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FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO THE
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)
**Twenty-Second Meeting of the Committee of Experts**
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# ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE MESECVI

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI submits this report within the framework of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Committee of Experts, with the aim of highlighting the main activities carried out and progress achieved during 2025. This work is aligned with the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, which seeks to accelerate the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention and guarantee the human rights of women in all their diversity.

During 2025, the efforts of the Mechanism focused on the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round in Latin America and the Caribbean. Accordingly, the Fourth Hemispheric Report was published, presenting the findings of this Evaluation Round, with emphasis on the information provided by twelve Latin American States on the progress made and challenges faced in complying with Articles 7 and 8 of the Convention.

Likewise, the MESECVI promoted an active agenda to disseminate the main findings of the Fourth Hemispheric Report on access to justice, truth and reparation for women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence. The report highlights institutional progress while underscoring challenges that remain in the region, such as the persistence of gender stereotypes in judicial systems, insufficient training of justice operators, the lack of regulatory harmonization and limited resources for the comprehensive protection of victims.

As part of the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round, thirteen (13) National Reports were also published for the States of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Uruguay, focusing on the analysis of the measures adopted to guarantee access to justice, truth and reparation.

In parallel, substantive progress was made in the development of the project “Towards an Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Technology-Facilitated Violence against Women”, one of the strategic priorities of the year. With the support of Italy, the ACTUEMOS project of UN Women, several States and the Committee of Experts, multiple in-person and virtual consultations were held in Brazil, Mexico, Grenada, Uruguay, Colombia and Peru. These spaces made it possible to gather input from civil society organizations, academia, digital violence specialists and State authorities, thereby consolidating the final observations on the draft Model Law. By the end of the year, the regulatory adjustment phase had been completed and the text was ready to be submitted to the Committee at its next regular meeting.

In this process, intergenerational dialogues played a fundamental role. Girls, boys and adolescents actively participated in the meetings held in Uruguay and Colombia, contributing essential perspectives to enrich the approach of the Model Law. Thanks to these contributions, the text incorporates a more inclusive framework that is sensitive to the experiences of young people, and it will be submitted for approval at the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Committee of Experts.

In addition, bilateral meetings were held with various States Parties in order to strengthen the normative content of the Model Law and ensure that it adequately responds to the realities and needs of the region.

International cooperation was also a key component of the MESECVI's activities. The Mechanism participated actively in the EDVAW Platform, promoting coordinated global strategies to address violence against women, contributed to the preparation of joint interregional statements and to the publication of a Position Paper commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Women, Peace and Security agenda[1], which addresses the impact of multiple crises, such as organized crime, armed conflicts and firearms violence, on the intensification of violence against women.

Likewise, the Working Group on Economic Violence and Child Support was established. It held a virtual meeting to discuss the importance of developing an instrument, such as a General Recommendation, to identify and make visible the mechanisms of violence that occur within family relationships, particularly during separation and divorce proceedings linked, among other aspects, to child support. During the meeting, the initial elements were discussed so that the Technical Secretariat could move forward in preparing the first outlines to be presented at the next meeting. This Working Group is composed of Experts Ana Belén Mármora (Argentina), Gloria Camacho, Chair of the CEVI (Ecuador), Hilda Morales (Guatemala), Elaine Henry Mc Queen (Grenada), Teresa Incháustegui, Vice Chair of the CEVI (Mexico), Rinette Djokarto (Suriname) and Alicia Deus (Uruguay).

The work carried out during 2025 is fully aligned with the objectives of the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, which prioritizes the inclusive protection of women in situations of vulnerability, the strengthening of State capacities, the visibility of the measures adopted and the acceleration of the commitments undertaken by the States Parties. In this regard, the MESECVI reaffirms its regional leadership in promoting the human rights of women and in producing concrete tools that facilitate the effective implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.

The year 2025 represents a milestone in consolidating the achievements made and in creating new opportunities to combat gender-based violence in all its forms. This report reflects the MESECVI's sustained commitment to building a region where all women and girls live free from violence, in an environment of equality, justice and full respect for human rights.

**Twenty-First Meeting of the Committee of Experts**

The Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) held its Twenty-First Meeting virtually on December 9, 2024, and January 16 and 24, 2025. During this session, the Committee assessed the progress of the Mechanism, reviewed developments related to the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round and adopted a

[1] Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on Discrimination and Violence against Women (EDVAW). (2021). *Position Paper on Women, Peace and Security* (EDVAW Platform). Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Available at: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/women/edvaw/edvaw-platform-position-paper-wps.pdf

series of agreements aimed at strengthening the implementation of the Convention in the States Parties.

One of the central items of this meeting was the analysis of the status of implementation of the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round in Latin America and the English-speaking Caribbean. In this context, the Technical Secretariat was requested to submit a proposal for the review of the System of Progress Indicators and to continue strengthening the visualizations of the MESECVI Integrated System of Indicators, which is currently being automated.
Likewise, the Committee urged the Secretariat to continue supporting the collection of information related to the evaluation phase of the Fourth Round in the Caribbean States Parties, and agreed that, once the official responses have been received, progress will be made in drafting the Caribbean chapter of the Fourth Hemispheric Report. In this regard, to date Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saint Lucia have completed the process of reporting on the indicators of the Fourth Round. In addition, Suriname and Belize have made progress in the reporting process. The Presidency invites the other English-speaking Caribbean States Parties to the Convention that have not yet completed their process to continue working in coordination with the Technical Secretariat so that, by the end of 2026, we may also have an overview of the situation of access to justice for women victims and survivors of violence in the English-speaking Caribbean.

With regard to evaluation, the process advanced significantly with the publication of thirteen National Reports[2], corresponding to Brazil[3], Chile[4], Colombia[5], Costa Rica[6], Ecuador[7], El

[2] MESECVI, *Monitoreo por país: Informes nacionales* [Country monitoring: National Reports], n.d.
[3] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Brasil. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Brazil. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. Organization of American States. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/INFORME-PAIS-BRASIL.pdf
[4] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Chile. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Chile. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/INFORME-PAIS-CHILE.pdf
[5] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Colombia. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Colombia. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/INFORME-PAIiS-COLOMBIA.pdf
[6] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2024). *Informe País: Costa Rica. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Costa Rica. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/INFORME-PAIS-COSTA-RICA.pdf
[7] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Ecuador. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Ecuador. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/INFORME-PAIS-ECUADOR-1.pdf

Salvador[8], Guatemala[9], Honduras[10], Mexico[11], Paraguay[12], Peru[13], the Dominican Republic[14] and Uruguay[15]. These reports analyze the measures adopted to guarantee access to justice, truth and reparation, and constitute a fundamental input for assessing the degree of compliance with the Belém do Pará Convention in the region.

Likewise, the Committee approved the Fourth Hemispheric Report – Latin America Chapter. The Technical Secretariat was also requested to move forward in structuring an outline for a future Thematic Report on sexual violence against girls and adolescents in the region. In addition, the Committee agreed to create a working group to advance the analysis of non-compliance with child support obligations and their use as economic violence against women, as well as to advance item III of the MESECVI 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, concerning violence against women exacerbated by the presence of small arms and light weapons in the territories of the region.

In the area of regional coordination, the Committee agreed to invite the States Parties to hold a joint meeting with the CEVI in order to strengthen the collection of information related to the Progress Indicators. In addition, the Thematic Report on violence against Afro-descendant women in Latin America, prepared with the support of UNFPA, was approved, and it was recommended that its conclusions be disseminated in dialogue with Afro-descendant organizations.

During the meeting, the update of the Guidelines to regulate the Committee's statements was also approved. Likewise, the Committee approved the Annual Report of Activities for the period, highlighting the achievements made under the Presidency, such as the promotion of new strategic lines, the consolidation of inter-institutional partnerships and the strengthening of advocacy actions aimed at improving the implementation of the Convention in the States Parties.

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[8] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: El Salvador. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: El Salvador. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/INFORME-PAIeS-EL-SALVADOR.pdf

[9] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Guatemala. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Guatemala. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/INFORME-PAIS-GUATEMALA.pdf

[10] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Honduras. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Honduras. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round].

[11] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2024). *Informe País: México. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Mexico. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Informe-Pais-Mexico-IV-Ronda.pdf

[12] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2023). *Informe País: Paraguay. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Paraguay. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/INFORME-PAIiS-PARAGUAY.pdf

[13] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2024). *Informe País: Perú. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Peru. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/INFORME-PAIS-PERU.pdf

[14] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2024). *Informe País: República Dominicana. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Dominican Republic. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/INFORME-PAIS-REPUBLICA-DOMINICANA.pdf

[15] Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention – MESECVI. (2024). *Informe País: Uruguay. Cuarta Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral* [Country Report: Uruguay. Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round]. https://belemdopara.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/INFORME-PAIeS-URUGUAY.pdf

With regard to ongoing normative work, the Committee reviewed the progress of the Working Group in charge of the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women, and requested the Technical Secretariat to submit a draft for discussion at the next regular meeting.

Likewise, it was agreed to create a working group to deepen the analysis of non-compliance with child support obligations as a form of economic violence against women. In parallel, the Committee decided to advance item III of the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, concerning the impact of armed violence involving small arms and light weapons in the territories of the region.

The Committee also took note of the commemorations of the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention and the 20th anniversary of the MESECVI, and undertook to disseminate the campaigns carried out in their respective States.

**Fourth Special Conference of States Parties to the Follow-up Mechanism to the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI)**

The Fourth Special Conference of States Parties to the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) was held remotely on February 27, 2025, with the participation of twenty-two States Parties from Latin America and the Caribbean. This reflected the regional commitment to strengthening the Mechanism in a context marked by 30 years of the Convention and 20 years of operation of the MESECVI.

The opening session was chaired by Minister Antonia Orellana, head of the Ministry of Women and Gender Equity of Chile and outgoing President of the Conference. In her opening remarks, the Minister highlighted the importance of the meeting and gave the floor to the Executive Secretary of the CIM, Alejandra Mora Mora, and the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejía. Both authorities recognized Chile’s leadership during its term and the sustained work of the Technical Secretariat to strengthen the Mechanism and support the States Parties in implementing the Convention.

During the session, the outgoing President presented an overview of the progress achieved under her leadership. Among the most relevant achievements, she highlighted the approval of the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, the Declaration on Accelerating Strategies for the Implementation of the Convention and the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference. Likewise, she underscored the strengthening of coordination between the MESECVI and the CIM, as well as the incorporation of key issues for the region, such as trafficking in persons, the protection of women human rights defenders and the climate crisis understood from a gender perspective. The Presidency also welcomed progress in the automation of the System of Progress Indicators and the adoption of the Fourth Hemispheric Report, milestones that contribute to optimizing the technical follow-up of the Convention.

One of the central moments of the Conference was the election of the new authorities. By acclamation, the States Parties elected Brazil to hold the Presidency, and the Dominican Republic and Ecuador to hold the First and Second Vice Presidencies, respectively. The new President, Minister Marcia Lopes, thanked the States for the confidence placed in her country and reiterated her commitment to strengthening the Mechanism, also highlighting the importance of Brazil hosting the Tenth Conference of States Parties in 2025.

Among the agreements adopted were the approval of the Draft Agenda and the Calendar of Activities of the Conference, as well as the designation of Costa Rica as Rapporteur, also by consensus. The States Parties reiterated their commitment to advancing the strategic priorities of the MESECVI and to promoting a more active dialogue among national authorities, Experts of the CEVI and organized civil society.

The Conference also devoted time to recognizing the efforts made during the previous period in the areas of regional cooperation, political advocacy and institutional strengthening. In this context, the call to ensure adequate funding for the MESECVI to guarantee its sustainability was reinforced, particularly in a context where new manifestations of violence, including technology-facilitated violence, require faster, more coordinated and innovative responses.

The Fourth Special Conference reaffirmed the collective will of the States Parties to strengthen the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention, renew regional partnerships and move towards a region in which all women and girls can live free from violence, with full access to their rights and to a life of dignity.

**Fifty-Fifth Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly**

At the Fifty-Fifth Regular Session of the General Assembly, held in June 2025 in Antigua and Barbuda, resolution AG/RES. 3039 (LV-O/25) was adopted, which resolved:

1. To express its concern about the disproportionate impact that widespread violence and the multidimensional crisis in Haiti have on women, girls and adolescents, including the increase in sexual and gender-based violence, and to reaffirm the commitment of the Member States to the protection of their rights, the prevention of such violence and the promotion of victim-centered responses, in line with the principles of international human rights law and the corresponding commitments undertaken under the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará).

**Appointment of Experts in 2025**

Since March 2025, several Experts have been appointed, and we extend a warm welcome to Experts Sheila Roseau, appointed by Antigua and Barbuda; Janet McKenzie, appointed by The Bahamas; Anita Zetina, appointed by Belize; Edylma Granados, appointed by Costa Rica; Melissa Morgan, appointed by Dominica; Elaine Henry Mc Queen, appointed by Grenada; Jennifer Delgado, appointed by Panama; and Alicia Deus, appointed by Uruguay.

## Publications

### 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)

Within the framework of the regional commitment to strengthen the effective implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention, the Fourth Hemispheric Report corresponding to the Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round of the MESECVI was published. This document is one of the Mechanism's main technical inputs, as it systematically analyzes the progress and challenges faced by the States in fulfilling their obligations to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women. In this edition, the Committee of Experts examined the information submitted by twelve Latin American States, with special emphasis on access to justice, truth and reparation, which are central elements established in Articles 7 and 8 of the Convention.

The report is based on a rigorous process of gathering and cross-checking information. The States Parties responded to a total of 137 progress indicators, which made it possible to assess the existence, quality and implementation of the regulatory, institutional and programmatic measures adopted by the countries. In addition, civil society organizations contributed 14 national and 2 regional shadow reports, offering a critical and up-to-date perspective on the actual effectiveness of public policies and the persistence of structural gaps. The integration of both sources enriched the analysis and made it possible to build a more complete picture of the regional situation.

In addition to the core themes of this round, the Fourth Hemispheric Report includes a detailed examination of emerging priority issues. These include the violence faced by women with disabilities, who continue to experience additional barriers in accessing protection and justice services, and the persistence of child marriage and child pregnancy, practices that seriously violate the rights of girls and adolescents and require urgent and coordinated responses in the region. These issues were addressed in order to make their impact visible and to generate recommendations aimed at strengthening State action.

The publication of the Fourth Hemispheric Report represents a significant step forward for the technical follow-up of the Convention, as it offers an up-to-date diagnosis geared towards decision-making. Its findings provide key evidence for the formulation of public policies, the allocation of resources and the review of regulatory frameworks, while also serving as a tool to support the efforts of civil society and international cooperation. This report reaffirms the relevance of the MESECVI as a hemispheric reference mechanism for monitoring compliance with the commitments undertaken by the States and moving towards building societies free from violence against women and girls.

**Gender-Based Violence against Afro-descendant Women (MESECVI, UNFPA, Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women, 2025)**

The thematic report on gender-based violence against Afro-descendant women in Latin America, prepared by the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI in collaboration with UNFPA and the Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women, provides a comprehensive analysis of the multiple forms of violence these women face throughout their life cycle. The document examines how the intersection of gender, race and socioeconomic conditions generates specific vulnerabilities, aggravated by structural racism and historical discrimination.

The report identifies patterns of physical, sexual, psychological and symbolic violence that manifest in various spheres: family, community, institutional and digital. It also addresses issues such as racial profiling, political violence against women leaders and women human rights defenders, and structural barriers to accessing health, education, employment and justice. These dynamics are intensified in contexts of poverty, migration, disability and armed conflict.

From an intersectional and human rights approach, the document urges the States Parties to fulfill their obligations under the Belém do Pará Convention by adopting concrete measures such as specialized protocols, training in key sectors, the collection of data disaggregated by race and gender, and campaigns to eradicate racial and sexist stereotypes. It also underscores the importance of ensuring the active participation of Afro-descendant women in the formulation of public policies and action plans.

The publication seeks to make this problem visible and to strengthen State commitments to move towards the eradication of all forms of violence, contributing to the effective protection of the rights of Afro-descendant women in the region.

**Main conceptual and legal tools to prevent, punish and eradicate technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women (MESECVI and EUROsociAL+, 2025)**

The Guide of Standards to prevent, punish and eradicate technology-facilitated gender-based violence, prepared by the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI in collaboration with the Inter-American Commission of Women and the EUROsociAL+ programme, was presented through a dissemination strategy aimed at strengthening the State response to this emerging problem. The campaign included the publication of informational materials on social media, the distribution of the document to key stakeholders and the holding of virtual sessions to promote its implementation.

The document analyzes how attacks in digital environments, such as online harassment, the non-consensual dissemination of intimate images and threats, affect women’s fundamental rights, deepening gender gaps and exposing them to new forms of violence. From an intersectional and human rights approach, the guide sets out international and regional standards that the States Parties should incorporate into their regulatory frameworks and public policies.

The recommended measures include the specific criminalization of gender-based digital violence, the training of justice operators and security forces, the creation of care protocols and the implementation of awareness-raising campaigns to combat stereotypes in digital environments. It also underscores the importance of collecting disaggregated data and guaranteeing effective protection mechanisms.

The dissemination of this guide seeks to promote the adoption of evidence-based policies and strengthen institutional capacity to prevent and punish digital violence, contributing to the comprehensive protection of women's rights in the region.

**EDVAW Platform**

As part of strengthening its institutional presence, the MESECVI significantly expanded its active participation in the EDVAW Platform, consolidating its position as a key actor within this interregional space of specialized mechanisms on the elimination of violence against women. Throughout the period, the Mechanism contributed steadily to the preparation and dissemination of joint statements that articulated strategic positions on emerging global challenges, promoting a coordinated voice with greater political influence.

In this context, the MESECVI worked closely on the preparation and publication of the Position Paper commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Women, Peace and Security agenda[16], a document that emphasizes the impact of multiple crises —including the expansion of organized crime, armed conflicts and the proliferation of firearms violence— on the deepening and diversification of the violence faced by women. This interregional position underscores the need for comprehensive and coordinated responses, reaffirming the MESECVI's commitment to building safe environments, the sustainable prevention of violence and the protection of women's human rights in contexts of peace, crisis and conflict.

Likewise, this active participation in EDVAW enhanced the visibility of the MESECVI on social media and dissemination platforms, broadening the reach of its technical messages and strengthening public understanding of the interrelationship between security, human rights and gender-based violence in the Americas and in other regional contexts.

**Technical Assistance**

During 2025, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI carried out various technical assistance, international participation and capacity-building actions aimed at strengthening the prevention, care and eradication of violence against women in the States of the region. These actions took place both in thematic dialogue spaces and in technical training processes linked to the relaunch of the Fourth Evaluation Round.

On April 15, the Technical Secretariat participated in the meeting "Digital Violence, Human Rights and Gender", as part of the panel entitled "New forms of violence require new

[16] Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on Discrimination and Violence against Women (EDVAW). (2021). *Position Paper on Women, Peace and Security* (EDVAW Platform). Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Available at: https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/women/edvaw/edvaw-platform-position-paper-wps.pdf

responses". This space addressed the emerging challenges posed by technology-facilitated violence, and the Secretariat highlighted the strategic importance of the Model Law as a key instrument to respond to these new realities, underscoring the need for more comprehensive protection of women's rights in the face of these forms of violence.

Subsequently, on April 29, the Secretariat participated in a virtual dialogue on "Gender-based violence in migration contexts", which analyzed the main risks, protection gaps and institutional challenges faced by women in situations of human mobility, as well as the need to strengthen intersectoral responses in these contexts.

As part of the Mechanism's technical assistance and with the aim of strengthening the relaunch of the Fourth Evaluation Round, six specialized training sessions were held on the use of the Indicators Platform, aimed at technical teams from various States. In February, training was provided to Antigua and Barbuda, which enabled it to successfully complete its reporting process. On March 28, a training session was held with Barbados, with the participation of various national authorities. Likewise, on April 11 and July 13, training sessions were held for Belize as part of its preparation for submitting information. Finally, on April 29, technical training was provided to the team of The Bahamas, focusing on the correct use of the platform and the technical criteria of the reporting process.

**Italy Project: Model Law to prevent, punish and eradicate gender-based digital violence against women**

During 2025, the final phase of the project funded by the Italian Republic was characterized by its broad territorial coverage, technical depth and high level of multisectoral participation. In February, national consultations were held in Mexico and Brazil, in partnership with civil society organizations and State entities, which made it possible to gather substantive input on the draft Model Law from federal, community and institutional perspectives. These spaces strengthened the territorial relevance of the normative instrument, ensuring that it reflects the diverse realities of the region.

Between March and April 2025, a regional virtual public consultation was conducted, open to States, parliaments, academia, international organizations, civil society organizations and the general public. This process significantly broadened the legitimacy of the document, with more than 100 formal contributions received containing technical, legal and public policy observations. This stage was officially closed in May, consolidating a robust text representative of regional consensus. At the same time, within the framework of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, the draft was presented to Ministers and high-level authorities of the English-speaking Caribbean, and progress was made in its review in English.

In April, a national consultation was held in the Dominican Republic, organized jointly with the Ministry of Women, with the participation of representatives of the judicial, legislative and executive branches, as well as feminist and human rights organizations. In this space, the

Working Group on Digital Violence reviewed the input gathered through the public consultation. Subsequently, in June 2025, two key strategic actions were carried out: an Intergenerational Dialogue in Uruguay with young people, social movements and authorities, aimed at strengthening the generational approach of the Law, and bilateral meetings with digital platforms such as Meta and TikTok, whose technical input made it possible to reinforce the principle of corporate co-responsibility.

That same month, within the framework of the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention, an intergenerational meeting was held that combined youth participatory processes with institutional dialogue. Young people developed regulatory proposals based on their own experiences, which were subsequently presented to women legislators and authorities of the Executive and Judicial branches, consolidating an integrated approach across generations. Finally, a consultation was held in Grenada with the support of Experts from the English-speaking Caribbean, ensuring the incorporation of subregional perspectives. As of the date of this report, the final draft of the Model Law is under review by the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, with a view to its approval in December 2025, while the Cybersecurity Guidelines have been finalized for upcoming publication.

**ACTUEMOS Project**

Within the framework of the ACTUEMOS project, the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) carried out an intensive work agenda in Mexico, Colombia, Peru and Argentina, aimed at strengthening civil society participation, the dissemination of regional instruments and substantive progress on the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence against Women. In Mexico, within the framework of the Regional Conference on Women, the MESECVI held meetings with civil society organizations and authorities to share progress on the Model Law and to officially present the Fourth Hemispheric Report to 20 organizations. This space stood out for the contribution of 14 national and 2 regional shadow reports prepared by civil society, which decisively informed the regional diagnosis. In parallel, bilateral meetings were held with TikTok to explore possible lines of cooperation for the development of future guidelines linked to the implementation of the Model Law. Likewise, during a working lunch, the draft Model Law was presented to authorities, international agencies and organizations of Indigenous women, women with disabilities, digital rights defenders and human rights defenders, together with UN Women and the European Union’s Inclusive Societies programme, making it possible to gather key input for comprehensive legislation on digital violence.

In Colombia, activities were carried out within the framework of the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention and became one of the most significant milestones of the period. In Bogotá, the National Report of Colombia was presented together with the Fourth Hemispheric Report of the MESECVI to nearly 25 civil society organizations, in a space for technical and political analysis of the progress made by the Colombian State and the persistent challenges in the prevention, care, punishment and reparation of violence against women. Subsequently, the Intergenerational Dialogue on Digital Violence was held at the

Universidad Externado de Colombia, with the participation of 66 people, including young people, social organizations and national and international entities. This meeting enabled young people from different territories to formulate concrete proposals that will serve as direct input for the Practical Guidelines that will accompany the future Model Law, while also fostering direct exchange with State representatives and technology companies. The cycle of activities in Colombia concluded with the presentation of General Recommendation No. 5 and the Thematic Report on Gender-Based Violence against Afro-descendant Women, prepared together with UN Women, UNFPA and the Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women, highlighting the urgency of strengthening an intersectional, ethnic-racial and human rights approach in public policies.

In Peru, in October 2025, the ACTUEMOS project, with the support of UN Women and the European Union, carried out a series of strategic meetings in Lima to promote the dissemination of the MESECVI reports and strengthen the advocacy capacities of civil society. On October 14, the Fourth Hemispheric Report – Latin America Chapter and the Country Report of Peru were presented to some 40 civil society organizations, national authorities and Experts of the CEVI. Two days later, on October 16, General Recommendation No. 5 on Violence against Afro-descendant Women was presented at an event co-organized with UNFPA LACRO and UNFPA Peru, with the participation of authorities from the Ministry of Women, the Ministry of Culture, the Ombudsperson's Office, United Nations System agencies and Afro-Peruvian organizations. In addition, the MESECVI accompanied the IX Continental Meeting of Indigenous Women of the Americas, which brought together more than 180 women leaders from 21 countries, strengthening the intercultural and intersectional approach in the implementation of the Convention.

In Argentina, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI participated in a meeting with civil society organizations, together with ELA, where the Fourth Hemispheric Report and progress on the Model Law were presented.

Across all these activities, the process of drafting the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence against Women was strengthened through virtual sessions with Experts of the CEVI, held on August 25 and 29 and September 5, 10, 12 and 19, in which civil society input was incorporated and the technical language was adjusted for effective regional application. In parallel, together with INLAT, the official website of the Model Law process was consolidated, facilitating open civil society participation and access to all the Mechanism's documents. Finally, the MESECVI's communications component was reinforced through Instagram posts, ongoing updates to the official website of the Convention, institutional press releases, open calls to social organizations and a special publication for the 30th anniversary, thereby consolidating a broad, participatory and high-impact regional dissemination strategy.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Press Releases of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI

Article 3(l) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts establishes that one of the Committee's functions is to issue recommendations, when it deems it pertinent, to the States Parties so that they adopt the necessary measures in favor of women's human rights, when specific situations warrant a special pronouncement.

During 2025, 25 press releases approved by the Committee of Experts were issued:

1. Members of the EDVAW Platform issue an urgent call to action in response to alarming figures of sexual violence against Haitian women and girls (January 30).
2. Committee of Experts urges Venezuela to fully respect the human rights of women in accordance with its obligations as a State Party to the Belém do Pará Convention (January 31).
3. MESECVI Committee of Experts welcomes international decision condemning Ecuador and Nicaragua for violating the rights of girl victims of sexual violence forced into motherhood (February 14).
4. MESECVI States Parties elect new authorities during the Fourth Special Conference (February 28).
5. International Women's Day: international and regional experts call for a global commitment to combat gender-based violence and discrimination (March 7).
6. MESECVI Committee of Experts congratulates Canada on signing the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women "Convention of Belém do Pará" (March 11).
7. Authorities from Latin America and the Caribbean commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention and the Beijing Platform with a high-level event during CSW69 (March 13).
8. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: dissemination of infographics on General Recommendation No. 5 on violence against Afro-descendant women (March 21).
9. MESECVI publishes its Fourth Hemispheric Report: structural challenges and institutional progress in access to justice, truth and reparation for women in Latin America (March 31).
10. MESECVI concludes visit to Brazil with high participation in the consultation to develop the Model Law on digital violence against women and announcement of the Tenth Conference of States Parties (April 15).
11. MESECVI Committee of Experts raises concern over cases of disappearance and femicide of women in the Atacama region of Chile (May 2).
12. MESECVI visit to the Dominican Republic concludes with progress in consolidating the draft Model Law on Digital Violence against Women (May 2).
13. Committee of Experts expresses concern over acts of racial discrimination and institutional violence against Afro-descendant women and Haitian migrant women in the Dominican Republic (May 7).

14. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses concern over the possible weakening of the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations of Peru and potential obstacles to the work of civil society organizations (June 24).
15. MESECVI promotes dialogue with young people in Uruguay to incorporate their contributions into the Inter-American Model Law on digital violence against women (June 30).
16. High-level regional consultation in Grenada calls for joint action towards a Model Law that protects women and girls from gender-based digital violence (July 9).
17. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses concern over the imminent risk that the Ministry of Women in Panama will not continue (July 24).
18. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses concern over acts of extreme violence against girls in Paraguay and calls for a diligent response by the State to protect their rights (August 6).
19. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses its deep concern and rejection of the decision to dissolve the Ministry of Women and Human Rights in Ecuador (August 15).
20. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses its deep concern over the serious human rights violations against human rights defender Martha Lía Grajales in Venezuela (August 18).
21. MESECVI Committee of Experts welcomes progress in the protection of women in the new Criminal Code of the Dominican Republic and encourages continued efforts to fully guarantee their rights (August 28).
22. MESECVI visit to Colombia promotes work with civil society organizations and national authorities to address violence against women (October 3).
23. MESECVI Committee of Experts expresses its concern to Salvadoran authorities regarding the situation of lawyer and human rights defender Ruth Eleonora López Alfaro and urges full respect for her human rights (October 8).
24. MESECVI Committee of Experts urges the Peruvian State to act in accordance with the highest standards in response to misogynistic statements and acts of violence against women by high-ranking State authorities (October 23).
25. International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women: Joint statement by United Nations entities and regional mechanisms on the elimination of discrimination and violence against women (November 25).

These press releases can be found on the MESECVI website. Regarding the content of the statements, concerns about setbacks in women's rights and cases of violence stand out. Among them, they address regressive legislative reforms, sexual assaults, femicides and political violence. The Committee also calls for strengthening justice and eradicating gender-based violence in the region.

## Communication Campaigns

In 2025, the MESECVI implemented various communication campaigns with the aim of promoting its products, increasing its presence on social media and strengthening the dissemination of women's rights, in compliance with the Belém do Pará Convention. Among the main initiatives was the campaign for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, aimed at making visible the different forms of violence against women and girls and disseminating the Mechanism's standards and recommendations. Likewise, a campaign was carried out on the consultation process for the draft Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Gender-Based Digital Violence against Women, in order to raise awareness of the initiative and promote the participation of States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders in its development. Finally, the Mechanism promoted the dissemination of General Recommendation No. 5 on Afro-descendant women, in order to make visible the forms of violence they face and the obligations of States to prevent, address and eradicate such violence.

### *Distribution of Press Releases*

During the year, a total of 25 press releases were issued, distributed as follows:

| Country/Activity | Number of Press Releases |
|---|---|
| Chile | 1 |
| Haiti | 1 |
| Ecuador | 1 |
| El Salvador | 1 |
| Nicaragua | 1 |
| Panama | 1 |
| Paraguay | 1 |
| Peru | 2 |
| Dominican Republic | 2 |
| Uruguay | 1 |
| Venezuela | 2 |
| Activities and launches of the Mechanism | 11 |

## ACTIVITIES OF THE EXPERTS

During 2025, the Experts of the Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) carried out an intensive regional work agenda aimed at preventing, punishing and eradicating violence against women, with special emphasis on technology-facilitated violence, political participation, gender institutional frameworks and the incorporation of intersectional approaches.

Between January and March, the Expert of Trinidad and Tobago and Vice Chair of the Committee provided substantive technical support to the national consultations for the development of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS-NAP) of Trinidad and Tobago, accompanying the drafting process that made this country the first in the Caribbean to have such an instrument.

During the same period, in New York, she took part in an intensive international agenda as a representative of the Committee and the EDVAW Platform, including meetings with the Presidents of the United Nations General Assembly and ECOSOC, as well as participating as a panelist in a joint event between UN Women and the African Union. She also spoke at the commemorative event for the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention and the Beijing Platform for Action, held at United Nations Headquarters, where she delivered an institutional statement on behalf of the Committee. In addition, she participated in closed meetings on setbacks in gender equality policies and funding cuts for violence prevention, as well as in a meeting of EDVAW civil society organizations, where she gave a presentation on the work of the Mechanism.

From April 7 to 9, a technical delegation made an official visit to Brasília, composed of Leila Linhares Barsted (Brazil) and Mónica Maureira (Chile), accompanied by the Technical Secretariat, with the purpose of strengthening cooperation with the authorities of the Brazilian State, advancing the development of the Model Law on digital violence and supporting the organization of the Tenth Conference of States Parties.

From April 22 to 24, the official visit to the Dominican Republic took place, where the sixth regional consultation on the Inter-American Model Law on digital violence against women was held. The delegation was composed of Mónica Maureira (Chile), Adriana Benjumea (Colombia), Cona Husbands (Guyana), Ana María Mendieta (Peru), Miriam Roache (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Yildalina Tatem Brache (Dominican Republic) and Sherna Benjamin (Trinidad and Tobago), and substantive progress was consolidated on the final text of the draft.

On May 21, the Expert of Panama, on behalf of the MESECVI, participated in the Panel “Legislating on technology-facilitated violence”, held at the National Assembly of Panama and organized in coordination with the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, where she presented the standards of the Inter-American Model Law.

On May 22, the Expert of Paraguay participated in the Public Hearing of the Senate of Paraguay in defense of the continuity of the Ministry of Women, highlighting the country’s international commitments under the Belém do Pará Convention.

From June 24 to 26, the official visit to Uruguay took place with the aim of incorporating a childhood and adolescence approach into the development of the Model Law. The delegation was composed of the Expert of Uruguay, Alicia Deus, together with the Technical Secretariat and its team, and held meetings with representatives of the Judiciary, United Nations system agencies and child protection bodies.

On June 25, in Montevideo, the Expert of Uruguay also participated in the Intergenerational Dialogue with Young People against Digital Violence, held at the National Parliament with young people and social organizations.

On July 1 and 2, in Grenada, the Experts of Guyana, Grenada, Suriname, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago, together with the National Competent Authority of Antigua and Barbuda, participated in the High-Level Consultation on the Inter-American Model Law on Digital Violence, at which the Expert of Grenada served as a panelist on the theme "Digital violence against women in the Caribbean: challenges and strategic opportunities".

On July 17, the Expert of Uruguay participated in the event "Legal frameworks to combat gender-based violence in digital environments", held at the National Parliament, with the participation of women legislators from Mexico and Uruguay, government authorities and social organizations.

On July 23, in Asunción, the Expert of Paraguay participated in the Inter-institutional Roundtable on Gender-Based Violence, organized by the Ministry of Women and UNFPA, contributing to the analysis of diagnoses and intersectoral protocols. Likewise, on August 19, she participated in a new session of the Inter-institutional Roundtable, this time focused on the challenges of institutional coordination for the prevention of violence.

On September 9, the Expert of Paraguay spoke as a panelist at the Second National Congress of Women Leaders in Law (Pre-Congress), held virtually, with a presentation on political violence, leadership and parity.

From September 22 to 25, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Corporación Humanas, a MESECVI team composed of the Experts of the CEVI from Colombia, Adriana Benjumea, and Chile, Mónica Maureira, together with the Technical Secretary, Luz Patricia Mejía, and specialists from the Technical Secretariat, participated in the international seminar held to mark the anniversary. In addition, an agenda of events and meetings was carried out in Bogotá to present the Mechanism's most recent reports and strengthen coordination with women's organizations, authorities, international agencies and academia.

On September 25 and 26, the Expert of Grenada participated as a panelist in the 17th Plenary Assembly of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, held in Brasília, under the theme "Women's empowerment in the age of technology".

On September 26, a virtual course on the Inter-American System for the Protection of Women's Human Rights was held, organized by OHCHR and the Ministry of Women of the Dominican Republic, with the participation of the Expert of Guatemala.

On November 13, in Antigua Guatemala, the High-Level Panel on New Challenges for Democracy and Equality in the Americas was held, organized by the Inter-American Commission of Women, with the participation of the Expert of Guatemala, who presented reflections from the CEVI on new forms of violence against women.

On November 14, the Expert of Paraguay participated in a radio discussion on new forms of violence against women, broadcast nationwide in Paraguay.

On November 18 and 19, the Expert of Uruguay was a speaker at the International Congress held in Lima to mark the 10th anniversary of Law 30364, where she spoke on digital violence and the MESECVI draft Model Law.

On November 25, in Mexico, the virtual conference "Technology-facilitated violence against women" was held, with the participation of the Senate of the Republic, state congresses and various agencies of the Federal Public Administration, and with remarks by the Expert of the CEVI for Chile, Mónica Maureira.

Across all these activities, the Expert of Paraguay, María Angélica Cano Radil, held ongoing working meetings throughout the year with the Minister of Women of Paraguay, focused on the follow-up of public policies, inter-institutional protocols, the mainstreaming of national violence prevention plans and progress on the project to create specialized courts on gender-based violence.

## MESECVI FUNDING

### Sources of Funding of the MESECVI

During 2025, the fund created for the MESECVI received contributions from the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile and Canada, in addition to funds from Italy to support the drafting of the Model Law on Digital Violence and from the ACTUEMOS project with UN Women.

## ANNEX I

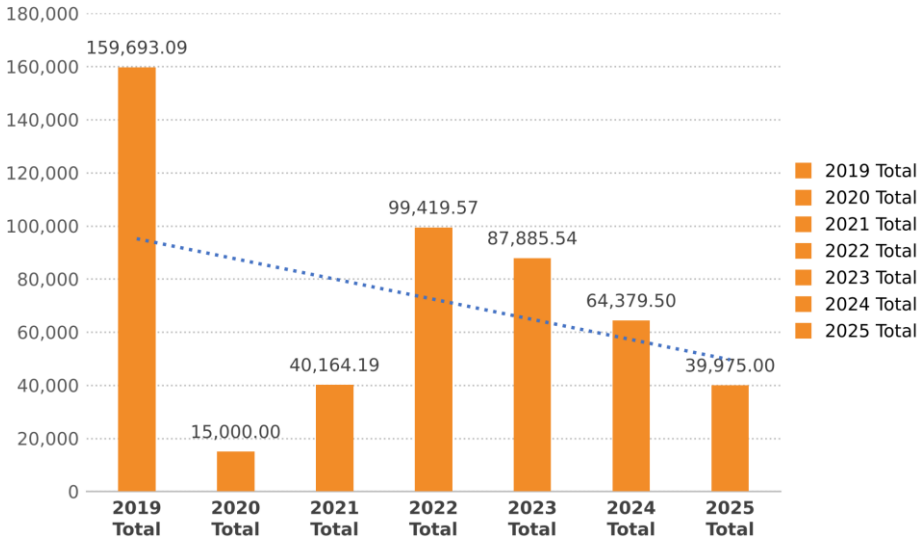
## HISTORY OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MESECVI 2019-2025

| MESECVI Contributions | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Year** | **Donor** | **Total (USD $)** |
| **2019** | Panama | **38,000.00** |
| | Panama | **7,000.00** |
| | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | Mexico | **19,589.32** |
| | Nicaragua | **3,000.00** |
| | Mexico | **77,103.77** |
| **2019 Total** | | **159,693.09** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **2020** | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | | |
| **2020 Total** | | **15,000.00** |
| **2021** | Mexico | **25,164.19** |
| | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | | |
| **2021 Total** | | **40,164.19** |
| **2022** | Mexico - Meeting | **64,419.57** |
| | Mexico - Annual recurring | **20,000.00** |
| | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | | |
| **2022 Total** | | **99,419.57** |
| **2023** | Chile | **5,147.01** |
| | Dominican Republic | **9,975.00** |
| | Mexico | **57,763.40** |
| | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | OAS ICR | **0.13** |
| **2023 Total** | | **87,885.54** |
| | Dominican Republic | **9,975.00** |
| | Mexico | **29,404.50** |
| | Colombia | **25,000.00** |
| | | |
| **2024 Total** | | **64,379.50** |
| **2025** | Dominican Republic | **9,975.00** |
| | Trinidad and Tobago | **15,000.00** |
| | Chile | **10,000.00** |
| | Canada | **5,000.00** |
| **2025** | **Voluntary Contributions** | **39,975.00** |

## ANNEX II

## MESECVI contributions curve 2019 – 2025




## ANNEX III

## HISTORY OF MESECVI PROJECTS 2019-2025

| Projects | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Year** | **Donor** | **Total (USD $)** |
| **2019** | No projects | |
| **2019 Total** | | **0.00** |
| **2020** | Spotlight Project | **98,386.00** |
| **2020 Total** | | **98,386.00** |
| **2021** | Spotlight Project | **155,164.84** |
| | PADF | **3,000.00** |
| | UNDP | **30,000.00** |
| **2021 Total** | | **188,164.84** |
| **2022** | Spotlight Project | **40,000.00** |
| | Liechtenstein | **31,563.34** |
| **2022 Total** | | **71,563.34** |
| **2023** | Italy | **54,717.00** |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | UNDP | **45,000.00** |
| **2023 Total** | | **99,717.00** |
| **2024** | Italy | **134,230.00** |
| **2024 Total** | | **134,230.00** |
| **2025** | ACTUEMOS Project | **150,000.00** |
| | **Total Projects 2025** | **150,000.00** |

## ANNEX IV

## States with Pending Appointment or Official Notification of Experts as of December 2025

| COUNTRY | STATUS |
|---|---|
| BARBADOS | Appointment of Experts pending (Principal and Alternate) |
| EL SALVADOR | Appointment of Experts pending (Principal and Alternate) |
| HAITI | Appointment of Experts pending (Principal and Alternate) |
| HONDURAS | Appointment of Experts pending (Principal and Alternate) |
| VENEZUELA | Appointment of Experts pending (Principal and Alternate) |