



FOLLOW UP MECHANISM  
CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ (MESECVI)  
**TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES**  
10, 11 and 12 December 2025  
Fortaleza, Brazil

OEA/Ser.L/II.7.10  
MESECVI-X/doc.157/25  
December 12, 2025  
Original: Spanish

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTY TO THE FOLLOW-UP**  
**MECHANISM TO THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE**  
**PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT, AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE**  
**AGAINST WOMEN**  
*CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ*

The Tenth Conference of States Parties of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) was held on December 10, 11, and 12, 2025, at the Ceará Events Center in the city of Fortaleza, Brazil, with the participation of seventeen States Parties and the signatory State of Canada.

The opening ceremony was presided over by the Minister of Women of Brazil, Márcia Lopes, who referred to the adoption of the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Digital Violence against Women and to Brazil's commitment to advancing toward its adoption at the national level. Representing the State of Ceará, the Secretary for Women welcomed the delegations and underscored the relevance of the new instrument in guiding public policies to address digital violence.

Likewise, the Vice President of the Committee of Experts highlighted the role of the CEVI in the evolving interpretation of the Convention in response to new manifestations of violence, while the Secretary General of the Organization of American States reaffirmed the institutional support of the Organization for the Belém do Pará Convention and the MESECVI. The Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), for her part, emphasized the importance of the work carried out by the experts and the commitment of the States to ensuring the continued relevance and effectiveness of the Convention.

During the opening ceremony, tribute was paid to the experts with more than two decades of service within the CEVI, in recognition of their contribution to the development of the Mechanism. A recognition was also given to Maria da Penha, whose case was instrumental in bringing visibility to violence against women as a violation of human rights. Following the opening remarks and the official photograph, the working sessions of the Conference commenced.

On December 11, at 10:17 a.m., the President of the Conference welcomed the delegations and invited them to consider the agenda and schedule of activities contained in documents MESECVI X/doc.150/25 and MESECVI X/doc.151/25. As no observations were raised, both documents were approved. Subsequently, Costa Rica and Colombia were elected as Rapporteur States of the Conference.

The report of the Presidency was then presented, summarizing the work carried out since February 2025. The report highlighted the political and technical momentum surrounding the Model Law on Digital Violence, regional coordination with international organizations and civil society organizations, and the importance of ensuring the financial sustainability of the Mechanism. The report was approved by the Conference.

This was followed by a dialogue between the Competent National Authorities and the Committee of Experts, focused on the challenges posed by digital violence against women three decades after the entry into force of the Convention. The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI and the Vice Presidency of the CEVI presented the Inter-American Model Law to

Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Digital Violence against Women, emphasizing its participatory drafting process, its intersectional approach, and the diversity of manifestations of violence addressed therein. The Law was presented as establishing a comprehensive framework for prevention, protection, investigation, punishment, and reparation, as well as a shared responsibility scheme involving States, digital platforms, and other stakeholders, promoting cross-border cooperation and the adoption of common standards throughout the region.

Subsequently, the panel entitled “From Commitment to Implementation” took place, during which panelists unanimously underscored the urgency of addressing digital violence against women and the usefulness of the Model Law as a reference for national legislative reforms. The importance of reliable data, strengthened institutional capacities, accountability of digital platforms, and comprehensive public policies was emphasized. In their interventions, the States Parties expressed general support for the Model Law, highlighted national advances and challenges, and conveyed their willingness to use it as a normative reference. Civil society organizations stressed the importance of disseminating the Law, strengthening diagnostics, ensuring meaningful social participation, and addressing the needs of women in all their diversity.

During the afternoon session, the Conference continued with a panel devoted to democracy, disinformation, and political violence. It was noted that the defense of democracy entails the protection of women’s rights and lives, and warnings were raised regarding risks associated with attacks on institutions and electoral processes. The panel addressed how digital political violence constitutes a form of exclusion of women from public life, fueled by disinformation campaigns, coordinated attacks, and misogynistic discourse amplified in digital environments. Panelists also discussed the impacts of digital violence on women human rights defenders and leaders, the importance of digital care practices, and the need for accurate diagnostics to respond to forms of violence intersecting with political, economic, racial, and climate-related factors. Civil society organizations presented information on the differentiated impacts of these forms of violence on Black, young, and trans women and called for the strengthening of protection mechanisms.

On December 12, the session began with the reading and discussion of the draft Declaration of the Tenth Conference, the consideration of which was reorganized due to the ministerial commitments of several delegations. The State of Canada requested the explicit inclusion of Indigenous women in several sections of the text, while Suriname and The Bahamas proposed incorporating references to tribal and rural women, as well as linguistic adjustments. Once the observations were incorporated, the Declaration of the Tenth Conference (MESECVI X/doc.152/25.rev2) was adopted by acclamation.

The Conference Agreements were then presented and adopted by acclamation, including footnotes requested by Paraguay and Peru.

Subsequently, a panel on women and the climate emergency was held, highlighting that the climate crisis has differentiated gender and human rights impacts, disproportionately affecting

Indigenous, Afro-descendant, rural women, and women human rights defenders of land and territory. It was noted that phenomena such as droughts, floods, wildfires, and forced displacement exacerbate food insecurity, care burdens, domestic and sexual violence, and the criminalization of environmental defenders. The relevance of ancestral knowledge, the protection of defenders, and the incorporation of a gender perspective into climate action—including financing and governance—were underscored. States shared national advances in gender mainstreaming, just transition strategies, and climate participation. Civil society organizations warned of the impacts of the climate crisis on health and reproductive rights, food production, and regional inequalities.

The following panel addressed violence against women from an intersectional perspective, including the situations of Black women, Indigenous women, women with disabilities, and women living with HIV. Persistent structural violence and discriminatory practices were highlighted, along with the need for accessible, violence-free health systems, inclusive education, accessibility, and the incorporation of territorial approaches into femicide prevention policies. Both States and civil society organizations expressed concern about setbacks in women's rights and agreed on the need to strengthen coordination between the State and civil society.

Finally, the Fourth Hemispheric Report of the CEVI was presented. The report compiles the results of the measurement of 137 indicators and identifies persistent challenges, including the lack of comprehensive data on historically discriminated groups, insufficient statistics generated by justice systems, the persistence of harmful practices, and low levels of resources allocated to investigation and reparation. The need to strengthen information systems and regional cooperation to improve data production and use was emphasized. Delegations underscored the importance of investing in information systems and using evidence for the design of public policies, while civil society organizations highlighted that data collection must reflect territorial realities and guarantee public access to information.

The closing session began at 2:15 p.m. The Conference Presidency thanked the States Parties, panelists, and civil society organizations for their participation and reaffirmed the regional commitment to the full implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention and the Model Law on Digital Violence. The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI recognized the work of the Committee of Experts and emphasized the importance of translating the adopted agreements into concrete public policies. The Executive Secretariat of the CIM thanked the host State and urged States to strengthen regional cooperation. Representatives of civil society acknowledged advances while warning of setbacks in women's rights, calling for measurable commitments, adequate financing, and policy sustainability. In her final remarks, the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS recalled the case of Olimpia Coral Melo and emphasized that new forms of violence, particularly digital violence, represent a current challenge requiring coordinated responses, including the adoption and financing of the Model Law.

At the close of the Conference, the Presidency underscored that the functioning of the Mechanism depends on the annual financial contributions of the States Parties and highlighted

the importance of maintaining and strengthening this commitment to ensure the sustainability of the MESECVI and the continuity of its technical work. Finally, the President officially declared the Tenth Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI closed at 3:12 p.m., thanking the delegations and the organizing team for the successful conduct of the meeting.



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### LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Title	Languages
MESECVI-X/doc.150/25	Agenda	E I P
MESECVI-X/doc.151/25	Calendar of activities	E I P
MESECVI-X/doc.152/25.rev2	Declaration on Democracy, Climate Emergency, Digital Environments, and New Forms of Violence against Women	E I
MESECVI-X/doc.153/25.rev2	Agreements	E I
MESECVI-X/doc.154/25	Rapporteurship	E I
MESECVI-X/doc.155/25	List of Documents	Textual
MESECVI-X/doc.156/25	List of participants	E I
MESECVI-X/doc.157/25	Minute	E I
MESECVI-X/inf.30/25	Report of the Presidency	E I



MECHANISM TO FOLLOW UP ON THE  
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MESECVI-X/doc.150/25  
October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Calendar of activities
2. Dialogue between National Competent Authorities and the Committee of Experts. New challenges, shared responses: tools to address digital violence against women over three decades of the Belém do Pará Convention.
3. Democracy, disinformation, and political violence.
4. Women and the climate emergency: differentiated impacts and recommendations for gender-responsive climate action.
5. Intersectionalities: Belém do Pará commitments to protecting women in situations of greater vulnerability.
6. Strengthening the measurement of violence against women: presentation of the Fourth Hemispheric Report of MESECVI and the importance of data for diagnosing violence, leading up to the Fifth MESECVI Round.
7. Presentation of the draft Declaration on Democracy, Climate Emergency, Digital Environments, and New Forms of Violence against Women.
8. Proposal and confirmation of the host country for the XI Conference of States Parties (2027).
9. Adoption of the Agreements of the X Conference of States Parties of MESECVI.
10. Report of the Conference Rapporteurship.
11. Other matters
12. Closing session



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## CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

### **December 10**

#### **Fortaleza, Brazil**

**6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Inaugural Ceremony:** Celebrating achievements, building the future: three decades of the Belém do Pará Convention – 20 years of MESECVI. Regional milestones in the fight for a life free of violence for all women.

#### **OPENING SESSION**

- Márcia Lopes, President of the Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI, Minister of Women, Brazil
- Albert Ramdin, Secretary General of the OAS
- Mónica Maureira, Vice President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI
- Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of Inter-American Commission of Women
- Lia Gomes, State Secretariat for Women of Ceará
- Luz Patricia Mejia, Technical Secretary of MESECVI

#### **Official photo (3 photos: CEP, CEVI, General)**

**7:00 PM – 8:00 PM Tribute to Maria da Penha and the Experts with 20 years of service on the Committee**

### **December 11**

#### **Fortaleza, Brazil**

**8:30 - 9:00** Registration of participants

**9:00 – 9:30** **First Plenary Session**

Adoption of the draft agenda  
Adoption of the Organization of Work  
Election of the Rapporteur of the X Conference of States Parties  
Presentation of the Report of the Presidency

09:30 – 11:10

**Dialogue between National Competent Authorities and the Committee of Experts. *New challenges, shared responses: tools to address digital violence against women in the three decades since the Belém do Pará Convention.***

09:30 – 09:50

*Presentation of the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Gender-Based Digital Violence Against Women*

- Mónica Maureira, Committee of Experts, Chile
- Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI

09:50 – 11:10

***Panel 1. From Commitment to Implementation: Pathways to Apply the Model Law on Digital Violence Against Women (50 min)***

- Jamie Saunders, Executive Director, Directorate of Gender Affairs, National Competent Authority (CNA) from Antigua and Barbuda
- Ingrid Gómez Saracíbar, Deputy Secretary for the Right to a Life Free from Violence, Women’s Secretariat, ANC México
- Ana Carolina Querino, Acting Representative UN Women Brazil
- Janara Kalline Leal Lopes de Sousa, Researcher on Misogyny on Social Media
- Rubiela Gaspar, Hiperderecho, Representative of the Belém do Pará Regional Articulation

Moderation: Estelizabel Bezerra, National Secretary, Ministry of Women Brazil

Authorities Dialogue: 30 min

11:10 – 11:30

**Coffee Break**

11:30 – 13:00

**Panel 2. Democracy, Disinformation, and Political Violence  
(50 min)**

- Márcia Lopes, Minister of Women of Brazil and President of the Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI
- Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women of the OAS
- Loreto Bravo, Mesoamerican Initiative for Women Human Rights Defenders
- Silvia Pimentel (SP) Professor at PUC-SP, Ex president of CEDAW Committee from (2011 – 2012)

Moderation: Lia Gomes, Secretary, Secretariat for Women's Affairs, State of Ceará

Authorities Dialogue: 30 min

13:00 – 14:30

**Lunch**

14:30 – 16:30

**Second Plenary Session**

**Panel 3. Women and the Climate Emergency: Differentiated Impacts and Recommendations for Gender-Responsive Climate Action**

- Ana Prudencia López - Presidential Secretariat for Women, National Competent Authority, Guatemala
- Elaine Henry McQueen, Expert from Grenada
- Ana Pérez, Representative of Inclusive Societies - European Union
- Sonia Henríquez Ledad, Representative from ECMIA
- Jaqueline Kuña Aranduhá, Co-founder of the National Articulation of Indigenous Women Warriors of Ancestrality (Anmiga) and member of Kuñangue Aty Guasu

Moderation: Miriam Roache, Expert from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Committee of Experts MESECVI

Authorities Dialogue: 30 min

17:00 – 18:00

*Cultural performance and dinner*

## December 12

9:00 – 10:30

### **Third Plenary Session**

#### **Panel 4: Intersectionalities: Belém do Pará's commitments to protecting women in situations of greater vulnerability**

*(Gender-based violence against Afro-descendant women, Indigenous women: migration and violence, Migrant women: access to justice during migration transit)*

- Támara Matea Ospina Posse, Viceminister for Women, Ministry of Equality and Equity, NCA of Colombia
- Rocío Muñoz Flores, Regional Gender Advisor, UNFPA Latin America and the Caribbean
- Lúcia Xavier, Criola, Representative of the Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean, and Diaspora Women
- Mariana Jácono, International Community of Women with HIV, Belém do Pará Regional Articulation
- Rita Guaraná, from the Association of Blind and Low Vision Women, or Carol Santos, from the Inclusivas Movement

Moderation: Lourdes Montero, Experta de Bolivia del Comité de Expertas

10:30 – 10:45

Authorities Dialogue: 30 min

10:45 – 12:00

### **Coffee Break**

### **Fourth Plenary Session**

#### **Panel 5: Strengthening the measurement of violence against women: presentation of the Fourth Hemispheric MESECVI Report and the importance of data for diagnosing violence, moving toward the Fifth MESECVI Round**

- Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of MESECVI
- Mónica Xavier, Director, National Institute Nacional of Women, CNA Uruguay
- Marjorie Emmanuel, Director, Intergovernmental and International Relations for Women and Gender Equality Canada

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• María Guadalupe Aguirre, CAF Representative</li> </ul>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Moderation: Leila Linhares Barsted, CEVI Expert, Brazil</p> <p>Authorities Dialogue: 30 min</p> <p><b>Presentation of the Draft Declaration on Democracy, Technology, and Climate Emergency</b></p>
13:00 – 14:30	<p><i>Reading of the declaration</i></p> <p><i>Interventions by the authorities</i></p>
14:30 – 15:00	<p><i>Approval</i></p> <p><b>Lunch</b></p>
15:00 – 15:45	<p><b>Confirmation of the host country for the XI Conference of the States Parties</b></p> <p><i>Interventions by the authorities (3 minutes)</i></p>
15:45 – 16:15	<p><b>Reading and adoption of the Agreements of the X Conference of the States Parties of the MESECVI</b></p>
16:15 – 16:45	<p><b>Report of the Rapporteur of the Conference</b></p>
16:45 - 17:30	<p><b>Other matters</b></p> <p><b>Closing Session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Gil, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS</li> <li>• Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women of the OAS</li> <li>• Maira Noguera, Jovenas Latidas, Civil Society representative</li> <li>• Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI</li> <li>• Márcia Lopes, Minister of Women of Brazil and President of the Conference of the States Parties of the MESECVI</li> </ul>



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## **AGREEMENTS OF THE TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTY TO THE FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)<sup>12</sup>**

The States Party to the *Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará,”* gathered at the Tenth Conference of States Party to the MESECVI on December 10, 11 and 12, 2025, in Fortaleza, Brazil;

RECALLING that, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention’s provisions, the First Conference of States Party was held on October 26, 2004, at the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS), where the “Statute of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará” (MESECVI) was adopted;

RECOGNIZING the need to strengthen the MESECVI as an essential regional mechanism for following up, evaluating and transforming State policies concerning the multiple forms of violence against women and girls, adapting the Mechanism to the challenges of Belém do Pará +30;

CONSIDERING that the MESECVI Strategic Plan 2024–2029 establishes as a priority the incorporation of inclusive approaches that recognize diversity, intersectional, and interculturality, as well as human security, gender, and territorial perspectives in response to emerging forms of violence, particularly those affecting Afro-descendant women;

RECOGNIZING that the strengthening of democracy requires ensuring the effective access of women, adolescents and girls to a full, inclusive, accessible, and safe digital citizenship, which in turn demands preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, including trafficking, digital violence, disinformation, and the forms of violence exacerbated by climate change, natural disasters, and gender inequalities;

CONSIDERING that the Fourth Hemispheric Report of the MESECVI (2025) demonstrate a sustained increase in violence against women, adolescents and girls, racial/ethnic, political, symbolic, moral, and digital violence, particularly those who participate in public life,

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<sup>1</sup> The Republic of Paraguay reaffirms with absolute clarity that any interpretation and implementation shall be carried out (...)

<sup>2</sup> The Peruvian State reaffirms its full commitment to the protection, respect, and guarantee of the human rights(...)



communications, human rights and environmental defense, as well as those who face structural vulnerabilities;

REITERATING the international commitments adopted under COP30 (2025), the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (1994), the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (1995), and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement, 2018)<sup>3</sup>, all of which recognize the essential role of women in environmental management and sustainable development;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that climate emergencies and unsafe digital environments exacerbate structural inequalities affecting women, adolescents and girls, increasing risks of violence, exclusion, and vulnerability;

REAFFIRMING that women environmental defenders, Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, rural women, and women from traditional, peasants and native communities play an irreplaceable role in ecosystem protection and ancestral knowledge, and that their work requires effective guarantees of safety, participation, and recognition;

REAFFIRMING the need to foster cooperation, exchange of information, and good practices among the States Party to the Convention, especially between Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as adhering and signatory States, OAS Permanent Observers, and other relevant subregional, regional and international bodies addressing gender-based violence against women, adolescents and girls, taking into account differentiated approaches for girls, adolescents, older women, human rights defenders and environmental defenders, Indigenous, tribal and Afro-descendant women, rural women, women from traditional communities, migrant women and others facing specific conditions that may lead to vulnerabilities;

RATIFYING the importance of dialogue between the National Competent Authorities and the CEVI for the exchange of experiences on advances and obstacles in relevant topics regarding the strengthening, fulfillment and dissemination of the *Belém do Pará Convention* and the institutional mandates of both bodies, with a view to strengthening the MESECVI and maintaining its role as a regional and global reference<sup>4</sup>;

CONVINCED that strengthening the MESECVI requires support from the States Party in human and/or financial resources, and therefore recognizing the need to identify sustainable financing alternatives for the effective functioning of the Mechanism;

CONFIRMING the importance of dialogue between the MESECVI and women's organizations, human rights defenders, and civil society movements;

AGREE TO:

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<sup>3</sup> Peru does not support the reference to the Escazú Agreement,(...)

<sup>4</sup> Guidelines for the development of dialogues between (...)



1. Reaffirm their commitment to the principles and obligations of the Belém do Pará Convention and strengthen democratic governance by orienting legislation and public policies toward the eradication of all forms of violence against women and girls;
2. Guarantee comprehensive mechanisms to ensure access to justice, truth and reparation for women, girls, adolescents, older women, human rights and environmental defenders, Indigenous, tribal and Afro-descendant women, rural women, women from traditional communities and any other group facing any condition that may lead to vulnerability, through gender-responsive security policies, monitoring and evaluation systems, gender-responsive budgets, and disaggregated data—ensuring prevention, protection, and eradication of gender-based violence in all public and private spheres;
3. Welcome the approval of the *Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women* by the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, commit to presenting it to their Parliaments and promote its adoption into national laws and public policies. Request the Technical Secretariat to provide assistance for its implementation, to be supported financially by the States Party and international cooperation;
4. Adopt legislative and public policy measures to prevent, punish, and eradicate the forms of violence exacerbated by climate and environmental crises, incorporating gender and diversity perspectives in climate change, natural disaster and environmental policies;
5. Promote full, equal and meaningful participation of all women—including Indigenous, tribal and afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, young women, older adult women, and women with disabilities—in all levels of digital governance, ensuring their involvement in decision-making, leadership, technology and innovation to prevent, punish and eradicate digital violence against them;
6. Take note of the main findings of the *Fourth Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention (Latin America chapter): Access to Justice, Truth, and Reparation: Structural Challenges and Institutional Progress (MESECVI, 2025)*. Commit to advancing full access to justice for victims, ensuring specialized services, legal assistance and comprehensive mechanisms for reparations, among others;
7. Request the Technical Secretariat to incorporate indicators on digital violence and the differentiated impacts of climate change in the Fifth Round of Multilateral Evaluation, to strengthen the MESECVI hemispheric database—supported by the financial and human resources that States Party and other strategic partners may provide;
8. Strengthening the MESECVI’s role as a technical and political regional cooperation space, fostering articulation with other Inter-American and universal human rights systems, and facilitating the exchange of good practices among States Party, national gender bureaus, civil society and international organizations to provide a coordinated response to digital violence and to the threats posed to women’s democratic participation in online spaces;
9. Encourage active participation of States Party in the MESECVI, ensuring continuity of commitments and reaffirming the need to guarantee institutional, technical and financial



sustainability through annual contributions and in-kind support, to allow the effective fulfillment of their mandate under the framework of the Convention;

10. Mandate the Committee of Experts (CEVI) to develop normative, technical and methodological instruments to guide the formulation and implementation of policies and programs aimed at eradicating violence against women in the context of climate emergencies and digital environments, in accordance with the mandate of the MESECVI and the priorities established in its 2024–2029 Strategic Plan, and commit to ensuring the necessary financial and technical support for this purpose;

11. Approve the publication of the *Declaration on Democracy, Climate Emergency, Digital Environments and New Forms of Violence against Women* of the X Meeting of the Conference of States Party— Fortaleza Declaration;

12. Continue holding regular dialogues between the National Competent Authorities and the CEVI on progress and challenges on relevant topics regarding the strengthening, fulfillment and dissemination of the Belém do Pará Convention;

13. Continue encouraging the participation of civil society and social actors from all subregions of the Americas in the activities of the MESECVI, consistent with Article 10.2 of its Statute;

14. Present to the next Conference of States Party a report on progress in implementing these mandates, including a section on resource mobilization and State contributions;

15. Welcome the designation of Experts by States Party in 2025 and urge those that have not yet done so to appoint their Principal and Alternate Expert(s), in accordance with the rules established by the Statute of the Mechanism, and reinforce their involvement ensuring the necessary support for their effective participation;

16. Recognize the valuable work of the MESECVI Committee of Experts (CEVI), whose technical, independent and committed contributions are essential for the development of standards, instruments and recommendations that strengthen implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention;

17. Thank the Government of Brazil for hosting the Tenth Conference of States Party and accept the offer by the Dominican Republic to host the Eleventh Conference of States Party in 2027.



## FOOTNOTES

1. ... solely and exclusively within the framework of its National Constitution, the treaties it has ratified, and its current legislation, and it adheres to this Declaration and the Agreements under these terms.

Paraguay underscores that its National Constitution and legal system enshrine equality of rights between men and women and prohibit all forms of discrimination.

With regard to the term gender used in the Declaration and the Agreements, Paraguay expressly maintains that its interpretation is governed by the provisions of Article 48 of the National Constitution, understanding it exclusively as referring to the female and male sexes. Likewise, the Republic of Paraguay clarifies that references to the following terms—women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle; LGBTIQ+ women; gender identity; sexual and reproductive rights; diversity policies; diversity; multiple and intersectional discrimination; intersectional; intersectionality; gender approach; gender perspective; their autonomies; diverse women; diverse groups of women; gender mainstreaming; women throughout their life cycle—shall be interpreted in accordance with its national legislation and shall not be taken into consideration where they contravene its domestic legal framework.

In the same vein, it is hereby placed on record that the declaratory document and the agreements adopted do not establish any precedent for Paraguay, nor shall they be considered agreed texts for future negotiations.

Furthermore, Paraguay reaffirms its commitment to the promotion and protection of the comprehensive health of all women, including sexual and reproductive health. Nevertheless, it unequivocally places on record that any reference to sexual and reproductive rights may not, under any circumstances, be interpreted as recognition, authorization, or promotion of the termination of pregnancy (abortion).

This position is firmly grounded in the provisions of the National Constitution (in particular, Article 4), which guarantees the protection of the right to life from conception, and is consistent with the reservations expressed by Paraguay in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), the Ninth Declaration of the Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI (2024), and the Third Extraordinary Conference of States Parties in its Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes in Public Spaces that Translate into Symbolic Violence and Political Violence against Women on the Basis of Gender (2023).

Finally, Paraguay emphatically reaffirms that all actions derived from this Declaration and the Agreements shall be implemented with full respect for its domestic legal framework and in accordance with its national priorities, capacities, and realities.

2. ... of women in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, in accordance with its constitutional framework and current domestic legislation. In this regard, the State adheres to the present declaration and specifies that the interpretation of the term “LGBTIQ+” contained in the text shall be carried out in accordance with the categories and definitions recognized in its national legislation.
3. ...insofar as it has not ratified the instrument. Nevertheless, this does not constitute an impediment to the fulfillment of the obligations that the Peruvian State maintains, derived both from the fundamental rights enshrined in the Political Constitution of Peru and from its existing international commitments.
4. ... the Competent National Authorities (CNA) and the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the MESECVI, doc. MESECVI/I-CE/doc.6/14



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## RAPPORTEURSHIP

### Opening Session

**Inaugural Ceremony: Celebrating achievements, building the future: three decades of the Belém do Pará Convention – 20 years of MESECVI. Regional milestones in the fight for a life free of violence for all women.**

The Tenth Conference of States Parties 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” (MESECVI) was held on December 10, 11, and 12, 2025, at the Ceará Events Center in Fortaleza, Brazil. Seventeen States Parties participated: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Canada as a signatory State.

The opening session featured remarks by the Minister of Women of Brazil and President of the Conference of States Parties, Márcia Lopes, who highlighted the recent approval of the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence against Women and announced that Brazil will begin the process to move toward its national adoption. For her part, the Secretary of Women of the State of Ceará, Lia Gomes, welcomed participants on behalf of the host State and likewise underscored the importance of the new normative instrument to guide State responses to digital violence.

The Vice President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI (CEVI), Mónica Maureira, highlighted the central role of the Committee, emphasizing that its work is indispensable to reinterpret the Convention in light of new manifestations of violence. For his part, the Secretary General of the OAS, Albert Ramdin, reiterated the relevance of the Convention, the leadership of the Inter-American Commission of Women, and reaffirmed institutional support for the MESECVI and his commitment to disseminate the newly approved Model Law among the States Parties and in the various OAS forums. To conclude the opening remarks, the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, Alejandra Mora Mora, reiterated the importance of the Convention of Belém do Pará and the importance of the work carried out by the CEVI to turn it into a living Convention thanks to the dedication of its Experts, highlighting their historic contribution to the struggle to eradicate violence against women, girls, and adolescents in the region.



## **Tribute to Maria da Penha and the Experts with 20 years of service on the Committee**

Next, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, opened a tribute to the experts who have participated in the CEVI for more than two decades and to the impact of their work on the consolidation of the Mechanism and the strengthening of regional standards. The experts honored were Leila Linhares Barsted of Brazil, Miriam Roache of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Barbara Bailey of Jamaica, Hilda Morales of Guatemala, and Susana Chiarotti of Argentina, whose commitment has been fundamental to the strengthening of the Inter-American Human Rights System.

Once the first part of the opening ceremony had concluded and the official photograph had been taken, a tribute was held to Maria da Penha, whose case marked a milestone in the international recognition of violence against women as a human rights violation. During the event, it was recalled that the Brazilian State acknowledged its international responsibility for the violation of her right to a life free from violence, a fact that spurred profound transformations in public policies and in the construction of protection standards in the region. The tribute included interventions by invited panelists from the Judiciary and from the State of Ceará, who highlighted the value of her struggle and the impact her story has had on the development of national and Inter-American normative frameworks, including the strengthening of the Convention of Belém do Pará.

## **11 December**

### **First Plenary Session**

On December 11, 2025, at 10:17 a.m., the President of the Tenth Conference of States Parties and Minister of Women of Brazil, Marcia Lopes, formally welcomed the delegations present to the Tenth Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI. She then submitted for consideration the draft agenda and the calendar of activities, contained in documents MESECVI-X/doc.150/25 and MESECVI-X/doc.151/25, respectively, opening the floor for States to present observations or adjustments. As no modifications were proposed, both documents were approved. Subsequently, the President invited the States to put themselves forward for the Rapporteurship of the Conference; the delegations of Costa Rica and Colombia were elected by the participants.

Thereafter, the President presented the Presidency Report, offering a summary of the work carried out since the beginning of Brazil's mandate in February 2025, and highlighting the main milestones achieved during the year, as well as the importance of the contributions of the States to the Mechanism. The report was approved without comments, underscoring the relevance of States continuing to contribute actively to the strengthening of the MESECVI.

### **Dialogue between National Competent Authorities and the Committee of Experts. *New challenges, shared responses: tools to address digital violence against women in the three decades since the Belém do Pará Convention.***

Following the approval of the agenda, the Presidency introduced the Dialogue between Competent National Authorities and the Committee of Experts, focused on the new



challenges and shared responses to address digital violence against women. In this framework, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, and the Coordinator of the Working Group on the Model Law and Vice President of the CEVI, Mónica Maureira, on behalf of the CEVI, presented the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women, highlighting the participatory nature of the process, its intersectional approach, and the breadth of manifestations of violence it encompasses. In that presentation, they emphasized that the Law offers States a comprehensive and up-to-date framework to address this form of violence, with an approach that includes prevention, protection, investigation, punishment, and reparation; establishes a precise regional definition; and introduces an architecture of shared responsibility among States, digital platforms, and other actors, incorporating principles such as safety by design and multi-stakeholder governance mechanisms. Likewise, they underscored the importance of the Law's promotion of cross-border cooperation and normative harmonization, recognizing that digital violence knows no borders and requires coordinated and effective responses from both States and internet intermediaries, while at the same time ensuring a clear balance between respect for women's human rights and the right to freedom of expression.

## **Panel 1. From Commitment to Implementation: Pathways to Apply the Model Law on Digital Violence Against Women.**

Next, the Presidency opened the panel "From Commitment to Implementation: Pathways to Apply the Model Law on Digital Violence against Women," moderated by Sandra Lia Bazzo. The panelists were Jamie Saunders, Competent National Authority of Antigua and Barbuda; Ingrid Gómez Saracibar, of Mexico; Ana Carolina Querino, of UN Women Brazil; Janara Kalline Leal Lopes de Sousa, a researcher on misogyny on social media; and Rubiela Gaspar, of Hiperderecho, representing the Belém do Pará Regional Articulation.

During the panel, the participants agreed in expressing broad support for the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women as a key tool to address a growing problem in the region. It was emphasized that its adoption and effective implementation require the active involvement and sustained commitment of the States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará, as well as the urgency of having updated normative frameworks, the strengthening of institutional capacities, the production of reliable data and statistics, and the responsibility and accountability of digital platforms, together with comprehensive public policies with a gender perspective for the prevention, attention, and reparation of this form of violence.

Additionally, the importance of advancing joint work with national parliaments to promote the legislative adoption of the Model Law and its translation into effective norms and public policies to prevent and eradicate digital violence against women was underscored. The Presidency concluded the exchange by urging States to actively promote the dissemination and discussion of the Model Law in parliamentary arenas, highlighting that its implementation requires political will, inter-institutional coordination, and a sustained commitment by the States Parties.



Finally, the floor was opened for interventions by the States, among them Uruguay, Suriname, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Jamaica, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Mexico. The delegations expressed broad support for the Model Law and agreed on the relevance of using it as a guide for national legislative processes, as well as on the importance of strengthening regional cooperation and institutional capacities to address the growing digital violence against women and girls. The interventions also highlighted the progress that each of the States has made both in their domestic legislation and in the public policies implemented to combat this violence; nevertheless, all interventions underscored the major challenges that digital violence against women represents, and therefore agreed on the importance of the Model Law as a fundamental tool that will enable States to advance the national and regional agenda of prevention, attention, and sanction of violence.

Subsequently, the floor was given to civil society organizations, among them Equality Now, the Articulation for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará, ECMIA, and the Regional Alliance for Freedom of Expression, who called on States to ensure a real commitment to the Model Law. They underscored the need to socialize it, strengthen diagnoses and institutional capacities, guarantee the participation of civil society, and address the differentiated impacts that this violence has on the diversity of women.

## **Panel 2. Democracy, disinformation and political violence.**

After a lunch break, the second panel began, focused on democracy, disinformation, and political violence. The panel opened with remarks by Márcia Lopes, Minister of Women of Brazil and President of the Conference of States Parties, who emphasized that defending democracy is defending women's lives, underscoring the need to protect it against attempts to discredit institutions and electoral processes, and warning that these attacks directly impact women's participation and safety.

Thereafter, Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), pointed out that disinformation and digital political violence form an interwoven web that limits women's leadership, affecting their permanence and safety in public life. She highlighted the normative framework developed by the CIM and the MESECVI through various tools aimed at strengthening the work of States in eradicating these problems that affect women in the region. Loreto Bravo, of the Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders, warned that attacks against women defenders—both digital and in person—undermine democracy and force them to invest efforts in protection, emphasizing the need to advance in the implementation of the Model Law and to strengthen digital care. Finally, Silvia Pimentel, who participated virtually, highlighted the importance of having diagnoses and data in order to move forward in addressing violence that intersects political, economic, climatic, and racial factors.

In the interventions by civil society, the Marielle Franco Institute highlighted that 87% of digital political violence affects Black women and proposed a regional campaign against violence against racialized women. The Tremendas Foundation underscored that disinformation and attacks on platforms limit democratic participation, especially of girls, adolescents, and young women. For her part, the representative of CLADEM pointed out that political structures continue to restrict women's access to power and called for strengthening



protection mechanisms to guarantee women's safety in all spaces of participation. For its part, the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Trans Women recalled the duty to comply with Advisory Opinion 24/17 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and warned about the serious risks faced by all women, highlighting the dangers and impacts on life of digital violence that the trans population faces in their democratic participation.

## Second Plenary Session

### **Panel 3. Women and the Climate Emergency: Differentiated Impacts and Recommendations for Gender-Responsive Climate Action**

In the afternoon, the second plenary session took place, devoted to the Panel “Women and the Climate Emergency: Differentiated Impacts and Recommendations for Gender-Responsive Climate Action.” The panel, moderated by Yildalina Tatem, Expert from the Dominican Republic and Vice President of the MESECVI Committee of Experts (CEVI), brought together distinguished panelists: Ana Prudencia López, Presidential Secretary for Women of Guatemala; Elaine Henry McQueen, CEVI expert for Grenada; Sonia Henríquez Ledad, from the Continental Gathering of Indigenous Women of the Americas; and Jaqueline Kuña Aranduhá, from ANMIGA.

The panelists agreed that the climate crisis is also a human rights and gender crisis, whose impacts fall disproportionately on Indigenous, Afro-descendant, rural women and environmental and territorial women defenders. It was underscored that phenomena such as floods, droughts, fires, and forced displacement exacerbate the overload of care work, increase domestic and sexual violence, deepen food insecurity, and generate new forms of criminalization, especially against territorial defenders. From territorial and community-based perspectives, emphasis was placed on the importance of ancestral scientific knowledge and traditional wisdom in the care of trees, hills, forests, rivers, and native agricultural seeds as sources of dignified human life, the protection of women defenders, the integration of a care approach, and the need for climate action—including the new COP30 Gender Action Plan—to incorporate financing, governance, and public policies that link gender, climate, and effective participation and the obligations of the Convention of Belém do Pará were emphasized.

In the subsequent dialogue among Authorities, Costa Rica, Colombia, Chile, Jamaica, Suriname, and Mexico shared advances and national initiatives to mainstream the gender approach in their climate policies, including women's political participation, just transition, the strengthening of institutional capacities, and the protection of environmental defenders. The delegations agreed that no climate strategy will be effective if it does not place women at the center of decision-making and community-based solutions.

In the interventions by civil society, the Ley Olimpia movement, representing the Belém do Pará Articulation, warned about the growing power of digital platforms and their impact on women's political participation, additionally linking digitalization with climate effects and calling for the incorporation of Indigenous and care perspectives. Brazil's National Council for Reproductive Rights highlighted how the climate crisis deepens poverty and gender gaps, affecting access to sexual and reproductive health. For its part, the Brazilian Peasant



Women’s Movement underscored the effects of the crisis on bodies, health, and food production, demanding justice and dignity for rural communities.

Within the framework of the exchanges held, the importance of articulating the obligations arising from the Belém do Pará Convention with international climate agendas—including the COP30 Gender Action Plan—was reiterated, highlighting the need to strengthen financing, governance, and the effective participation of women, particularly those in situations of heightened vulnerability, in the formulation and implementation of climate action policies.

In closing the panel, the President of the Conference highlighted that confronting the climate emergency is also a feminist struggle, thanked the interventions, and recalled the advances of COP30, calling on participants not to leave those commitments on paper. The session concluded at 5:38 p.m.

## **12 December**

### **Third Plenary Session**

#### **Presentation of the Draft Declaration on Democracy, Technology and Climate Emergency.**

The session of December 12 began at 10:00 a.m. with the plenary session chaired by the President of the Conference, who welcomed the delegations and opened the space for discussion of the Declaration on Democracy, Climate Emergency, Digital Environments, and New Forms of Violence against Women of the Tenth Conference of States Parties. At the beginning of the session, it was reported that the program originally approved provided for a different order for the third and fourth plenary sessions, however, for scheduling reasons of several Ministers, it was necessary to adjust the timetable and invert the planned sequence, starting the morning with the items corresponding to the fourth plenary session and subsequently continuing with the rest of the agenda in accordance with the adjusted program. During this item, Canada took the floor to request the explicit inclusion of Indigenous women after the reference to defenders of individual and collective rights in the text. Immediately thereafter, the Declaration was projected and the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI began its reading.

After its reading and during the dialogue space of the National Authorities, Suriname requested the floor to refer to the inclusion of tribal women, in particular following the mention of defenders of individual and collective rights of Indigenous women. Canada proposed incorporating an explicit reference to the specific situation of tribal communities within the list of women to which the Declaration refers, but not directly after the mention of women who defend collective rights. The delegations agreed with that change. The Bahamas expressed its support for explicitly including tribal communities, while Guyana pointed out the duplication of the term “older adult women” in paragraph 30. Likewise, the delegations of Paraguay and Peru requested the inclusion of a footnote, which was subsequently submitted to the Secretariat via email. Once the interventions had concluded, the agreed



adjustments were incorporated and, after consultation with the delegations, the Declaration was approved by acclamation.

## **Reading and Adoption of the Agreements of the Tenth Conference of States Parties of MESECVI.**

Next, the review and adoption of the Agreements of the Tenth Conference took place. These were approved incorporating observations from Suriname regarding the harmonization of the language already contained in the Declaration. During this item, Paraguay<sup>1</sup> and Peru requested the addition of a footnote that they had sent to the Secretariat by email, after which the agreements were likewise approved by acclamation. The Minister of Women of Brazil and President of the Conference thanked the participants for the work carried out and celebrated the adoption of the Declaration and the agreements, expressing Brazil's satisfaction at exercising the Presidency of the MESECVI at a key moment for the region.

In her intervention, she highlighted the honor of hosting the meeting in Fortaleza and reaffirmed the collective commitment to the Convention of Belém do Pará. She underscored that the reflections on democracy, climate emergency, digital environments, and new forms of violence demonstrate contemporary challenges and the region's capacity to build joint responses. She reaffirmed the importance of the active participation of diverse women, human rights defenders, and representatives of the States Parties, noting that this space strengthens multilateralism and generates concrete pathways to address structural inequalities and persistent violence. She concluded by reiterating Brazil's commitment to regional cooperation and the full implementation of the Convention, as well as of the newly approved Model Law on Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women.

## **Fourth Plenary Session**

### **Panel 4. Intersectionalities: Belém do Pará's commitments to protecting women in situations of greater vulnerability.**

Afterwards, the panel "Intersectionalities: Belém do Pará's commitments to protecting women in situations of greater vulnerability" began, moderated by Lourdes Montero, Expert from Bolivia of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI. The panelists were Támara Matea Ospina Posse, Vice Minister of Women of the Ministry of Equality and Equity of Colombia; Rocío Muñoz Flores, Regional Gender Advisor of UNFPA for Latin America and the Caribbean; Lúcia Xavier, representative of Criola and of the Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women; Mariana Iácono, from the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS; Rita Guaraná, from the Associação de Mulheres Cegas e com Baixa Visão; and Carol Santos, from the Inclusivas Movement.

In her intervention, Támara Matea Ospina Posse reaffirmed Colombia's commitment to the Convention of Belém do Pará and to the eradication of all forms of violence against women. She highlighted institutional and normative advances, including the creation of the Ministry

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<sup>1</sup> The Delegation of Paraguay requested the incorporation of the same footnote that had been submitted for the Draft Declaration on Democracy, Technology, and Climate Emergency.



of Equality and Equity, the implementation of the National System for the Registration, Attention, Follow-up and Monitoring of Gender-Based Violence (SALVIA), the development of a national care policy, and the approval of specific legislation to address political violence against women. At the same time, she warned about persistent challenges and democratic backsliding in the region, emphasizing that women's rights are non-negotiable human rights.

For her part, Rocío Muñoz underscored that the Convention of Belém do Pará has been key to regional advances in women's rights and emphasized the need to strengthen its implementation with an intersectional approach, in light of the aggravated risks of violence faced by women and girls in situations of greater vulnerability. Likewise, she warned about the relationship between pregnancies in girls and adolescents and greater risks to their lives and health, emphasizing the urgency of eradicating early and forced unions, which disproportionately affect Afro-descendant girls. She concluded by reaffirming UNFPA's commitment to supporting the MESECVI in the effective incorporation of intersectionality in addressing violence against women.

Lúcia Xavier underscored that violence against Black women is intensified by structures of social, familial, and State control, including restrictions on reproductive rights, and called for analyzing it from a comprehensive approach that recognizes its multiple dimensions. Mariana Iácono addressed obstetric violence, the right to information and decision-making regarding childbirth and breastfeeding, as well as the stigma and discrimination faced by women living with HIV, urging States to prevent structural violence in health systems. For their part, Rita Guaraná and Carol Santos highlighted the multiple barriers and stigmas faced by women with disabilities, noting that overprotection and lack of accessibility constitute forms of violence that limit their autonomy, and called for the adoption of inclusive public policies that guarantee education, accessibility, and full participation.

During the dialogue among Authorities, Costa Rica recalled the obligation of States to comply with the commitments assumed under the Convention of Belém do Pará, highlighting national normative advances. Mexico underscored the need to incorporate intersectional and territorial approaches into instruments for the prevention of femicide, including culturally relevant risk predictions. Subsequently, civil society organizations intervened, warning about setbacks in women's human rights and calling for strengthened coordination and dialogue between States and civil society. Likewise, issues such as obstetric violence, digital violence, and the centrality of the right to care as a collective responsibility were addressed, highlighting the need to analyze them from an intersectional approach, insofar as they disproportionately affect certain groups of women.

## **Panel 5: Strengthening the measurement of violence against women: presentation of the Fourth Hemispheric MESECVI Report and the importance of data for diagnosing violence, moving toward the Fifth MESECVI Round.**

After a coffee break, the panel "Strengthening the measurement of violence against women: presentation of the Fourth Hemispheric MESECVI Report and the importance of data for diagnosing violence, moving toward the Fifth MESECVI Round" began, moderated by Leila Linhares Barsted, CEVI Expert from Brazil. The panelists were Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical



Secretary of the MESECVI; Mónica Xavier, Director of the National Institute of Women of Uruguay; Marjorie Emmanuel, Executive Director for Gender-Based Violence of Canada; and María Guadalupe Aguirre, from CAF.

In her presentation, Luz Patricia Mejía set out the main findings of the Fourth Hemispheric Report, highlighting the participation of almost all Latin American States and the measurement of 137 indicators in the Fourth Evaluation Round. She pointed out persistent challenges, including barriers to access to free legal representation, specific challenges for women with disabilities, insufficiency of information and statistics from justice system operators, low budgets allocated to investigation, punishment, and reparation, and the persistence of harmful practices against girls and adolescents, such as early marriages and unions and child pregnancies.

Mónica Xavier highlighted and congratulated the fundamental role played by the CEVI and the MESECVI in the development of standards, indicators, and methodologies that make it possible to evaluate, with solidity and transparency, compliance with the Convention of Belém do Pará. She noted that the region continues to face alarming levels of gender-based violence, including femicides, and underscored that its eradication requires comprehensive policies grounded in timely and reliable information, reiterating that without data there is no diagnosis, without diagnosis there is no policy, and without policy there are no rights. Likewise, she emphasized the need to strengthen State capacities for information collection, data systems, administrative records, and inter-institutional coordination, with the support of the MESECVI, in order to break statistical silence and make inequalities visible. Finally, she shared Uruguay's advances in measurement, planning, and inter-institutional coordination, aimed at improving the quality and traceability of data on gender-based violence, including efforts to standardize the criteria for measuring femicides.

For her part, María Guadalupe Aguirre highlighted normative advances in the region, but underscored that significant gaps in access to justice persist, and emphasized the need to strengthen political coordination and financing for gender agendas. In particular, she stressed the importance of having solid and disaggregated data as a basis for the design of effective public policies and maintained that strengthening information systems must be accompanied by sustained support for regional mechanisms, including the MESECVI, to ensure continuity, quality, and comparability in measurement.

In her intervention, Marjorie Emmanuel underscored the relevance of having precise and disaggregated data to diagnose gender-based violence, design effective responses, and strengthen accountability in accordance with the Convention of Belém do Pará. She recognized the leadership of the CEVI and the CIM in the development of hemispheric standards and measurement tools, as well as the value of the Fourth Hemispheric Report as a basis for moving toward the Fifth Evaluation Round and strengthening evidence-based public policies. She presented Canada's Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (2022) as an example of a comprehensive and collaborative approach, and reaffirmed her country's international commitment to inclusive methodologies, capacity-building, and the exchange of good practices in multilateral spaces. She concluded by noting that improving data systems is not only a technical priority, but a human rights imperative, since better data enable better policies and contribute to saving lives.



Subsequently, the dialogue with civil society highlighted the need for data collection to reflect territorial experiences and to contribute to effective public policies. The organizations underscored the importance of State commitments to transparency, public access to information, and compliance with the indicators of the Convention as tools for follow-up.

Before the closing session began, the Presidency opened the floor for other matters. In this context, the Delegation of Chile delivered an intervention in which it welcomed the holding of the Tenth Conference of States Parties and expressed appreciation for the efforts of the delegations to advance commitments that contribute to raising States' standards with respect to women's human rights. In particular, it underscored the importance of recognizing the differentiated impacts experienced by women human rights defenders in contexts of climate emergencies and natural disasters, as well as the specific forms of violence to which they are exposed because of their work. The Delegation also highlighted that the adopted Declaration promotes the articulation of regional and international commitments and agendas, incorporates previously agreed language, and mainstreams a gender, intersectional, intercultural, and territorial approach throughout the text.

## **Closing Session**

At 2:15 p.m., the closing session began with remarks by the Presidency, which expressed its gratitude to the panelists, delegations of the States Parties, and civil society organizations for their valuable contributions, reaffirmed the regional commitment to the eradication of all forms of violence against women, and thanked the MESECVI team for the work carried out. Additionally, it was reported that the rapporteurship would be circulated to the States for their comments through virtual means, and it was reiterated that the Dominican Republic will host the next Conference of States Parties of MESECVI and meeting of the Committee of Experts, which was welcomed by the delegations present.

Next, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI recognized the sustained work of the CEVI Experts, highlighting their legal rigor and political commitment. She thanked the States Parties and the Competent National Authorities for their work in complex contexts and under budgetary constraints and underscored the institutional support of the Inter-American Commission of Women for the work of the Technical Secretariat. Likewise, she expressed special thanks to Brazil for its leadership and hospitality as the host State. She also recognized the leadership of the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS and the constitutive role of civil society in the mechanism, noting that its oversight and proposals have been key to advancing toward more comprehensive responses. She underscored that the Tenth Conference constitutes a turning point that calls for translating agreements into concrete policies, reiterating that behind every norm and recommendation there are women's lives that deserve to live free from violence.

The Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, Alejandra Mora Mora, expressed her thanks to the host State, to the Assistant Secretary General, to the Technical Secretariat, to the Authorities, and to civil society, and invited the States to maintain and deepen regional coordination, highlighting multilateralism as a driver of alliances and change.



In her closing intervention, Maira Noguera, representing the Civil Society Articulation that follows up on the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention, celebrated the advances achieved through key regional and global instruments for substantive equality and the eradication of violence against women, recognizing, nevertheless, that gaps, setbacks, and insufficient budgetary allocations for their implementation persist. She warned about the persistence of structural inequalities that disproportionately affect women, girls, and adolescents in all their diversity, and about the increase in multiple forms of violence, including femicides, sexual violence, trafficking, and digital violence, which erode democratic participation and deepen inequalities. She also highlighted the impact of climate change, environmental violence, and organized crime in contexts of special vulnerability. Finally, she urged States to assume concrete commitments, with measurable actions, sufficient budgets, disaggregated data, accountability, adoption of the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence, and rights-based governance, reaffirming the central role of civil society and permanent dialogue with the CIM, the MESECVI, and the CEVI.

The Assistant Secretary General of the OAS, Laura Gil, concluded the closing session by expressing her gratitude to Brazil for its hospitality and for exercising the Presidency of the MESECVI, and recalling the story of Olimpia Coral Melo, as an example of how the experience of digital violence can become a political cause and make visible a reality that cuts across physical and digital spaces. She underscored that, thirty years after the Convention of Belém do Pará, new forms of violence—especially digital violence—constitute a present crisis that impacts democracy. She highlighted the role of feminist organizations, digital rights defenders, experts, and survivors in the construction of the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence, noting that it establishes definitions, standards of due diligence, State responsibilities, and protection measures. She reaffirmed her commitment to actively promote the Inter-American Model Law, contributing to building bridges for its adoption and implementation, as well as to presenting it in relevant regional and national forums so that it is known by States and parliaments, with a view to its incorporation into national legislative frameworks. In the same vein, she called on States to allocate sufficient resources, translate it into public policies, and guarantee its enforcement, recognizing the diversity of women and the differentiated forms of violence they face.

Finally, the Presidency of the Conference declared the Tenth Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI closed at 3:12 p.m., once again thanking all delegations and the team that made the meeting possible.



# OAS | MESECVI

FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO THE  
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)  
**TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES**  
December 10, 11, and 12  
Fortaleza, Brazil

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**FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO THE  
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)**  
TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES  
December 10, 11, and 12, 2025  
Fortaleza, Brazil

OEA/Ser.L/II.7.10  
MESECVI-X/doc.152/25.rev2  
December 12, 2025  
Original: Spanish

**Declaration on Democracy, Climate Emergency, Digital Environments, and New Forms of  
Violence against Women<sup>123456</sup>**

1. The National Competent Authorities of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women – Convention of Belém do Pará – (MESECVI), gathered on December 10, 11, and 12, 2025, in the city of Fortaleza, Brazil, on the occasion of the Tenth Conference of the States Party to the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention (MESECVI):

CONSIDERING THAT:

2. The obligations assumed by the States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and its Optional Protocol, as well as the commitments undertaken by the member States of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean that make up the Regional Gender Agenda since 1977, including the Montevideo Strategy and the Tlatelolco Commitment adopted in 2025, establish a legal and normative framework to protect, respect, and guarantee the human rights of all women, adolescents, and girls, on the basis of the principles of equality and non-discrimination;
3. The commitments made in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992), particularly Principle 20, and in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), recognize the fundamental role of women in environmental management and sustainable development, with their full participation being essential for the realization of climate justice; and that the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), through Decision 30/COP 13 (2017), committed to addressing gender inequalities that hinder the application of the Convention and adopted, in the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, gender equality, women’s empowerment, and gender-responsive implementation as pillars of environmental governance;

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<sup>1</sup> The Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago do not support the (...)

<sup>2</sup> Trinidad and Tobago does not support the use of the acronym “LBTIQ+ women,” as it is not clearly defined within (...)

<sup>3</sup> The Republic of Paraguay reaffirms with absolute clarity that any interpretation and implementation shall be carried out (...)

<sup>4</sup> Argentina participated in all the preparatory meetings for the Tenth Conference of States Party to the MESECVI (...)

<sup>5</sup> El Salvador thanks the presentation of this Declaration and recognizes the relevance of the issues it (...)

<sup>6</sup> The Peruvian State reaffirms its full commitment to the protection, respect, and guarantee of the human rights (...)



4. Policies on diversity, substantive equality, and inclusion are essential to guarantee women's right to equal and inclusive representation and participation, as well as the strengthening of their leaderships, across all decision-making systems and across all levels of power, and to address challenges related to political stability, climate change, and technological advances such as artificial intelligence; therefore, democracies should adopt parity as a legal principle and as a permanent, universal feature of good governance;
5. The leadership and the full, equal, effective, and meaningful participation of all women, including human rights defenders, defenders of the individual and collective rights of Indigenous women; environmental defenders; Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, and women from rural, traditional, peasants, and native communities, play a fundamental and irreplaceable role in the protection and conservation of biodiversity, in local and community structures for environmental and risk management, in food security, in the preservation of local customs and cultural practices, and in the intergenerational transmission of these forms of knowledge, recognizing the role of girls, adolescents, and older adult women in sustaining such knowledge;
6. The States Parties take particular account of the situation of vulnerability to violence and to multiple and intersectional discrimination faced by women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity<sup>7</sup> and throughout their life cycle, stemming from multiple and interrelated international, national and local crises, including the growing effects of global climate change, the care crisis, migration and forced displacement, as well as violence facilitated by new technologies, digital environments, and artificial intelligence;
7. The MESECVI Strategic Plan 2024–2029 establishes as a priority the incorporation of inclusive approaches that recognize diversity, intersectionality, and interculturality, as well as human security, gender, and territorial perspectives in response to new dynamics of violence, identifying the need to adapt the Mechanism's monitoring and recommendations to contemporary challenges, especially those arising from MESECVI's Committee of Experts' General Recommendation No. 5 on gender-based violence against Afro-descendant women;
8. The findings of the National Reports from the MESECVI's Third and Fourth Evaluation Rounds, as well as its Fourth Hemispheric Report, demonstrate the sustained increase in violence against women, adolescents and girls, including racial/ethnic, symbolic, and digital violence, among others, along with significant gaps in criminalization, statistical records, both official and those used for monitoring and analysis, protection measures, and access to justice, including justice in cases of digital violence and violence against environmental defenders;
9. The recent adoption of the Belém Gender Action Plan, within the framework of the 30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – COP30 of 2025, aims to promote the integration of gender equality into climate strategies to achieve a just and effective transition; and to ensure that all climate-change actions and policies incorporate inclusion, the protection

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<sup>7</sup> For reasons that include but are not limited to: ethnicity or race, minority status, (...)



of human rights, and the full, effective, and meaningful participation of women in the development, monitoring, and evaluation of climate strategies;

10. That significant gaps still persist in the regulation, policies, and programs for the comprehensive response to and regulation of digital violence against women, adolescents, and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, which require effective policies for its regulation and response, as well as the adoption of specific legislation and mechanisms for attention and protection;

**CONCERNED** that:

11. All women, including human rights defenders, environmental and territorial defenders, Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, women with disabilities, elderly women, in situation of human mobility and women journalists, face increasing risks and various forms of violence, such as gender-based political violence, sexual, physical and property-based violence, harassment, persecution, forced displacement, criminalization, and feminicides/femicides, in the context of extractivism and mining, which also increases women's situations of vulnerability and makes them more prone to the adverse impacts of climate emergencies. The aforementioned, combined with the lack of institutional guarantees, particularly regarding the right to life, personal integrity, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and association, freedom of movement, the ability to exercise rights, health, including sexual and reproductive rights and the right to comprehensive health services for women, employment opportunities, safety, infrastructure, resource scarcity, involvement and participation in decision-making, adequate housing conditions, and food security, in accordance with agreements pertaining to the matter, such as the Escazú Agreement<sup>8</sup> (2018), when applicable, and in accordance with the legal framework of each State, which requires differentiated and context-sensitive responses;
12. The differentiated risks faced by women human rights defenders, defenders of the individual and collective rights of Indigenous women; environmental defenders; Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, and women from rural, traditional, peasants, and native communities, in accessing information, public participation, and environmental justice with a gender perspective, and recognizing that these risks are also structural and territorial, thus requiring community and local protection mechanisms coordinated with national policies and relevant international instruments;
13. That technological and connectivity gaps are exacerbated according to local and community realities, limiting rural and environmental defenders' access to information and digital tools, increasing their vulnerability, and highlighting the need for digital literacy and training programs with a human rights, gender-responsive, and territorial approach to strengthen their communication, self-protection, and reporting capacities;
14. Women and adolescents environmental defenders are also targets of defamation, hate speech, threats, and online harassment, often disseminated and amplified through social media, with the aim of delegitimizing, silencing, and overpowering women and LTBIQ+ women and other groups in situation of vulnerability, activists and

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<sup>8</sup> Peru does not support the reference to the Escazú Agreement, (...)



environmental defenders, who are also victims of gender-based violence, especially, digital, racial/ethnic, including gender-identity based, moral, and symbolic violence<sup>9</sup>;

15. The disproportionate ways in which the adverse effects of climate change, including natural disasters and rising global temperatures, impact girls and adolescents, who are at greater risk of suffering child early forced marriage or unions, sexual violence and exploitation, trafficking, child labor, and deprivation of access to education; and the serious risks these impacts pose for Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, older adult women, women with disabilities, women in migration contexts including forced displacement, and those living in remote, and disaster-prone areas, hindering the exercise of their rights;
16. The need to strengthen resilient community and school networks that ensure educational continuity, comprehensive protection, and the participation of girls and adolescents in risk management and climate action, especially in the face of disasters that disrupt educational systems and increase their vulnerability;
17. The effects of air pollution on health and caregiving, recognizing that children and older adults are more vulnerable to respiratory illnesses, while women are predominantly responsible for their care, often unpaid;
18. Women, adolescents and girls who face an increased risk of being victims of various forms of digital violence, including online exploitation and sexual violence, trafficking, cyber-harassment, the non-consensual dissemination of intimate content, whether real or fake AI-generated, algorithmic manipulation, digital surveillance, violations of the right to privacy, and deliberate disinformation, as well as hate speech that threatens their democratic participation, freedom of expression, and human rights, as already highlighted in the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Gender-Based Digital Violence Against Women adopted by the CEVI;
19. The current social organization of care in Latin America and the Caribbean, unjust and unequal, and historically borne by women, adolescents, and girls, particularly Indigenous and Afro-descendant women, hinders and undermines their full, equal, and meaningful participation in all areas of society, to the detriment of our democracies and our resilience in the face of climate emergencies and disasters;
20. The lack of statistical information disaggregated by gender, sex, race, ethnic group, age, disability, migratory status, and territory, which limits the incorporation of a gender, intersectional, intercultural, and territorial approach in data management, and prevents the visibility of the impacts of climate change on the lives of women, adolescents, and girls, making it difficult to develop effective and efficient laws and public policies adapted to the characteristics of the countries in the region;

## **DECLARE:**

21. Their commitment to complying with the Belém do Pará Convention and to respecting the dignity of women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle; to guaranteeing and promoting all their individual and the collective human

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<sup>9</sup> Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes in Public Spaces resulting in (...)



rights of Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, including their autonomies, substantive gender equality and their right to a life free from violence;

22. Their commitment, in the context of the current polarization of multilateral spaces, to promoting a regional multilateralism that advances the rights of women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, and to preventing any regression of the progress already achieved toward the full exercise of their rights, in accordance with the principle of progressivity and non-regressivity of human rights;
23. That the leadership and the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women, adolescents and girls, in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, particularly environmental defenders and human rights defenders, Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities and older adult women, are indispensable for addressing the effects of climate change and strengthening democracy, drawing on traditional knowledge and practices, and ensuring that their involvement translates into effective participation in decision-making spaces and political power; therefore, States should mainstream a gender perspective and include issues of climate change and digital violence against women in all their public policies and budgetary measures, using an intersectional approach;
24. That strengthening democracy requires ensuring the effective access of women, adolescents and girls to a full, inclusive, accessible, and safe digital citizenship, which in turn demands preventing and eliminating all forms of digital violence and discrimination, guaranteeing environments free from censorship, and promoting their equal, free, and protected participation in all spaces of interaction and decision-making. Likewise, it is essential to promote the equal and meaningful participation of all women—including Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, young women, older adult women, LGBTIQ+ women, and women with disabilities—in national, regional, local, and international processes for developing policies on digital governance, data protection, privacy rights, and technology regulation, ensuring that their voices are incorporated into all global decision-making bodies;
25. That violence against women, adolescents and girls in contexts of climate emergencies, environmental disasters, and digital environments constitutes a contemporary and structural expression of gender inequality, closely linked to racial and ethnic violence, and threatens the principles of substantive equality, fundamental rights, equal participation, and access to justice. In this regard, the States Parties should guarantee effective access to justice, comprehensive reparation, and measures of non-repetition, and should incorporate into their normative frameworks, public policies, and prevention and reparation strategies a gender, intercultural, and intersectional and territorial approach. Likewise, they should adopt actions, programs, and policies for the prevention, care, and punishment of digital violence, taking into account women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, promoting collective, effective, and timely responses;
26. That the States Parties should adopt legislation and public policies that recognize, prevent, and punish violence and disinformation, establishing mechanisms of shared responsibility with technology platforms, promoting the ethical and non-discriminatory development of artificial intelligence and eradicating algorithmic biases;



27. That the States Parties should adopt innovative and effective mechanisms for the registration, attention, protection, investigation and reporting of manifestations of digital violence in order to strengthen the culture of reporting and punishing such behaviors, taking into account their gender-differentiated impacts, particularly for women defenders;
28. That the States Parties should guarantee the effective protection of women human rights defenders, environmental and territorial defenders, Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, feminists, and women in situations of human mobility, with respect to their access to health, and specially sexual and reproductive rights and safety, freedom of assembly, and civic participation, ensuring, prevention, attention, reparation and punishment mechanisms in cases of violence, including sexual violence and comprehensive protection measures that are accessible and operate across all territories, guaranteeing the direct participation of environmental defenders and community organizations;
29. That the States Parties should promote normative frameworks, and the implementation of public policies, and comprehensive programs to reduce the burden of household and care work from an intersectional and intercultural perspective, recognizing that the unequal distribution of these tasks is a structural factor of gender-based violence and that overcoming it is essential for advancing more democratic, care-oriented societies. In this regard, States are encouraged to adopt gender-responsive employment policies that guarantee fair and equal working conditions, social protection, and the recognition of the care economy as a central component of the economic, social, cultural, and political system. Likewise, the need is highlighted to move toward care systems based on the shared responsibility of the State, communities, the private sector, and households, ensuring adequate infrastructure—including community centers and quality public services—as well as the necessary resources and partnerships to make the creation of care-centered societies effective, enabling all women, particularly human rights defenders, to exercise their leadership and full participation without the overload of domestic and care tasks, especially in rural areas and those affected by climate emergencies;
30. That the States Parties affirm their commitment to guaranteeing the full, equitable, and meaningful participation and representation of women in leadership roles in climate governance and in green and blue jobs, including the development of women's leadership within local structures for environmental and risk governance, with dedicated budgets and technical training. They should ensure that this participation occurs at all levels: local, national, and international, with particular attention to women human rights defenders, defenders of the individual and collective rights of Indigenous women; environmental defenders; Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, and women from rural, traditional, peasants, and native communities, older adult women, women with disabilities, women in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, through the strengthening of institutional and community capacities in the territories and the incorporation of gender-responsive climate financing, so that resources allocated for climate and environmental disaster adaptation and mitigation effectively reach all rural, Indigenous, and local community women;
31. Their willingness to adopt normative frameworks and policies that guarantee transparency, ethics, and accountability in the development and use of artificial



intelligence and algorithms, avoiding bias, discrimination, and violence, and ensuring that technological tools do not generate or reproduce barriers that limit women's economic autonomy and access to opportunities. In this regard, States should promote women's leadership in technology companies and institutions and in the digital sphere; reduce participation and access gaps; and ensure the active presence of women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, in spaces of technological creation, development, decision-making, deliberation, policy formulation, and monitoring, promoting women's priority participation in technological innovation and in the design, oversight, and evaluation of these tools, consistent with international human rights standards;

32. That States Parties should promote and incorporate implement and evaluate effective and structured public policies and educational curricula aimed at encouraging digital education from the school stage through to the enrollment and retention of women in undergraduate and technical training programs in the fields of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), Information Technology, Computer Science, Engineering, Data Science, digital literacy programs for women in situations of vulnerability, including access to devices, connectivity, and specialized mentorship, and other related areas, ensuring educational environments free from harassment and bullying, including sexual harassment, discrimination, and gender stereotypes, given that this initiative is crucial to addressing gender inequalities in the digital environment, expanding diversity in academic and professional spheres, and ensuring that technological advancement develops on more equitable and inclusive foundations, likewise, ensure that research, data, and information generated include gender indicators;
33. That it is the duty of national and local governments, social, academic, cultural political, and international organizations, the media, and citizens to promote normative and cultural changes that foster democracy and the participation of diverse women in all decision-making spaces and levels related to climate and digital governance, eradicating all forms of violence and discrimination against women, adolescents, girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle;
34. That the States Parties recognize the importance of ensuring that public policies aimed at preventing, adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change effectively incorporate, respond to the leadership and specific characteristics and differentiated needs of the diverse groups of women identified in this Declaration, including Indigenous, afro-descendant women and from rural, traditional, peasants, native communities, young women, older adult women, women with disabilities, and women human rights defenders. These policies should be contextualized to the socio-environmental realities of each territory and developed through mechanisms of community participation that guarantee the voice and leadership of women in decision-making processes. In this regard, the need to integrate intersectional, intercultural, and human rights approaches is emphasized; and to promote inclusive climate governance;
35. That States Parties highlight their commitment to supporting and funding the development of specific, with gender, intersectional, intercultural, and territorial perspective, collaborative, participatory and shared research and studies, that take into account the knowledge and wisdom of all women, adolescents, girls, and older women, integrating participatory methodologies and territorial variables to better understand and produce evidence on the different impacts of digital violence and climate



emergencies, environmental degradation, pollution, and disasters in relation with the differentiated impacts on the rights of women, adolescents and girls, ensuring the mainstreaming of gender in such studies;

36. The duty of the States Party to integrate specific indicators on gender-based violence in the context of climate change, digital environments and the impact on women's economic autonomy into their national reports to MESECVI, with data disaggregated by gender, race, ethnicity, age group, disability status, hours devoted to domestic and care work and territory regarding the adverse impacts of climate change on women's lives, including the respective impacts and measures adopted, promoting a comprehensive, intercultural, intersectional, intergenerational, based on human rights and with a gender-responsive and data-driven approach, and monitoring progress toward racial/ethnic and gender equality and the eradication of all forms and modalities of violence against women throughout their life cycle;
37. Their willingness to enter into agreements and international cooperation initiatives, as applicable, that incorporate a gender perspective across all areas, with clear indicators for measuring results, with the aim of addressing the challenges of the climate crisis, gender-based violence and digital transformation;
38. Their commitment to encouraging alignment of domestic legislation with existing frameworks, when applicable, and in accordance with the legal framework of each State, such as the Escazú Agreement (2018), which establishes principles of cooperation and regional integration, in order to strengthen coordinated and joint responses guided by racial/ethnic and gender equality, and by the eradication of the all forms of violence against women, adolescents, and girls, including those facilitated by technology;
39. Reaffirm the importance of advancing toward a full, inclusive, accessible, and safe digital citizenship for all women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, enabling them to exercise their fundamental individual rights and the collective human rights of Indigenous, tribal, Afro-descendant women, free from violence and censorship, as an essential condition for a just, sustainable, and gender-equal democracy, in accordance with the Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes in Public Spaces Resulting in Symbolic and Political Gender-Based Violence Against Women (2023), as well as the Pachuca Declaration "Strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women" of the MESECVI (2014);
40. Their commitment to continue promoting the strengthening of MESECVI as one of the tools for monitoring, evaluating, and transforming state policies in response to the multiple forms of violence faced by women, adolescents and girls across the hemisphere, adapting to the challenges of the 21st century with a perspective grounded in climate justice and digital inclusion;
41. That strengthening democracies in the region requires the construction of care-oriented societies, as well as the elimination of all forms of violence against women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, including those that emerge and intensify in contexts of conflict, climate emergencies, forced displacements and accelerated digital transformation, recognizing that gender equality



and respect for human rights and specifically those of women, adolescents and girls, are essential for peace and sustainability;

42. Explore, design, and operationalize specific financing schemes for projects led by Indigenous women, Afro-descendant women, women from rural, traditional, peasant, and native communities, older adult women, women with disabilities, and others in situations of vulnerability, ensuring their access and promoting sustainable and resilient practices;
43. That States Parties promote inclusive public procurement policies that incorporate gender equality criteria into national procurement systems, facilitating the participation of women-led businesses and prioritizing, where appropriate and in accordance with applicable regulations, the acquisition of goods and services from these initiatives. This will contribute to strengthening their economic autonomy, expanding their access to public markets, and consolidating more transparent, competitive, and sustainable development-oriented procurement ecosystems, in line with the best practices promoted by the OAS Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (RICG);
44. Their intention to promote respect for and adaptation of national policies at all levels of government, designed to ensure the social and environmental responsibility of national and international companies in any region of the country, so that these policies are developed with a gender, intersectional, intercultural, and territorial perspective, aimed at preventing harm, ensuring monitoring, accountability, and timely and effective remediation, in order to prevent companies from directly affecting the rights of women, adolescents, and girls, in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, fostering corporate policies with a gender perspective and effective prevention and remediation mechanisms.



## FOOTNOTES

1. ... use of the expression “in all their diversity,” as it is not clearly defined within their national legislative frameworks. For this reason, these countries suggested using the expressions “all women” and “all women, adolescents, and girls,” which are aligned with their States’ existing laws. The word “all” is absolute and does not allow for the exclusion of any group of women, adolescents, or girls, regardless of their particular circumstances, and therefore preserves the intention to promote inclusion and equality for all, while avoiding the risk of inadvertently excluding certain groups through the use of lists. In the same sense, they also do not support the use of the term “gender identity” throughout this Declaration.
2. ... its national legislative framework. However, Trinidad and Tobago can support the use of the expressions “all women,” “vulnerable women,” “vulnerable persons,” and “vulnerable groups.”
3. ... solely and exclusively within the framework of its National Constitution, the treaties it has ratified, and its current legislation, and it adheres to this Declaration and the Agreements under these terms.

Paraguay underscores that its National Constitution and legal system enshrine equality of rights between men and women and prohibit all forms of discrimination.

With regard to the term gender used in the Declaration and the Agreements, Paraguay expressly maintains that its interpretation is governed by the provisions of Article 48 of the National Constitution, understanding it exclusively as referring to the female and male sexes. Likewise, the Republic of Paraguay clarifies that references to the following terms—women, adolescents and girls in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle; LGBTIQ+ women; gender identity; sexual and reproductive rights; diversity policies; diversity; multiple and intersectional discrimination; intersectional; intersectionality; gender approach; gender perspective; their autonomies; diverse women; diverse groups of women; gender mainstreaming; women throughout their life cycle—shall be interpreted in accordance with its national legislation and shall not be taken into consideration where they contravene its domestic legal framework.

In the same vein, it is hereby placed on record that the declaratory document and the agreements adopted do not establish any precedent for Paraguay, nor shall they be considered agreed texts for future negotiations.

Furthermore, Paraguay reaffirms its commitment to the promotion and protection of the comprehensive health of all women, including sexual and reproductive health. Nevertheless, it unequivocally places on record that any reference to sexual and reproductive rights may not, under any circumstances, be interpreted as recognition, authorization, or promotion of the termination of pregnancy (abortion).

This position is firmly grounded in the provisions of the National Constitution (in particular, Article 4), which guarantees the protection of the right to life from conception, and is consistent with the reservations expressed by Paraguay in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), the Ninth Declaration of the Conference of States Parties of the MESECVI (2024), and the Third Extraordinary Conference of States Parties in its Regional Declaration on the Eradication of Gender Stereotypes in Public Spaces that Translate into Symbolic Violence and Political Violence against Women on the Basis of Gender (2023).

Finally, Paraguay emphatically reaffirms that all actions derived from this Declaration and the Agreements shall be implemented with full respect for its domestic legal framework and in accordance with its national priorities, capacities, and realities.

4. ...however, it indicated that it would not join the pre-approval process for this Declaration.
5. ...addresses for strengthening women’s rights in the region. The interrelationship between democracy, the climate emergency, digital environments, and new manifestations of violence requires coordinated, comprehensive, and sustainable responses, in line with the principles of the Belém do Pará Convention.

We reiterate our commitment to strengthening national capacities to promote safe environments for women, as well as to developing strong and democratic institutions that contribute to ensuring their well-being and full participation in social life.



We also acknowledge the emerging challenges linked to digital transformation and climate change, which demand updated approaches, inter-institutional coordination, and renewed cooperation among States. However, in the exercise of our sovereignty, El Salvador considers it necessary to clarify that any term, reference, or action derived from this Declaration must be interpreted and implemented in accordance with the national legal framework in force, the competent institutions, and the priorities established by the Salvadoran State.

This clarification ensures coherence between international commitments and the regulatory and programmatic advances being promoted by the country, particularly under the national approach to equality between women and men. This interpretative note does not limit our willingness to support regional efforts; on the contrary, it reflects El Salvador's intention to contribute constructively to consensus-building, while respecting the different institutional rhythms of each State Party and ensuring proper alignment with our national laws and public policies.

El Salvador reaffirms its commitment to the Belém do Pará Convention and to the MESECVI, recognizing its fundamental role in promoting hemispheric cooperation and the exchange of good practices. We will continue to participate actively, advancing actions that strengthen democracy, climate resilience, digital security, and the prevention of all forms of rights violations against women.

6. ... of women in all their diversity and throughout their life cycle, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, in accordance with its constitutional framework and current domestic legislation. In this regard, the State adheres to the present declaration and specifies that the interpretation of the term "LGBTIQ+" contained in the text shall be carried out in accordance with the categories and definitions recognized in its national legislation.
7. ... indigenous, of traditional communities, Afro-descendant women, urban/rural status, consequences of climate change, color, socioeconomic status, language, religion or belief, political opinion, national origin, marital status, maternity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, refugee or asylum status, internally displaced or stateless status, widowhood, migration status, imprisonment, human trafficking, situations of armed conflict, and the stigmatization of women who fight for their rights, in particular women human rights and environmental defenders, or any other condition that may generate vulnerability in women, adolescents and girls, in accordance with national legislation in the different areas of the public and private spheres, to continue promoting the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.
8. ... insofar as it has not ratified the instrument. Nevertheless, this does not constitute an impediment to the fulfillment of the obligations that the Peruvian State maintains, derived both from the fundamental rights enshrined in the Political Constitution of Peru and from its existing international commitments.
9. ... Third Extraordinary Conference of the States Parties of the MESECVI, MESECVI-III-CEE/doc.139/23.rev.5 (2023), defined as: "(...) symbolic violence is the set of messages, values, symbols, icons, signs, and family, educational, ideological, social, economic, political, cultural, aesthetic, and religious impositions that generate, transmit, reproduce and institutionalize, directly or indirectly, inequality, domination and structural discrimination towards women in all their diversity, naturalizing the subordination of them".