



FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)
SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTY
November 29th and 30th, 2017
Panama City, Panama

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RAPPORTEURSHIP
SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PART OF THE FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT, AND
ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, *CONVENTION OF*
BELÉM DO PARÁ

The Seventh Conference of States Party to the Follow-up Mechanism on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women was held on November 29 and 30, 2017, at the Sheraton Hotel in Panama City, Panama

Twenty-two Competent National Authorities from the following countries participated in this meeting: Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Honduras, Guatemala, Grenada, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Ambassador Néstor Méndez, opened the event. In addition, the President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, Sylvia Mesa, took the floor; the General Director of the National Institute for Women of Panama - INAMU, Liriola Leoteau; the President of the VII CEP, Ana María Choquehuanca de Villanueva; and the Vice President and Chancellor of the Republic of Panama, Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado.

After the official photograph and the approval of the agenda and calendar of activities, the meeting began.

Wednesday, November 29th

The delegations of the countries elected the authorities of the Seventh Conference of States Party, integrated as follows: The Presidency was assumed by Panama; The First and Second Vice Presidencies were assumed by Mexico and Argentina. Peru assumed the Rapporteurship of the event. The election of the aforementioned authorities was by acclamation.

The new President took office and began the development of the agenda.

Presentation of the Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará

The report was presented by the President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI. Then there was a dialogue between the delegations.

While noting the valuable information contained in the report, the national authorities of some countries made preliminary recommendations and observations on the document.

Furthermore, some experts of the Committee expressed their opinion on the scope of the report.

In the aforementioned interventions, the importance of the report was highlighted as an instrument to shed light upon the problem of violence against women in the region, as well as to confront it. Likewise, the need to work on prevention was emphasized, particularly through the creation of a culture that respects human rights and aims to guarantee a life free of violence.

Finally, it was agreed that the States' observations on the Hemispheric Report could be submitted until January 30, 2018.

Dialogue on the general and special prevention of violence against women in the Third Evaluation Round

The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI moderated the dialogue on general and special prevention of violence against women in the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round, in which the Competent National Authority of Panama, Liriola Leoteau, the Competent National Authority of the Bahamas, Lanisha Tamar

Rolle, the Competent National Authority of Mexico, Marcela Eternod, the Minister of Women and Vulnerable Populations of Peru, Ana María Choquehuanca, and the experts from Jamaica and Costa Rica, Barbara Bailey and Sylvia Mesa, respectively, participated as panelists.

The panelists presented the experiences of their countries in the area of prevention of violence against women and offered reflections and recommendations to advance the handling of this issue.

In the dialogue between the delegations, the concept of general and special prevention of violence against women was addressed and the importance of generating public and specific policies to coordinate efforts to prevent violence against women was discussed, with emphasis on the eradication of patriarchal and discriminatory relations. Among the main highlights were the following:

- The need to work on the prevention of adolescent pregnancy, with particular attention to the alteration of cultural and educational patterns, as well as the elimination of impunity in judicial systems in regards to this problem.
- The importance of working with the ministries of education and strengthening an education system with a focus on human rights.
- The importance of working on programs aimed at men, in order to prevent and avoid violence and mistreatment towards women and other members of their families.
- The empowerment of women for the early identification of signs of violence, as well as their economic autonomy.
- The importance of training for public servants.
- There was agreement on the progress made by anti human rights groups, which have increasingly gained influence and resources that have the potential to stop progress in combating violence against women.
- Regarding the attention of the victims, delegations emphasized the need to evaluate the results of the protection measures in order to guarantee stronger implementation, particularly through education measures that give priority to children and adolescents.
- In the same sense, they highlighted the need to propose a strategy to prevent and eradicate violence against women through education and action directed at children.
- The role of social media, as well as new information technologies, in preventing and eradicating violence against women.

Thursday, November 30th

Dialogue on the prevention of violence against women through stereotype-free education

The dialogue was moderated by Ana María Baiardi, Paraguay's Minister of Women. In this section, Taydee Gordon participated, on behalf of the Minister of Education of Panama, Marcela Paredes de Vásquez; Alliance of Women of Panama, Rubiela Sánchez; National Council for Women (CONAMU), Aracelly de León; Central General Autonomous of Workers of Panama, Nelva Reyes.

After the presentations of the panelists, the Competent National Authorities of Mexico, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Peru, Ecuador, El Salvador and Honduras participated in an open dialogue where opinions were exchanged and recommendations were given.

Among the main reflections and recommendations were the following:

- The school system has played the role of maintaining inequality with the scaffolding of stereotypes. For education to be the engine of change, we must begin with the training of teachers and provide them with the tools they need to develop a new teaching process.
- It is convenient to elaborate guidelines for the inclusion of women's rights in the curricula of schools.
- It is necessary to permanently monitor the implementation of prevention tools.
- The convenience of preparing a system of guarantees to avoid setbacks in acquired rights.
- Work within the framework of the problem of invisibility and stigma of sex workers, as well as on the elimination of the institutional violence that is exerted against them.
- The importance of having an adequate legislative framework of parity and against political violence in order to avoid and prevent it.
- Evaluate the possibility of holding a meeting of the CEP with education authorities of the countries of the Region to address the issue of equal and violence-free education for women and girls.

Activity report of the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI. Implementation of the agreements of the Sixth CEP. Ministerial Dialogue

The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI presented the Inter-American Model Law on Violence against Women in Politics, previously called the Model Law on Political Violence against Women; the draft comprehensive Model Law to prevent, punish and eradicate the violent death of women due to gender (Femicide/Femicide); and the Hemispheric Report on Sexual Violence and Child Pregnancy in the States Party to the Convention of Belém do Pará.

There was a dialogue at the level of the Ministers and delegates on the aforementioned documents.

In this regard, the authorities of Mexico, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador; Costa Rica, Honduras and Uruguay, expressed their thanks for the presentations made by the Technical Secretariat, highlighting the importance of the MESECVI as a mechanism to achieve strategic alliances and advance women's rights work, expressing that they consider it important to strengthen funding and resources.

Additionally, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI presented a report on its activities and on the implementation of the agreements of the last meeting of the Conference of the States Party.

Ministerial Dialogue for the strengthening of the MESECVI and the improvement of the application of the Convention of Belém do Pará

In the dialogue on this matter, the Minister of the Status of Women, National Institute of Women (INAMU) of Costa Rica, Alejandra Mora Mora, participated as a panelist, as well as Martha Ordoñez,

Presidential Adviser for the Equality of Women of Colombia, and Yanira Argueta of the Executive Directorate of the Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) of El Salvador.

The panelists discussed good practices in education, mentioning the Colombian case **which has a letter in** Human Rights and Gender issues. The importance of exploring the link between poverty and violence was also highlighted; and the importance of giving special attention to the problem of the application of restorative justice in cases of violence against women was pointed out.

The delegations consulted and made recommendations for strengthening the MESECVI.

Definition of date and venue of the Second Extraordinary Conference and Eighth Conference of States Party

El Salvador offered to host the Eighth Conference of States Party to be held in May 2019.

Likewise, it was agreed to hold the Second Extraordinary Conference in February 2018, one day after the celebrations for the 90th anniversary of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Consideration and adoption of Agreements of the Seventh Conference

After the dialogue between the delegations, the agreements of the VII Conference of the States Party to the Convention of Belém do Pará were adopted.

THANK YOU