in the administration of justice. It also requests that the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights conduct a study on the laws that the Member States have that promote equality and affirmative action.

- AG/RES 1941 (XXXII-O/03), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," which reaffirms the support of the Member States for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating policy on gender equity, equality and women's human rights within the hemisphere. It also supports the efforts by CIM to follow up on and implement the Inter-American Program and the implementation of activities and programs to integrate a gender perspective into the results of ministerial meetings on labor, justice and education. It also requests that CIDI follow up on its plan to develop the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development 2002-2005 regarding an integration of a gender perspective into its program. In addition, it calls the Secretary General to convene the Second Meeting of Ministers or the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States in April 2004, and encourages CIM to continue developing the topic of "Women, Free Trade, and Economic Integration" as the primary focus of the meeting. Lastly, it calls the Permanent Council to consider augmenting CIM's budget in order to assist carrying out its mandate.

- AG/RES. 1948 (XXXII-O/03), "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women, Adolescents, and Children," which urges all Member States to adopt measures to implement the CIM resolution entitled "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children" [CIM/RES 225/02 (XXXI-O/02)]. It also requests the sharing of information and best practices amongst Member States in combating trafficking, as well as proposes the expansion of research to other Member States in order to gauge the presence of trafficking. Finally, the resolution instructs the Secretary General to appoint an "OAS Coordinator on the Issue of

Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children,” to be housed in the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM.

- AG/RES. 1954 (XXXII-O/03), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS.” which urges the Secretary General to redouble efforts to reach the urgent goal that women occupy 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 level and above by the year 2005; to appoint qualified women as representatives and special envoys; and to take into account the objective of gender balance and the criterion of geographic distribution when filling vacancies in the OAS, especially positions of higher authority. It also requests that he continue to make gender equity and equality one of the priorities in his efforts to establish a new institutional culture in the OAS and monitor closely the progress made by OAS organs, agencies, and entities in meeting the goal, and report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth regular session. The resolution also urges all Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the President of the CIM by identifying, and regularly submitting, through their permanent missions to the OAS, the most highly-qualified women candidates to occupy positions of trust within the OAS and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions, which will have been widely publicized in all Member States. It calls on OAS organs, agencies and entities to meet the goal of 2005 and continue to accelerate the recruitment of qualified women, to include the objective of improving gender balance in their actions plans and to encourage that specific activities be undertaken to address gender issues within the workplace, as one of the follow-up actions to the Gender Mainstreaming Project.

- AG/RES. 1977 (XXXIV-O/04), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS”, which urges the Secretary General to ensure that women occupy 50% of posts at each grade level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 grade level and above, by 2005, in order to achieve gender balance at all levels in the OAS. It additionally urges the appointment of qualified women as representatives and special envoys to represent the Secretary General in matters relating to all areas and sectors. It requests the Secretary General to take this resolution into account while preparing his “Restructuring Plan.” It additionally encourages Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and the CIM by regularly submitting the candidacies of the most highly-qualified women to occupy positions of trust within the OAS

- AG/RES. 2011 (XXXIV-O/04), “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,” which entrusts the Secretariat for the Summit Process to work in coordination with the CIM to ensure that the objectives of the Inter-American Program are included in the preparatory meetings for the Fourth Summit of the Americas, as well as the Inter-American ministerial meetings, in order to ensure that a gender perspective is included in the agendas, working papers, strategies, themes and outcomes, and that gender is recognized as an integral component of all proposed policies, programs, and initiatives. It further urges the Member States to continue to support civil society participation and collaboration in all OAS activities before the Fourth Summit of the Americas, and asks for the Member States’ financial support for institutions and mechanisms that encourage a gender perspective.

- AG/RES. 2019 (XXXIV-O/04), “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children,” reiterates the request to the Member States to consider signing and ratifying, or acceding to, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially

Women and Children. It also urges the Member States to take the measures necessary to implement the recommendations emanating from the resolution "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children" [CIM/RES. 225/02 (XXXI-O/02)]. It further welcomes the recommendation of the Fifth Meeting of Ministers of Justice to hold a meeting of national authorities, with the participation of the CIM, the IIN, the United Nations, the IOM, and other related international organizations, for the purpose of studying cooperation mechanisms among the States to ensure protection of and assistance to the victims, prevention of the crime, and the prosecution of its perpetrators of human trafficking. Lastly, it instructs the OAS Secretary General to appoint a Trafficking in Persons Coordinator as mentioned in AG/RES. 1948 (XXXIII-O/03). The Secretary General, in conjunction with the trafficking coordinator is requested to present a report each year to the Permanent Council on the activities being carried out by the various OAS organs to address the issue of trafficking in persons.

- AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), "Strengthening of the CIM", encourages the Secretary General to provide sufficient human and financial resources to the CIM, and invites Member States as well as the permanent observers, individuals, and public, private, national, or international organizations that wish to do so, to make voluntary contributions to fund CIM's projects and programs.

- AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality", reaffirms the support for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy on gender equity and equality and the promotion of women's human rights. It also urges the Secretary General to continue to give the IAP his full support, with special emphasis on the priorities set by the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-II). The resolution additionally supports CIM's efforts to integrate and implement activities and programs for integrating a gender perspective into the results of ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, and science and technology. Finally, it urges the Member States and the Permanent Council, to promote the advancement of women as well as take into consideration of the recommendations of REMIM II.

- AG/RES. 2051 (XXXIV-O/04), "Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Smuggling of, and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere." urges the Member States to consider the signature and ratification of, or accession to the international instruments relating to the fight against commercial sexual exploitation of children and against trafficking in children in the Hemisphere. It also requests the CIM to present to the Permanent Council, before December 31, 2004, a study on trafficking in children for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation in the Hemisphere. Additionally it asks the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to present studies relating to the commercial sexual exploitation, smuggling of, and trafficking of children to the Permanent Council.

III. MANDATES OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE CIM

A. The Assembly of Delegates

The Biennial Assembly of Delegates, the highest decision-making organ of the CIM, regularly meets every two years. The Thirty-First Assembly of Delegates was held in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic on October 30-31, 2002. Its mandates were implemented during this reporting period.

The Thirty-Second Assembly of Delegates held in Washington DC, from October 27 to October 29, 2004, adopted the following Resolutions which are being executed. Their full implementation will be reflected in the next reporting period.

- CIM/RES. 229 (XXXII-O/04) Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará
- CIM/RES. 230 (XXXII-O/04) Gender and Access to Decent Work to Address Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance
- CIM/RES. 231 (XXXII-O/04) Promoting the Role of Women in Conflict Prevention, Management and Conflict Resolution and Post-Conflict Peace Building
- CIM/RES. 232 (XXXII-O/04) Integration of a Gender Perspective into Hemispheric Policies and in the Summit of the Americas
- CIM/RES. 233 (XXXII-O/04) Biennial Work Program of the CIM 2004-2006: Program Guidelines
- CIM/RES. 234 (XXXII-O/04) Meetings of the Executive Committee for the Period 2004-2006
- CIM/RES. 235 (XXXII-O/04) Venue and Date of the Thirty-Third Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women
- CIM/RES. 236 (XXXII-O/04) Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents and Children
- CIM/DEC. 02 (XXXII-O/04) Declaration on the Adoption of the Statute of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará"
- CIM/DEC. 03 (XXXII-O/04) Declaration on the Impact of the Proposed Restructuring of the Organization of American States

B. The Executive Committee

Meetings of the Executive Committee held during this reporting period:

DATE	MEETING	PLACE
July 22-23, 2004	Fifth Regular Session of the 2002-2004 Executive Committee	Washington DC

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

A. Implementation of the 2002-2004 and 2004-2006 Biennial Work Plans

During this reporting period, the CIM continued developing its 2002-2004 Work Plan and began implementing the 2004-2006 Work Plan adopted by the XXXII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM. Mandates of the OAS General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas were also executed.

The priorities were: 1) Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality; 2) Development of the CIM Strategic Plan of Action in four priority areas: the Human Rights of Women and the Elimination of Violence against Women; the Participation of Women in Power and Decision-making Structures; Education and the Eradication of Poverty; and 3) Fulfillment of the Mandates of the Summits of the Americas.

1. Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)

The CIM is responsible for monitoring, coordinating and evaluating the implementation of this Program, in coordination with national mechanisms for the advancement of women. Through Resolution AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," the XXXIV Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly expressed its support for the efforts of CIM to carry out and follow up on the Inter-American Program and to implement activities and programs to mainstream gender into ministerial agendas. This resolution also supports the CIM's efforts to coordinate the first meeting of the Inter-Institutional Forum on Gender Equity and Equality to strengthen partnerships among international and regional agencies for implementation of the IAP.

During this period, the CIM's activities included providing technical assistance for carrying out the special session of the Permanent Council on the Implementation of the IAP, and organizing the **Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States – REMIM II**, which addressed, among other issues, implementation of the IAP in the Member States.

a. Integration of the Gender Perspective in Ministerial Meetings

To comply with the IAP mandate to "ensure that a gender perspective is consistently mainstreamed into the preparation and application of international instruments, mechanisms, and procedures within the framework of the OAS, and particularly on the agendas of ministerial-level meetings," the CIM instituted a process to integrate the gender perspective into Ministerial agendas. Entitled **SEPIA**,¹ the process has enabled the CIM to work with civil society experts, governments and other regional and international organizations, to present gender mainstreaming recommendations to Ministerial Meetings and subsequently, to develop specific lines of action for implementing and follow up on the recommendations. The SEPIA process has been applied in the areas of Labor (SEPIA I), Justice (SEPIA II), Education (SEPIA III) and Science and Technology (SEPIA IV).

1. Spanish language acronym for 'follow up to the Inter-American Program'

SEPIA I – Gender and Labor: Following up on the SEPIA I process begun at the XII Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Labor (XII IACML-2001), the CIM continues to participate in the Working Group Meetings of the Labor Ministerials. In May 2004, the CIM Executive Secretary presented the results of the **Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM II)** to a Working Group meeting of the XIII IAML. She referred in detail to the REMIM resolution on “Women, Trade, and Economic Empowerment,” pointing out the labor conditions that affect women in particular, as for example in the *maquiladora* and rural sectors.

SEPIA II – Gender and Justice: In order to further the SEPIA II process, the **Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM II)** drafted specific recommendations on gender and justice, which were presented by the CIM Executive Secretary to the V Meeting of Ministers of Justice and of Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA V), also held in April 2004. As a result of this direct communication among Ministers, the conclusions and recommendations of REMJA V contain, for the first time ever, specific chapters addressing the issues of violence against women, trafficking in persons, and gender and justice.

SEPIA III- Gender and Education. As a follow up to the SEPIA III recommendations, the Member States presented to the REMIM II, reports on best practices implemented in their countries to integrate a gender perspective in education. This information was summarized and presented to the Assembly of Delegates, to disseminate and share the advances achieved in this area.

SEPIA IV- Gender and Science and Technology: With the technical support of the CIM, the OAS Office of Education, Science and Technology (OEST) has taken the lead in this initiative. In August 2004, the OEST, the CIM, and the Gender Advisory Board of the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development, co-sponsored a meeting of experts on Gender and Science and Technology to draft recommendations on mainstreaming gender in science and technology policies and programs in the Americas. Participants at this meeting included representatives of several national councils of science and technology, universities, civil society and international organizations, including ECLAC, UNESCO, and PAHO. The resulting document, **Recommendations for Integrating a Gender Perspective in Science and Technology Policies and Programs in the Americas**, was considered and approved by the Second Preparatory Meeting for the Science and Technology Ministerial, held in September 2004 in Washington D.C. It was adopted in full at the *First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities in Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI-OAS*, held in November, 2004 in Lima, as one of the hemispheric initiatives of the Plan of Action. The SEPIA IV meeting to develop specific lines of action for implementing these recommendations will be held in 2005.

b. Integration of a gender perspective within the OAS

The gender training project within the OAS, completed in 2004, has been of great practical utility in the work of OAS staff members. Participants to the training were invited to attend REMIM II to obtain information on activities in the Member States.

Presently, the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM is working with the Information Technology unit and CIDA Canada to update the website. In addition, CIDA, Canada is providing funding to CIM to continue gender training for OAS staff.

2. Strategic Plan of Action

a. Human Rights of Women and the Elimination of Violence against Women

i. Follow-up on Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará

The CIM continues to promote the ratification and implementation of the Convention of *Belém do Pará* by all OAS Member States. To date, thirty-one of the thirty-four Member States have ratified it.

During this reporting period, the CIM centered its work on the preparatory process for the adoption of a **Follow-up Mechanism** to the Convention that would facilitate a systematic evaluation of its implementation. The CIM drafted a proposal for the Mechanism that was presented for review and observations by the Member States, as well as by regional and international agencies, and civil society. In July, 2004, a meeting of experts was convoked, which analyzed and approved the draft Statute of the Follow-up Mechanism. This draft Statute was presented to the Member States and through them, to civil society and multilateral agencies for their observations. In October 2004, in coordination with the CIM, the OAS Secretary General convened a Conference of States Party to the Convention, to adopt the *Statute of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará."* Participants at this Conference also included Member States not party to the Convention, the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The results of the Conference were presented to the XXXII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM, which adopted a Declaration on the issue and a resolution to initiate implementation of the Mechanism.

Other relevant activities included CIM's participation in the videoconference "*Justice with a Gender Perspective: Review of Monitoring Mechanisms for Implementing International Convention*", organized by the World Bank in Washington D.C. in April 2004, to address issues relating to gender and access to justice and the implementation of international conventions in Venezuela. The CIM Senior Specialist made a presentation on the results of the "Violence in the Americas" project and the sub-regional meetings on violence against women organized by the CIM (2000-2002) and on the efforts regarding the follow up mechanism for the Convention. Representatives of several international organizations and agencies, government bodies, NGOs, and Venezuelan ministries participated in the dialogue.

Also in April, the same representative of the CIM attended the "National Congress to Support the Harmonization of Local Legislation with International Instruments on Women's Human Rights – Effective Exercise for Women's Human Rights" in Mexico City, where it made a presentation on "The Right of Women to Live Without Violence." The event was organized with the sponsorship of Mexico's Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations International

Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and the Chamber of Deputies of the Federal Congress.

Additionally, the CIM Senior Specialist participated in the interagency meeting *Developing Coordinated Approaches to Eradicating Gender-based Violence in the Caribbean* (Barbados, May 11-12, 2004), organized by the regional offices of UNIFEM and ECLAC. The goal of this meeting was to evaluate the prevailing situation of violence against women in the Caribbean. Participants included representatives of UN agencies such as UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO, UNDP, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), and the University of the West Indies, and representatives of NGOs from seven Caribbean countries. Each of the participants reported on the initiatives taken by the agencies and the results they had obtained. Recommendations were drafted regarding the priorities and the steps to be taken, mechanisms for integration, access to justice, and monitoring. The conclusions and recommendations of the meeting, *Action Agenda for Coordinates Approached to Eradication of Gender-Based Violence in the Caribbean*, can be found in CIM/doc.8/04.

In November, a CIM Specialist attended a World Bank workshop on “The Development Implications of Gender-Based Violence”, held in Washington, D.C., and participated in a session on legal aspects of gender-based violence. A breakfast meeting was held the following day with international organizations and NGOs to discuss possible collaboration. A proposal was presented to the World Bank requesting support in implementing the Follow up Mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará.

Finally, in response to a request, the CIM Executive Secretary presented recommendations on the gender perspective and gender-based violence to the preparatory meeting responsible for drafting the Inter-American Program on the Human Rights of Migrants.

ii. Trafficking in Women and Children in the Americas for Purposes of Exploitation

In the last few years CIM has worked extensively on research and capacity building, to combat the trafficking of women, children and adolescents. This initiative began in 1999, with the research project *Trafficking in Women and Children in the Americas for Sexual Exploitation*, which provided a broad overview of trafficking in the Americas and offered recommendations for its elimination. As a result of CIM’s work, and with the financial support of the U.S. government, an Anti-Trafficking Unit has been established at CIM. This unit is responsible for coordinating anti-trafficking activities at the OAS.

During this reporting period, CIM and the International Organization for Migrations (IOM) continued to develop Phase II of the trafficking project in Mexico, Bolivia, and countries of the English-speaking Caribbean.

In June, CIM’s trafficking specialist visited the border area between Tijuana and San Diego, where she met with government, nongovernmental, and university representatives, to research potential coordination mechanisms, join efforts, and to plan strategies, for research and capacity-building activities in Mexico’s northern borderland. The project focuses on the ten Border States and the Federal District. Training sessions will be held in the north border, in the south border, and the

Federal District for civil society and local and federal governmental representatives. With two researchers on the field, there have already been two seminars since November 2004 in Monterrey and Tuxtla. The funding for this project comes from the U.S Government and from contributions from the Women's Institute of the Government of Mexico and CIDA Canada.

In Bolivia, the first workshop training took place in La Paz, Bolivia, November 11-12, 2004, and was targeted towards government officials. In effort to expand the scope of the training, the workshop was broadcast by videoconference to three other cities: Santa Cruz, Tarija, and Cochabamba. National authorities, public officials and staff from the migration service and other local officials participated. Presenters included representatives from such organizations as INTERPOL Colombia, the Inter-American Children Institute, the national police of Chile, the US Embassy in Bolivia, and the Prosecutor of Family and Children of Colombia. A representative of the OAS was also among the experts.

In the Caribbean, in partnership with IOM and local government counterparts in the Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, the Netherlands Antilles, Saint Lucia, and Suriname, CIM/IOM convened a series of national seminars entitled *Trafficking in Persons: Building a Collaborative Response*. Seminars were held within each collaborating country throughout the summer of 2004. Through a combination of research, outreach and training and capacity-building for government and nongovernmental partners, the regional project seeks to raise awareness and inform on the scope, characteristics, and risks of trafficking; to build the capacity of governmental and nongovernmental representatives to identify victims of trafficking, assist and protect them, as well as to gather relevant and regionally compatible data; and, to simulate regional cooperation and statistical information sharing, encourage the development of counter-trafficking policies/laws, and coordinate counter-trafficking operational procedures.

The CIM Trafficking Specialist participated in the Meeting of Experts "*Improving Research and Information on Trafficking in Persons*" (May 27-28, Rome, Italy), organized and funded by the IOM and the government of Italy. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange information from the different regions of the world on the challenges and obstacles encountered in investigations into trafficking in human beings. Among the meeting's conclusions, emphasis was placed on the need for closer cooperation between European experts and those of other regions that have not progressed as far in this area – particularly Latin America and the Caribbean. The event analyzed the financial and political obstacles encountered by investigators in gathering data and in recording cases, and the situation faced by the victims of trafficking. A report will be published by IOM.

In addition to the above, a research project has been initiated, focusing on the trafficking of Colombians into Japan.

In compliance with Resolution AG/RES 1948(XXXIII-0/03), "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children", a report on CIM's activities (CP/doc.3862/04) was presented to the thirty-fourth regular session of the OAS General Assembly in June 2004.

Finally, in compliance with AG/RES 2019(XXXIII-0/04), "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children," preparation has begun for a Hemispheric conference to be convened by the Permanent Council in 2005 to study integral cooperation

mechanisms among the States. Participants will include government experts, the CIM, the Inter-American Children's Institute, other appropriate organs of the OAS, the United Nations, the IOM, and other related organizations and civil society.

b. Participation of women in power and decision-making structures

The CIM continues to participate as a co-sponsor and member of the Council of the IDB Program for the Support of Women's Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD), which funds leadership projects in the Hemisphere. During this past year, CIM, in partnership with the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD) and PROLEAD, sponsored a "Training Seminars for Young Women Leaders of the MERCOSUR Region on Democratic Governance", held in Brazil.

c. Women, Peace and Security

Pursuant to mandates of the Assembly of Delegates, the CIM continues to promote the full participation of women in conflict prevention and peace-building and the implementation in the Hemisphere of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. With the support of the civil society organization *Women Waging Peace*, CIM has been active in advancing the inclusion of a gender perspective in matters related to women, peace, and security in the Americas.

With funding from *Waging*, the CIM and the Permanent Mission of Colombia hosted a reception in honor of 17 Colombian women participating in the conference on "*Preparing for Peace: The Critical Role of Women in Colombia*," to promote dialogue between the Colombian women leaders and OAS policy and program shapers. The Delegation of Colombian women included, among others a former minister of foreign affairs, a Senator, and representatives from the Presidential Office for Women's Equality, the Institute for Development and Peace Studies (INDEPAZ), the Association for Alternative Social Promotion and National Coordinator of the Women's Peaceful Route.

The CIM participated as cosponsor in the *Women Waging Peace* Policy Forum held in Washington DC on November 18, 2004. A CIM Specialist CIM took part in a round table discussion on peace efforts in Colombia and CIM's Executive Secretary as well as other invited representatives from the Missions and OAS Units attended this event.

The CIM is also a member of the Working Group on the Role of Women in Reconstruction and Stabilization Operations, organized by the US Institute of Peace and Hunt Alternatives Fund, to generate recommendations for US government policy makers on women's participation in peace-building.

Finally, in collaboration with the Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflict of the OAS Department of Democratic and Political Affairs, the CIM drafted the proposal, "Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-Building," an initiative to train men and women peace-builders to integrate a gender perspective and promote the involvement of women in conflict resolution and peace building. External funds are being sought for this proposal, which will be implemented initially in the Andean Region and in Central America. In February 2004, the Government of China granted US\$30,000 for this proposal. A request for funding has also been presented to Hunt Alternatives Fund.

3. *Summit of the Americas*

The CIM continues to implement the mandates emanating from the Summit of the Americas. Among the actions and projects undertaken by CIM in fulfillment of these mandates were: 1) Continued work with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, especially in the implementation of the follow-up mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará; 2) Implementation of the Inter-American Program on Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality by continuing the process for SEPIA IV, Gender and Science and Technology, and following up on SEPIA I-III; 3) Continued work on the trafficking of women, adolescents and children for sexual exploitation.

The CIM is currently working with the Office of Summit Process on the preparation of the next Summit of the Americas, to be held in Argentina in November, 2005. The recommendations of the XXXII Assembly of Delegates on "Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summit of the Americas" will be presented at the preparatory meeting of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) to be held in Argentina in March of 2005.

B. XXXII Assembly of delegates of the CIM

The XXXII Assembly was held in Washington DC, from October 27-29, 2004. Delegates from 29 Member States attended the meeting, as well as representatives from permanent observer countries to the OAS, agencies and entities of the inter-American and United Nations systems and non governmental organizations.

The Assembly elected the following for the Executive Committee for 2004-2006: President, Nilcéa Freire, Minister of the Secretariat of State for Women, Brazil; Vice President, María José Argaña, Minister of Women's Affairs, Paraguay; Member States, Argentina, Canada, Chile, Mexico and Suriname.

Resolutions were adopted on the following issues: *Gender and Access to Decent Work to Address Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance; Promoting the Role of Women in Conflict Prevention, Management and Conflict Resolution and Post-conflict Peace Building; Trafficking in Persons, especially Women, Adolescents and Children, and Follow-up to the Convention of Belém do Pará.* Two Declarations were also approved, that address the Adoption of the Statute of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará" and the Impact of the Proposed Restructuring of the Organization of American States on the CIM Permanent Secretariat.

C. Special Activities

1. *Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States – REMIM II*

The Second Ministerial, convened by the OAS General Assembly and organized by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), was held in Washington, D.C. on April 21- 23, 2004.

The Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) transmitted the convocation to the governments of the Member States in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03) "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality." Approximately 100 people attended the meeting. Heads of delegation included Ministers of Women's Affairs, a Minister of Social Transformation, Ambassadors, and Principal Delegates to the CIM, among others. The CIM Secretariat was the meeting coordinator.

The Ministers addressed the issues of Women, Free Trade, and Economic Empowerment; Gender Mainstreaming; and Women's Participation in Free Trade Processes. They also considered the results of the Special Summit of the Americas, held in Mexico, as well as Gender Equity and Equality at the Fourth Summit of the Americas and Proposals for Gender Mainstreaming in its Declaration and Plan of Action. To follow up on implementation of the IAP, the Delegations reported on best practices in gender mainstreaming developed in their countries in the areas of labor, education and justice.

The Ministers adopted one Declaration and five Resolutions: "Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas," "Women, Trade and Economic Empowerment," "Violence against Women: Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Violence against Women, the Convention of 'Belém do Pará'," "Recommendations on Gender and Justice to be Presented to the V Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorney Generals of the Americas (REMJA V)," and "Strengthening of the CIM."

The Final Report of this meeting (CIM/REMIM-II/doc.37/04), as well as all the other documents and reports, is available on the CIM WEB Page at <http://www.oas.org/cim>.

2. *Special Session of the Permanent Council on Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)*

In compliance with the mandate of the General Assembly, a special session of the Permanent Council on the implementation of the IAP was held in April 2004 immediately prior to the Second Meeting of Ministers or Highest Ranking Authorities. During this session, there were four panels: "Gender at the Summit of the Americas," "Follow-up on the Special Meeting of the Permanent Council on Women's Participation in Political Processes," "Follow-up on the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)," and "Civil Society." Accomplishments of the IAP were emphasized as well as the increased attention to a gender perspective within the OAS. Speakers included Dr. María Eugenia Brizuela de Ávila, Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador, the Honorable Camille Robinson Regis, Minister of Planning and Development of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Mariana Yepes, Prosecutor General of Ecuador, Dr. Graciela Rosso, Vice Minister of Health of Argentina, Ms. Irene Klinger, Executive Secretary, Secretariat for the Summit Process, Ms. Elizabeth Spehar, Executive Coordinator, Unit for the Promotion of Democracy (UPD).

The Permanent Secretariat of the CIM worked as Technical Secretariat with the Permanent Council Ad-hoc committee chaired by the Permanent Representative of El Salvador, Ambassador Margarita Escobar to set the agenda and identify the issues for consideration.

V. MEASURABLE RESULTS

SEPIA II – Gender and Justice

- For the first time, specific chapters on the issues of violence against women, trafficking, and gender and justice were included in the conclusions and recommendations of the *V Meeting of Ministers of Justice and of Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA V)*.

SEPIA IV – Gender and Science and Technology

- The “Recommendations for Integrating a Gender Perspective in Science and Technology Policies and Programs in the Americas,” prepared in the framework of SEPIA IV- Gender and Science and Technology, were adopted by the *First Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities in Science and Technology within the Framework of CIDI-OAS*, held in November, 2004 in Lima, as one of the hemispheric initiatives of the Science and Technology Plan of Action.

Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará

- Adoption by the States Party of the *Statute of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará.”*
- Inclusion of the issue of violence against women on the agenda of the REMJA V, Ministers of Justice and of Attorneys General of the Americas.

Trafficking of Women, Adolescents and Children for Sexual Exploitation

- Creation of an Anti-Trafficking Unit at CIM
- Four capacity-building seminars carried out in Mexico and Bolivia
- A series of national seminars in the Caribbean entitled *Trafficking in Persons: Building a Collaborative Response*
- An Anti-Trafficking conference in Venezuela
- An Anti-Trafficking seminar in Argentina
- A research project in Japan focusing on trafficked individuals from Colombia
- Outreach to government, nongovernmental and university representatives in the Tijuana/San Diego border in order to build coordination mechanisms
- Inclusion of the issue of trafficking in persons on the agenda of the REMJA V

Women, peace and security

- A contribution of US\$30,000 from the Government of China for the project “Training Course on Gender, Conflict and Peace-Building”

VI. RELATIONS WITH OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. The Inter-American System

1. *Within the OAS*

Permanent Council. The Executive Secretary participated in meetings of the Permanent Council to report on the activities and projects of CIM. In keeping with a mandate of the General Assembly, the CIM worked together with the Permanent Council and the Office for the Promotion of Democracy to organize the Special Session on Implementation of the IAP, held in April of 2004.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR): The IACHR collaborated with the CIM in the preparation process for the adoption of the Statute of the Follow Up Mechanism of the Convention of Belém do Pará.

Summits of the Americas Secretariat: The CIM maintains ongoing collaboration with the Secretariat to ensure that the issue of gender is permanently integrated in the Summits of the Americas.

Office for Prevention and Resolution of Conflict: In 2004, this office collaborated with CIM in drafting the proposal, “*Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-Building*”.

Office for the Promotion of Democracy: The CIM and the OPD both worked with the Permanent Council to organize the Special Session on Implementation of the IAP, held in April 2004 and collaborated with PROLEAD in organizing the Seminar for young women leaders of the MERCOSUR held in Brazil.

Office of Education, Science and Technology: The CIM and OEST work collaboratively in the development of SEPIA IV –Gender and Science and Technology.

Office for Commerce, Growth and Competitiveness: The CIM and this Office collaborated to prepare documentation and talking points on the issue of women, free trade, and economic empowerment for REMIM II.

Department of Public Information: In 2004, in addition to an ongoing production of a video on women and leadership, the department disseminated information about CIM activities through press releases, radio programs, and the internet.

2. *Other Inter-American Organizations*

In order to promote the advancement of women at the regional and international levels, the CIM carries out cooperation activities with various entities of the inter-American system. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Inter-American Children’s Institute (IACI), and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) are invited to participate in all regular meetings of the Executive Committee, so as to continue exchanging information, and exploring joint initiatives.

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): The CIM cooperates closely with the IDB, in particular as a member of the Council to the Program for the Support of Women's Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD).

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO): The CIM worked with PAHO and UNIFEM to analyze current legislation in Latin America and the Caribbean, and examine components that should be included in legislation meant to eliminate gender based violence.

Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI): The IACI collaborates with the CIM in the Trafficking project.

B. The United Nations System

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM): The CIM worked with PAHO and UNIFEM to analyze current legislation in Latin America and the Caribbean, and examine components that should be included in legislation meant to eliminate gender based violence. UNIFEM also participated in the preparation of recommendations for SEPIA IV- Gender and Science and Technology.

World Bank: The CIM continues to maintain a close relationship and to exchange information with the Legal Vice-presidency of the World Bank regarding the issues of gender and violence against women.

C. Other Regional and International Entities and Organizations

International Organization for Migration (IOM): The IOM is the CIM's partner for the Phase II of the trafficking project.

D. Civil Society Organizations

The CIM Permanent Secretariat maintains close contact with a number of civil society organizations. During the past year, it worked with the following NGOs:

Women's Edge Coalition: created in 1998, this NGO works in the area of economic and trade negotiations, promoting innovative aid programs to ensure women around the world are given access to the trade negotiation process.

The Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA): a regional network of feminists, individual researchers, activists and women's organizations in the Caribbean which addresses the issues such as women in agriculture; women and the law; women's history and creative expression; women, development and sustainable livelihood; women's health and gender and youth.

Women Waging Peace: This organization works to ensure women's participation in peace building and conflict resolution through implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000). The CIM has been working with this NGO since 2002 to support of the application of the UN

resolution in the Region and to strengthen the leadership and participation of the women of the Americas.

National Hispana Leadership Institute: The CIM has an ongoing relationship with this organization. The Permanent Secretariat participates in the training program for the NHLI Fellows.

Inter-American Dialogue: The CIM maintains a close relationship with the Director of Special Projects and Deputy to the President of the Inter-American Dialogue.

Council of Women World Leaders. The CWWL is a network of current and former women heads of states and heads of government established in 1996. Its sister organization, the International Assembly of Women Ministers, is composed of the sitting women ministers of all portfolios and central bank governors, which today number approximately 600 women.

VII. FINANCIAL SITUATION

The CIM notes, once again, that the human and material resources assigned to it are insufficient if it is to fulfill its mandates as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policies for the promotion of the human rights of women and gender equality and as the organ for follow-up and coordination of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, adopted by the General Assembly at its thirtieth regular session. Indeed, the Program urges the General Secretariat to strengthen the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM by providing it with the necessary human and financial resources and to support it in obtaining private funding (Section 2.1.5).

In the past seven years, the OAS General Assembly has approved resolutions that reiterate the need to improve the financial situation of the CIM², through both budget allocations and specific contributions by the Member States. In 2004, the General Assembly adopted AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), Strengthening of the CIM, which again encourages the Secretary General to provide sufficient human and financial resources to the CIM, and invites Member States as well as the permanent observers, individuals, and public, private, national, or international organizations that wish to do so, to make voluntary contributions to fund CIM's projects and programs.

The Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas also commits to providing for "an appropriate level of resources to the CIM to carry out its role as the principal hemispheric policy-generating forum for the advancement of the human rights of women and particularly of gender equality."

2. AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97) and AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), "Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization," AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), "Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality", AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), and AG/RES. 1853 (XXXI-O/02), "Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," and finally, AG/RES 1941 (XXXII-O/03), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality."

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The CIM respectfully requests that the Permanent Council transmit the following recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly, through the appropriate entities, and for inclusion in draft resolutions on the topics indicated below.

1. To urge the Secretary General to continue to make every effort possible to implement the mandates of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and, in particular, to continue supporting the integration of a gender perspective into all activities, projects, and programs of the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS.

2. To implement resolutions AG/RES. 1790 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES.1872 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1954 (XXXII-O/03) and AG/RES. 1977 (XXXIV-O/04), "Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS," also addressed in section 2.1.6 of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, which reiterated the need to implement measures to ensure full and equal access by men and women to all categories of posts in the OAS system, in particular decision-making positions.

3. To improve the financial status of the Inter-American Commission of Women, as provided for in section 2.1.5 of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, and in the following resolutions: AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97) and AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), "Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization"; AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), "Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality;" AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), and AG/RES. 1853 (XXXI-O/02), "Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality;" AG/RES 1941 (XXXII-O/03), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality;" and AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), "Strengthening of the CIM".

4. In view of the ever-growing number of mandates assigned to the CIM, to urge the Member States to make voluntary contributions to fund CIM's activities, which now include the implementation of the Follow Up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará', as well as other activities such as the projects on trafficking and on conflict and peace-building.

ANNEX I - CIM MEETINGS MARCH 2004-FEBRUARY 2005

April 21, 2004	Special Sessions of the Permanent Council on Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)- Washington D.C. Final Document: <i>Final Act (Permanent Council Document)</i>
April 21-23, 2004	Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States- REMIM II - Washington D.C. Final Document: <i>Final Report (CIM/REMIM-II/doc.37 /04)</i>
July 20-21, 2004	Meeting of Experts on the Drafting of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará, Washington, D.C. Final Document: <i>Draft Statute of the Follow-Up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention for the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará' (CIM/MESECVI-II/doc.9 /04 corr.1)</i>
July 22-23, 2004	V Session of the CIM Executive Committee Meeting- Washington, D.C. Final Document: <i>Agreements Adopted (CIM/CD/doc.57/04)</i>
August 24-25, 2004	SEPIA IV -Preparatory Meeting on Gender, Science, and Technology Washington, D.C. Final Document: <i>Recommendations for Integrating a Gender Perspective in Science and Technology Policies and Programs in the Americas,</i>
October 26, 2004	Conference of States Party to the Convention of Belém do Pará, Washington, D.C. Final Document: <i>Statute of the Follow-Up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention for the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará.'</i>
October 27-29, 2004	XXXII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM- Washington D.C. Final Document: <i>Final Act (CIM/doc.56/04)</i>

ANNEX II - BUDGETARY EXECUTION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

**REGULAR FUND- 2004
(US\$1,000)**

SUMMARY

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
ACCOUNT	MODIFIED BUDGET	ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	OBLIGATIONS	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE AVAILABLE
111.04.23010 Permanent Secretariat	728.3	728.3	728.3	728.3	.0
111.04.23011 President- Executive Committee	40.7	40.7	40.7	40.7	.0
111.04.23012 Assembly of Delegates	27.8	27.8	27.8	27.8	.0
111.04.23013 Strategic Plan of Action	17.9	17.9	17.9	17.9	.0
111.04.23014 Horizontal Cooperation	27.6	27.6	27.6	27.6	.0
TOTALS	842.3	842.3	842.3	842.3	.0

COLUMN 1 MODIFIED APPROVED BUDGET
COLUMN 2 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS-FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS
COLUMN 3 OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS ENTERED
COLUMN 4 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS
COLUMN 5 AVAILABLE BALANCE

**SPECIFIC FUNDS - 2004
(US\$1,000)**

SUMMARY

ACCOUNT	(1) MODIFIED BUDGET	(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	(3) OBLIGATIONS	(4) EXPENDITURE	(5) AVAILABLE BALANCE
311.04.23010 Proyecto Perspectiva de Género (CIDA- CANADA)	316.2	316.2	315.2	315.2	1.0
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (MEXICO)	37.2	37.2	0.0	0.0	37.2
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (CIDA-CANADA)	10.3	9.4	9.4	9.4	.9
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (International Organization for Migration - IOM)	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	.0
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (USAID))	367.2	367.2	145.1	145.1	222.1
311.04.23010 Meeting of Experts of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MEXICO)	30.0	30.0	12.3	12.3	17.7
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (PHILIPPINES)	7.5	7.5	0.0	0.00	7.5
311.04.23010 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project (US DEPARTMENT OF STATE)	405.5	405.5	133.4	133.4	272.1

311.04.23010 PROLEAD – IDB PROJECT (INTERAMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK – IDB)	23.1	23.1	.1	0.1	23.0
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COLUMN 1 MODIFIED APPROVED BUDGET

COLUMN 2 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS DE FONDOS-FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS

COLUMN 3 OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS ENTERED INTO SO FAR

COLUMN 4 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS/ CURRENT OBLIGATIONS- PAYMENTS

COLUMN 5 AVAILABLE BALANCE

MINISTERIAL MEETING - REMIM II

SUBPROGRAM 10W - OAS CONFERENCES - 2004

(US\$1,000)

SUMMARY

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
ACCOUNT	MODIFIED BUDGET	ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	OBLIGATIONS	EXPENDITURE	AVAILABLE BALANCE
115.04.24043 Subprogram 10W OAS Conferences	27.6	27.6	27.3	27.3	.3
TOTALS	27.6	27.6	27.3	27.3	.3

COLUMN 1 MODIFIED APPROVED BUDGET- SUBPROGRAM 10W – OAS CONFERENCES

COLUMN 2 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS -FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS

COLUMN 3 OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS ENTERED

COLUMN 4 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS

COLUMN 5 AVAILABLE BALANCE

ANNEX III - DRAFT RESOLUTION: STRENGTHENING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING:

That the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) has been recognized by the Summits of the Americas and the OAS General Assembly as the principal hemispheric forum for promoting women's human rights and gender equity and equality;

That in the Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, the Heads of State and Government of the Hemisphere pledged to support an adequate level of resources to the CIM to enable it to fulfill its role and also pledged to strengthen the CIM as technical advisor for the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) on all aspects of gender equity and equality;

RECALLING that in the past five years there has been a notable increase in the mandates given to the CIM by the Member States of the OAS, namely: 1) To serve as the organ for follow-up, coordination and evaluation 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)); 2) To act as the Secretariat of the Conference of State Parties and the Committee of Experts of the newly created Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (AG/RES. (XXXV-O/05)); and 3) In coordination with the General Secretariat, to hold a Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM) every four years (AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00));

RECALLING ALSO that resolution CIM/RES. 225 (XXI-O/02), “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children” resolves “To establish a focal point in the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM to assist the efforts, information sharing, and activities of the member states...;”

CONSIDERING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), which approved the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), urges the General Secretariat to strengthen the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM by allocating to it the necessary human and financial resources, and to help it obtain funds from private sources; and

That resolutions AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1941 (XXVI-O/03) and AG/RES. 2021 (XXVII-O/04), have all instructed the General Secretariat and the Permanent Council to make every possible effort to allocate technical, human, and financial resources to the CIM so it will be better equipped to perform its essential activities;

CONSIDERING ALSO that the II Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM II), held in April 2004, adopted Resolution CIM/REMIM-II/RES. 8/04 urging the OAS General Secretariat to provide the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM with sufficient human and financial resources to strengthen its capacity to comply with its mandates, as a specialized organization of the OAS

dedicated to the promotion and protection of women's human rights; and to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities that are presented to external donors for funding;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that the increase in the mandates to the CIM emanating from the Summits of the Americas, the General Assembly, the Convention of Belém do Pará and its follow-up, the IAP and REMIM, as well as from specific projects such as the trafficking in persons project, is not consistent with the limited human and financial resources allocated to the Commission, which have been drastically reduced over the past eight years,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Secretary General to provide the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in its capacity as a specialized organization of the OAS, with sufficient human and financial resources to strengthen its capacity to carry out its increasing mandates.

2. To urge the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding.

3. To invite member states and permanent observers, as well as individuals and national or international organizations, whether public or private, that wish to do so to make voluntary contributions to support the development and implementation of CIM projects and programs.

4. To reiterate the mandate to the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP), to invite the CIM Executive Secretary to present periodic reports on the financial resources needed to fulfill its mandates.