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REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE
MECHANISM TO FOLLOW UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ (MESECVI) TO
THE THIRTY-SIXTH ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES OF THE CIM

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The Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI), hereby presents to the Thirty-sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM this report on the work carried out since November 2010. All documents and background information referred to herein are published on the web page of the MESECVI (<http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/default.asp>).

1. Background

1.1 Creation of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Convention (MESECVI)

The CIM, in fulfillment of the mandates issued in resolutions CIM/RES. 224/02 (XXXI-O/02), AG/RES. 1942 (XXXIII-O/03), and CIM/REMIM-II/RES. 6/04, carried out actions to develop the proposed 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” (MESECVI). The Permanent Secretariat of the CIM prepared a working document with a proposed follow up mechanism and held prior consultations with the OAS member states, specialized international organizations, and civil society groups.

In June 2004, a Meeting of Government Experts was convened, which was held on July 20 and 21, 2004, to examine the proposed mechanism and make recommendations to the States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará. In concluding the meeting, the experts declared fulfilled the mandate issued by the OAS General Assembly in resolution AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), and requested the Rapporteur for the meeting to present to the Conference of States Parties to the Convention de Belém do Pará the Draft 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” for adoption.

Pursuant to the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution, the OAS Secretary General convened the Conference of States Parties for October 26, 2004, where the Statute of the MESECVI was adopted.

With its adoption, the States Parties expressed their political intent to have a consensus-based and independent mechanism to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Convention, to which they would submit progress reports, in compliance with the Convention, and also undertook to implement its recommendations.

1.2. Characteristics of the MESECVI

The MESECVI was designed to follow up on the commitments undertaken by the states parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará; to contribute to achievement of the objectives established therein; and to facilitate technical cooperation among the states parties, as well as with other OAS member states and permanent observers to the OAS. It is based on the principles of sovereignty, nonintervention, and juridical equality of states, enshrined in the Charter of the OAS, and observes the principles of impartiality and objectivity in its operation to guarantee fair application and equal treatment for the states parties.

The MESECVI consists of two organs: the Conference of States Parties, which is the political organ, comprised of representatives of all states parties, and the Committee of Experts (hereinafter “CEVI”), the technical organ, comprised of specialists in the area covered by the Convention. Although the experts are designated by the states parties, they exercise their functions independently and in their personal capacity. The Secretariat of the MESECVI, for both the Conference and the Committee of Experts, is the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM, where the MESECVI also has its headquarters.

The MESECVI functions through rounds and multilateral evaluation, consisting of a *stage for evaluation*¹ and a *stage for follow-up*² to the recommendations of the Committee of Experts. In the evaluation stage, the Committee of Experts approves a questionnaire encompassing the provisions of the Convention of Belém do Pará, for distribution to the States Parties. Based on the replies by the States Parties to this questionnaire and the information gathered, the Committee of Experts issues a final report with the corresponding recommendations for strengthening the implementation of the Convention. At the end of this evaluation stage, the country reports, and a consolidated Hemispheric Report, are published. In the follow-up stage, the Committee of Experts establishes a series of indicators of the implementation of all specific recommendations that arose from the evaluation stage. Based on the information on these indicators provided by the States Parties, a report following up on the recommendations made by the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI is prepared.

2. Mandates of the OAS General Assembly (2011 -2012)

The Technical Secretariat, in fulfillment of the mandates issued at the fortieth regular session (June 6 to 8, 2010, Lima) and the forty-first regular session (June 3 to 5, 2011, San Salvador) of the OAS General Assembly, prepared the following annual reports:

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- ¹. From 2005 to 2012, eight meetings of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI were held. The First (August 22-24, 2005), Second (July 24-25, 2006), Fourth (August 14-15, 2008), Fifth (June 25-26, 2008), and Seventh (September 27-29, 2011) were held in Washington, D.C.; the Third (July 18-20, 2007) in Buenos Aires; the Sixth (August 23-25, 2010) in Santo Domingo de Heredia; and the Eighth (May 3-4, 2012) in Panama City.
 - ². From 2004 to 2012, four Conferences of States Parties were held: the First (July 20-21, 2004) and Fourth (April 16, 2012) in Washington, D.C., the Second (July 9-10, 2008) in Caracas, and the Third (January 24-25, 2011) in Antigua.

Report ³	2010	2011
Report on the Implementation of the Follow Up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará” pursuant to Resolution AG/RES. 2451 (XXXIX-O/09) [2010 Report] Report on the Mechanism to Follow Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará” pursuant to Resolution AG/RES. 2692 (XLI-O/11) [2011 Report]	CIM/doc.111/11 corr.1	CIM/doc.115/12

2.1 Forty-first regular session of the OAS General Assembly

The President of the CIM delegated to the Executive Secretary of the CIM the presentation of the annual report of the MESECVI to the General Committee of the OAS General Assembly at its meeting of April 15, 2011. At that meeting, the General Committee congratulated the MESECVI on the results thus far obtained and decided to refer the report presented to the OAS General Assembly for consideration at its forty-first regular session, held in San Salvador, El Salvador, June 3 to 5, 2011.

At its forty-first regular session, the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 2692 (XLI-O/11),⁴ in which it takes note of the above-mentioned report, endorses the agreements reached at the Third Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI as well as the follow-up report on the recommendations made by the CEVI to the States Parties, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening the MESECVI.

2.2 Forty-second Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly

The President of the CIM delegated to the Executive Secretary of the CIM the presentation of the annual report of the MESECVI to the General Committee of the OAS General Assembly at its meeting of March 6, 2012. At that meeting, the General Committee congratulated the MESECVI on having taken a results and mandate-based management approach in the preparation of its report and decided to refer the report presented to the OAS General Assembly for consideration at its forty-second regular session, held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, June 3 to 5, 2012.

At its forty-second regular session, the General Assembly adopted resolution AG/RES. 2711 (XLII-O/12),⁵ in which it also takes note of the report presented, endorses the agreements reached at the Fourth Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening the MESECVI and to making progress with the second multilateral evaluation round,

³. Available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/cim/library.asp> and <http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/library.asp>.

⁴. AG/RES. 2692 (XLI-O/11), “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*””

⁵. AG/RES. 2711 (XLII-O/12), “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*””

requesting a report on the results and progress of the MESECVI by the forty-third regular session of the OAS General Assembly, to be held in 2013 (dates and host country to be decided).

These two resolutions reiterate to the States Parties to the Convention the invitation to facilitate the participation of experts in meetings of the Committee of Experts (CEVI), and to disseminate at the national level the objectives and importance of the MESECVI and to continue disseminating the reports and recommendations of the CEVI adopted in the Multilateral Evaluation Rounds.

3. Implementation of the MESECVI

3.1. First Multilateral Evaluation Round (2006-2011)

Of the 32 States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará, 31 have designated a specialist on this subject to membership of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI. Additionally, 30 of the 32 States Parties have designated a competent national authority to serve as the official counterpart of the State to the MESECVI and its Committee of Experts.

In the *evaluation stage* of the First Round (2006-2008), the Committee of Experts examined the replies of the States Parties to the questionnaire and approved the final country reports of 28 participating States Parties, as well as its first Hemispheric Report, with recommendations to the States to strengthen the implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará in their respective countries. Those reports were presented to the States Parties at their Second Conference, held in Caracas, Venezuela, July 9 and 10, 2008, which adopted the recommendations and authorized the publication and dissemination of the country reports and First Hemispheric Report.

In the *follow-up stage* of the First Round (2008-2011), 17 States Parties forwarded the information requested by the Committee of Experts in the indicator document forwarded in September 2008.

The First Multilateral Evaluation Round closed with the *Third Conference of States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará*, held on March 24 and 25, 2011, in Antigua, Guatemala, at which was adopted the first Follow-up Report on the Recommendations Made by the CEVI in the Evaluation Stage of the First Multilateral Evaluation Round. Additionally, at this conference, the States Parties took the opportunity to evaluate the functioning and results of the First Multilateral Evaluation Round of the MESECVI and adopted recommendations, conclusions, and agreements for strengthening the Mechanism.

The tables attached hereto as Appendices I, II, III, and IV show the participation of the States Parties, in this First Multilateral Evaluation Round, in meetings of the Conferences of States Parties, as well as the participation by experts in the meetings of the CEVI.

In support of this evaluation process, in early 2010, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI commissioned an independent evaluation of the MESECVI, whose report was published as MESECVI-III/doc.56/11. The evaluation made a series of recommendations for strengthening the operation, visibility, and impact of the MESECVI, including:

- It needs a larger budget to strengthen the CIM Secretariat in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI;
- The efforts of the States Parties and those of the members of the Committee of Experts must be better coordinated;
- Establish shorter periods between the time the countries' replies are received, the evaluation by the experts, and the issuing of recommendations so as to ensure that the recommendations to the States Parties have not already been superseded by the time they are issued;
- Communication among the MESECVI actors, which is currently done mainly by e-mail, needs to be improved;
- The information that the MESECVI and the States have must be made more readily available, through an updated web page, for example;
- Longer advance notice regarding the dates of meetings so the necessary administrative arrangements can be made to get travel by members of the CEVI authorized and funded;
- One of the conditions *sine qua non* is to strengthen the political commitments essential for the MESECVI to function;
- Establishing more points of contact with civil society may prove to be a useful strategy to move forward on that front, as a virtuous circle can be created in which the civil society organizations provide independent information;
- MESECVI and its work could be disseminated by various means as a way to create partnerships with other relevant actors;
- If the MESECVI wants to take on a leadership role among the region's institutions on the issue of violence against women, then it has to establish and pursue a clear policy of communicating its objectives, activities, strategies and products;
- The MESECVI site should feature easily identifiable and country-specific information translated into all the languages of the region or at least the official language of the country concerned.

3.2. Second Multilateral Evaluation Round (2010 to present)

The Second First Multilateral Evaluation Round began in April 2010 with the distribution to the States Parties to the Convention of the questionnaire approved by the Committee of Experts. Twenty-eight (28) States Parties forwarded a reply to the questionnaire.

The questionnaire was also sent to civil society organizations registered with the OAS, with an invitation to present alternative reports. Eight (8) reports were received from these organizations.

Based on the replies received from the States Parties and the alternative reports received from the civil society organizations, at the Sixth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, held August 23 to 25, 2010, in Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica, said Committee of Experts prepared and approved the preliminary country reports.

The preliminary reports approved at that meeting were forwarded to the States Parties on November 2, 2010, setting the period of November 30, 2010 for presentation of their comments and clarifications. Twenty-one replies to this request were received, from: Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados,

Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

These comments and clarifications were considered by the Committee of Experts in preparing each final country report. These final reports were approved by the Committee of Experts at its Seventh Meeting, held on September 27, 28, and 29, 2011, in Washington, D.C.

Taking into consideration the comments and clarifications received from States Parties, the Committee of Experts approved 28 final country reports, as well as the text of the Second Hemispheric Report, which summarizes the results of the country reports and takes a comparative look at the First and Second Multilateral Evaluation Rounds with regard to progress made in the implementation of the Convention and the results of the MESECVI process.

Prior to the start of this meeting, and with participation by CEVI members, on September 27, 2011, the *Seminar on Human Rights, Violence against Women and Access to Justice* was held in conjunction with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the Secretariat for Legal Affairs, and the Department of Employment and Social Development of the OAS. Taking part in that seminar were eminent academics and judiciary personnel of different countries. Its aim was to identify interventions and actions that guarantee an appropriate, immediate, opportune, exhaustive, serious, and impartial judicial response to violence against women, within a framework of human rights. The panelists discussed subjects such as access to and results of the inter-American justice system, indicators to evaluate compliance with the Convention of Belém do Pará, international and inter-American jurisprudence on violence against women, and different national perspectives from the justice sector and from the grassroots.

The biennial mandate of its officers having concluded, the Committee of Experts elected: Patricia Olamendi, Expert of Mexico (Coordinator) and Diane C. Haylock, Expert of Belize (Alternate Coordinator). This was the first time that an expert of a Caribbean country had been elected as an officer of the Committee.

In accordance with Article 23.e of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts, these reports were sent by the Technical Secretariat to the States Parties on December 16, 2011, with a request for them to submit their final observations and comments thereon by January 31, 2012. When these had been received, the country reports and Hemispheric Report approved were referred to the Fourth Conference of States Parties, held on April 16, 2012, in Washington, D.C., for adoption.

In accordance with Article 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, a preparatory meeting, open to all permanent missions, was held in the city of Washington, D.C., on March 28, 2012. The meeting considered all draft documents to be referred to the Conference and the order of precedence was determined by drawing lots, Chile being chosen to lead that order of precedence.

The main aim of the Conference was to receive the evaluations contained in the Final Report of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, consisting of 28 country reports and the Second Hemispheric Report, with whose adoption the evaluation stage of the Second Multilateral Evaluation Round was officially concluded. The Conference also considered the status of implementation of the mandates of the Third Conference of States Parties, among them, to establish a solidarity sub-fund to

ensure the participation of experts from countries that, owing to special circumstances, were unable to finance the participation of an expert on the Committee; the recommendations for the designation of experts and the procedure for their designation; and the organization of an informal dialogue between the States Parties and the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, among other matters.

The Coordinator of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, Patricia Olamendi, presented the final report on the evaluation stage of the Second Multilateral Evaluation Round. This final report includes 28 final country reports (documents MESECVI-IV/doc.67/12 through MESECVI-IV/doc.94/12) and the Second Hemispheric Report (documents MESECVI-IV/doc.95/12 and MESECVI-IV/doc.96/12). The Coordinator indicated that the Hemispheric Report summarized and examined information compiled from the replies by the States Parties to the questionnaire and in the alternative reports presented to the Committee of Experts, and concluded with 42 recommendations, whose implementation would be monitored by the Committee in the stage for evaluation of recommendations, to begin in late 2012. She also explained that the aim of the 14 reference tables contained in the Second Hemispheric Report was to assist governments, experts, and others interested in this matter to rapidly locate relevant and country-specific information, compiled in the evaluation stage. She explained that for better indication of the progress made by the MESECVI since its launch, the table included, where available, the information obtained in the First Multilateral Evaluation Round. The presentation by the Coordinator of the Committee of Experts was published as document MESECVI-IV/doc.102/12.

The delegations lauded the Second Hemispheric Report for its precision and comprehensiveness with regard to the prevention and punishment of violence against women, and for providing an action framework useful to the States Parties, since its attached tables systematized and compared state actions undertaken in the six areas of the questionnaire: legislation; national policy; access to justice; specialized services; budgets; and information and statistics.

The delegations adopted by acclamation the Second Hemispheric Report and decided to use the tables as a matrix to be updated periodically by the Secretariat with information provided to it by the States. They also requested the Secretariat to disseminate the Report, especially to international and regional organizations specialized in this area, and to publish it on the web page of the MESECVI (<http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/default.asp>).

The Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Experts was held in Panama City, on May 3 and 4, 2012. At its first plenary session, in the absence of a quorum, it was decided to adopt the decisions *ad referendum*, and that the minutes of the sessions would be sent by email to the experts who had not participated so that they could indicate their agreement with the decisions taken.

Participating in the meeting were representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNPD), who indicated their interest in receiving the country reports and Hemispheric Reports, as well as the list of experts, with their contact information, so that they could maintain more direct contact with them. Also taking part were civil society organizations and specialized organizations such as the Central American Feminist Network against Violence against Women, and the Inter-American Network of Shelters (RIRE).

Among matters of special concern to the Committee of Experts, views were exchanged on on-site visits, which were not included in the legal instruments of the MESECVI; publication of the

replies from the States to the questionnaire, and of the preliminary reports, since the legal instruments of the MESECVI did not provide for their publication; and, lastly, the limited budgetary allocations made for the prevention and punishment of violence against women, which jeopardized the application and effectiveness of any state action in this area.

On June 25, the Technical Secretariat distributed to all experts the provisional minutes of the Eighth Meeting of Experts for their adoption *ad referendum*, and established the period of July 2, 2012 for comments. No comments on the minutes were received and they were deemed approved.

Additionally, in fulfillment of the mandates adopted, the Technical Secretariat prepared and forwarded to the Committee of Experts, on August 15, 2012, draft indicators for following up on the recommendations of the Second Multilateral Evaluation Round for review by the experts at their next meeting, which will be held November 12-14, 2012, in Mexico City.

4. Promotion of the MESECVI

4.1 Participation in regional meetings

Fulfillment of international commitments to eradicate gender-based violence against women
(El Salvador, December 1 to 3, 2010)

The CIM was invited to take part in the panel discussion on “The Action of Regional International Organizations Regarding the Eradication of Violence against Women,” together with representatives of other regional international organizations. The panel also lauded the enactment in that country of the Comprehensive Special Law for a Violence-Free Life for Women.

Regional Roundtable – Femicide in Central and South America
(Rosario, Argentina, May 19 and 20, 2011)

The CLADEM Monitoring Program promoted a discussion on the need for or relevance of enacting criminal legislation on femicide/feminicide. The first step was to organize a working group, composed of experts from Bolivia, Chile, Mexico, Panama, and Peru, which produced a briefing document for the discussion.

The second step in this process was the panel discussion which, with a maximum of 30 participants, academics, judges, criminal lawyers, criminologists, feminists specializing in the subject, and members of the CEVI and of the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), met in Rosario to discuss these issues. The outcomes of the event will be published by CLADEM.

4.2 Web page

April 2011 marked the official launch of the MESECVI’s web page: <http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/default.asp>, where information can be accessed on the Mechanism and its Evaluation Rounds; the documents and results of the meetings of the Conference of States Parties and of the Committee of Experts; the country reports and hemispheric reports; and the

directories of the States Parties and of the members of the Committee; as well as general and specific information on violence against women and how it is being combated in the Hemisphere.

4.3 Dissemination of information

42nd OAS Policy Roundtable: “Priorities for Action in Combating Violence against Women”
(July 11, 2012, Washington, D.C.)

On July 11, 2012, the Second Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the *Belém do Pará Convention* was launched. The event was opened by the OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza, and Elizabeth Quiroa, President of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará (Guatemala).

This was followed by a panel discussion in which took part Patricia Olamendi, Coordinator of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, Maryvonne Lyazid, Assistant Ombudsperson of France and Vice Chairperson of the assembly for combating discrimination and promoting equality, Elizabeth Abi-Mershed, Interim Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) of the OAS, and María Leticia Guelfi, Specialist, UN Women, representing the UN Secretary-General’s campaign “United to End Violence against Women,” for Latin America and the Caribbean.

A printed version of the Hemispheric Report was distributed to all participants, and is also available through the web page of the MESECVI: <http://www.oas.org/en/mese cvi/docs/MESECVI-SegundoInformeHemisferico-EN.pdf>.

5. A look ahead

In general, those consulted in the independent evaluation process of the MESECVI were cautious in evaluating its impact. Although they emphasized progress made in the region, they characterized the role of the Mechanism only as having kept abreast of changes that had taken place, for example, in the general context of Latin America and of the legislative reforms to which the MESECVI had contributed.

As a strength, they pointed to the existence of the MESECVI itself as a specific mechanism for monitoring the situation of violence against women in the region which, in its years of operation, had accumulated substantial experience. However, those interviewed were in agreement that to overcome the existing situation and substantially improve its effectiveness and impact, the MESECVI needed a larger budget and greater political support.

Those interviewed concurred that there was little awareness at the national level of the actions and decisions of the MESECVI. The country reports (which contained the specific country recommendations and could therefore be used very specifically to monitor progress or reversals in states) had not been disseminated.

Owing to the political intent of states to commit themselves to the MESECVI and the process of implementation of the Convention, as well as commitment on the part of the members of the

Committee of Experts, the Second Round was achieving greater participation by States. Unlike the First Round, in the current Round, all States had designated an expert. Additionally, the four countries that had not participated in the First Round (Bahamas, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) were participating in the Second.

Moreover, through the web page launched and other communication initiatives undertaken by the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM, the Second Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the *Belém do Pará Convention* and the results of the Second Multilateral Evaluation Round of the MESECVI had been disseminated much more widely, helping to increase significantly the visibility and potential impact of the Mechanism in the region.

These positive results showed that, as objectives were achieved, new activities arose, and it was becoming increasingly necessary to obtain contributions, either as human or financial resources, for their implementation. Although several countries had made contributions to the MESECVI, Mexico was the only country that had contributed each year and had designated a member of its Foreign Service to support the work of the Mechanism for two years.

It was evident that the States Parties had provided support for the Rounds process, forwarding their reports within the allotted periods; designating their experts and competent national authorities; and offering to host meetings of the Committee of Experts or of the Conference. This support should also allow for deeper commitment to facilitating the work of the experts. Such support was essential to enable States Parties to participate in meetings of the Committee of Experts and fulfill the obligations decided at those meetings. Strengthening the Committee was a fundamental pillar in the Round process, since it was the technical organ which, through its questionnaires, evaluations, and recommendations, collaborated with the States in their ongoing efforts to combat violence against women.

A strong MESECVI would have to address existing challenges in combating violence against women, among them making visible new scenarios where violence against women was perpetrated;^{6/} gender mainstreaming and incorporating human rights in development;^{7/} and recognizing and guaranteeing sexual and reproductive rights,^{8/} which were areas where the life, dignity, and liberty of women were now subject to massive assault.

^{6.} Apart from traditional partner and former partner scenarios, the family environment, sexual assault, and the sex trade, opportunities are becoming visible such as trafficking in persons for all exploitative purposes, mafias and national and international criminal networks; gangs, misogyny, and women viewed as scapegoats, among others. In: CARCEDO, Ana. *No Olvidamos ni Aceptamos: Femicidio en Centroamérica 2000-2006*. San José: CEFEMINA: 2010, pp. 21 ff.

^{7.} In the view of Ellen Dorsey, Mayra Gómez, Bret Thiele, and Paul Nelson, a human rights based approach to achieving the Millennium Development Goals would enforce processes that require non-discrimination and equality, the prioritization of the most marginalized, and their involvement in designing of their own community development strategies. DORSEY, Ellen *et al. Falling Short of Our Goals: Transforming the Millennium Development Goals into Millennium Development Rights*. At: <http://list.iwraw-ap.org/lists/arc/cedaw4change/2010-09/msg00007.html>

^{8.} At the regional level, Agreement No. 6 of the Brasilia Consensus, of July 16, 2010, establishes an agenda for achieving the promotion of the integral health of women and their sexual and reproductive rights.

See http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/noticias/paginas/6/40236/ConsensoBrasilia_ING.pdf

For the future, the strengthening process had entailed the planning of new projects to deepen both the work done thus far and its impact. In that effort and emphasizing the different potentialities of the Follow-up Mechanism, for the five-year period, the development of a 2013-2017 strategic plan of the MESECVI was envisaged whose bases consolidated the main elements of regional concern with regard to tools to guarantee that women in the region could exercise their right to violence-free lives. This included the process of preparing a short, medium, and long-term results-based plan that made it possible not only to follow up on the situation of violence against women in the region, but also to ensure on an ongoing basis that the States Parties had the technical tools needed to address the many challenges that arose in formulating public policies that guaranteed a region free from violence against women.

To that end, the MESECVI also planned to develop, with participation by all actors involved in formulating these policies, the set of standard indicators needed to measure fulfillment of the obligations assumed by the States Parties, and their progressive development. By these means, an instrument would be consolidated through the Mechanism itself that enabled all States to evaluate their own public policies and identify limitations, tests, and challenges entailed in the implementation of those obligations.

This set of indicators would make it possible to identify, and disseminate, advances and good State practices, and to contribute in a substantive and ongoing way to all States, which, based on principles of sovereignty and multilateralism, would be able to interact and strengthen their action and problem-resolution mechanisms. The aim was to provide the States with a mechanism for evaluation and follow-up that provided them with technical tools and, progressively, a reliable system of indicators of implementation of their own obligations.

For the future, for the MESECVI, a body was envisaged that, through its regionwide presence and with support from all participating actors, on the one hand, was able to identify the region's major challenges and, on the other, could monitor, based on lessons learned, good practices, and follow-up, the political intent of the States to their own processes of fulfilling the obligations assumed under the Convention of Belém do Pará and the hemispheric and regional commitment to eradicate violence against women and girls.

The effectiveness of the Mechanism in addressing the new challenges and performing its task of supporting the States Parties in implementing the Convention of Belém do Pará would depend on the support they provide for its strengthening.

Table 1
Financial situation of the MESECVI
as of August 31, 2012

Country	Year	Amount (in US\$)
Mexico	2004	29,970.00
Brazil	2005	10,000.00
Mexico	2005	55,575.00

6. Financing of the MESECVI

Thus far, the fund created for the MESECVI has received contributions from Argentina, Brazil, China, France, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela. Additionally, Argentina and Costa Rica contributed by hosting, respectively, the Third (2007) and Sixth (2010) Meetings of the Committee of Experts; and Venezuela (2008) and Guatemala (2011) by offering to host, respectively, the Second and Third Conferences of States Parties (2008).

All regular sessions of the OAS General Assembly and all Assemblies of the CIM have reiterated the invitation to the governments to contribute human or financial resources to the MESECVI. In September 2012, the OAS Secretary General sent a formal note to all Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties of the Conference requesting financial contributions to the MESECVI fund or in-kind contributions by organizing meetings of the Mechanism or contributing human resources to its Technical Secretariat.

It should be noted that the MESECVI and its Technical Secretariat still lack the resources needed for full implementation of their many mandates and their goal to serve as a hemispheric point of reference on the prevention, punishment, and eradication of violence against women. In that regard, a fundamental aspect of efforts to strengthen the MESECVI must be to focus on mobilizing resources—from both the States Parties to the Convention and other possible donors through the formulation and execution of specific projects.

Mexico	2006	54,151.62
Argentina	2007	9,535.40
France	2007	10,000.00
Mexico	2007	54,894.78
China	2008	15,000.00
Mexico	2008	42,938.00
Venezuela	2008	76,466.00
China	2009	30,000.00
Mexico	2009	34,349.00
Trinidad and Tobago	2009	15,000.00
Mexico	2010	25,478.00
Trinidad and Tobago	2010	15,000.00
Argentina	2011	5,000.00
Mexico	2011	19,110.00
Argentina	2012	15,000.00
Mexico	2012	14,333.00
TOTAL:		\$566,800.80
Total resources executed:		\$495,320.90
Balance:		\$71,479.90

Country	EVALUATION						FOLLOW-UP
	Reply	Preliminary Report I	Preliminary Report II	CNA comments	Preliminary Report III	CNA comments	Reply to indicators
26. Saint Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
27. Saint Lucia	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
28. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
29. Suriname	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES
30. Trinidad and Tobago	YES		YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
31. Uruguay	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
32. Venezuela	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO
TOTAL	28	22	28	20	20	15	17

APPENDIX II

Status of designation of experts and competent national authority in the First and Second Multilateral Evaluation Rounds

COUNTRY	EXPERTS		CNA	
	1 REM	2 REM (2011)	1 REM	2 REM (2011)
1. Antigua and Barbuda	YES	YES	YES	YES
2. Argentina	YES	YES	YES	YES
3. Bahamas	YES	YES	YES	YES
4. Barbados	YES	YES	YES	YES
5. Belize	YES	YES	YES	YES
6. Bolivia	YES	YES	YES	YES
7. Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES
8. Chile	YES	YES	YES	YES
9. Colombia	YES	YES	YES	YES
10. Costa Rica	YES	YES	YES	YES
11. Dominica	YES	YES	YES	YES
12. Ecuador	YES	YES	YES	YES
13. El Salvador	YES	YES	YES	YES
14. Grenada	NO	YES	NO	YES
15. Guatemala	YES	YES	YES	YES
16. Guyana	YES	NO	YES	YES
17. Haiti	YES	NO	YES	NO
18. Honduras	YES	NO	YES	NO
19. Jamaica	YES	YES	YES	YES
20. Mexico	YES	YES	YES	YES
21. Nicaragua	YES	NO	YES	YES
22. Panamá	YES	YES	YES	YES
23. Paraguay	YES	YES	YES	YES
24. Peru	YES	YES	YES	YES
25. Dominican Republic	YES	YES	YES	YES
26. Saint Kitts and Nevis	NO	YES	NO	YES
27. Saint Lucia	NO	YES	YES	YES
28. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	YES	YES	NO	YES

COUNTRY	EXPERTS		CNA	
	1 REM	2 REM (2011)	1 REM	2 REM (2011)
29. Suriname	YES	YES	NO	YES
30. Trinidad and Tobago	YES	YES	YES	YES
31. Uruguay	YES	YES	YES	YES
32. Venezuela	YES	YES	YES	YES
TOTAL	29	28	28	30

APPENDIX III
Participation in Conferences of States Parties in the First and Second Multilateral Evaluation Rounds

COUNTRY	1 REM		2 REM	
	I CONFERENCE (2004)	II CONFERENCE (2008)	III CONFERENCE (2011)	IV CONFERENCE (2012)
1. Antigua and Barbuda	NO	NO	YES	NO
2. Argentina	YES	YES	YES	YES
3. Bahamas	YES	NO	NO	NO
4. Barbados	YES	YES	NO	YES
5. Belize	YES	NO	NO	YES
6. Bolivia	YES	YES	YES	YES
7. Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES
8. Canada ⁹	YES	NO	NO	NO
9. Chile	YES	YES	YES	YES
10. Colombia	YES	YES	YES	YES
11. Costa Rica	YES	YES	YES	YES
12. Dominica	NO	NO	YES	NO
13. Ecuador	YES	YES	YES	YES
14. El Salvador	YES	YES	YES	YES
15. Grenada	NO	NO	YES	NO
16. Guatemala	YES	YES	YES	YES
17. Guyana	NO	NO	NO	NO
18. Haiti	NO	YES	NO	YES
19. Honduras	YES	YES	NO	YES
20. Jamaica	NO	YES	NO	NO
21. Mexico	YES	YES	YES	YES
22. Nicaragua	YES	YES	NO	YES
23. Panama	YES	YES	YES	YES
24. Paraguay	YES	YES	NO	YES
25. Peru	YES	YES	YES	YES
26. Dominican Republic	YES	YES	YES	YES

⁹. Participated as an observer (Article 4 of the Statute of the MESECVI).

COUNTRY	1 REM		2 REM	
	I CONFERENCE (2004)	II CONFERENCE (2008)	III CONFERENCE (2011)	IV CONFERENCE (2012)
27. Saint Kitts and Nevis	YES	NO	YES	NO
28. Saint Lucia	YES	NO	YES	YES
29. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	YES	YES
30. Suriname	NO	NO	NO	NO
31. Trinidad and Tobago	YES	YES	YES	YES
32. United States ^{10/}	YES	NO	YES	NO
33. Uruguay	YES	NO	YES	YES
34. Venezuela	YES	YES	YES	YES
TOTAL	26	21	23	24

^{10/} *Idem.*

APPENDIX IV
Participation by experts in meetings of the Committee of Experts (2005-2011)

Country	First Meeting (2005)	Second Meeting (2006)	Third Meeting (2007)	Fourth Meeting (2008)	Fifth Meeting (2009)	Sixth Meeting (2010)	Seventh Meeting (2011)	Eighth Meeting (2012)
Antigua and Barbuda	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Argentina	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bahamas	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Barbados	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Belize	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
Bolivia	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Brazil	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Chile	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Colombia	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Costa Rica	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
Dominica	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Ecuador	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
El Salvador	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
Grenada	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Guatemala	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Guyana	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Haiti	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
Honduras	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Jamaica	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Mexico	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nicaragua	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Panama	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Paraguay	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Peru	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO
Dominican Republic	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO

Country	First Meeting (2005)	Second Meeting (2006)	Third Meeting (2007)	Fourth Meeting (2008)	Fifth Meeting (2009)	Sixth Meeting (2010)	Seventh Meeting (2011)	Eighth Meeting (2012)
Saint Kitts and Nevis	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Saint Lucia	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Suriname	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Trinidad and Tobago	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
Uruguay	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO
Venezuela	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
TOTAL	20	17	18	15	13	21	19	8