

**FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM TO THE  
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION  
X CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES**

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**DECLARATION ON  
Democracy, Climate Emergency,  
Digital Environments, and New  
Forms of Violence against Women**

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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

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**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

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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 (...)

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;

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;

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

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 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;

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<sup>8</sup> Peru will subsequently submit footnotes with (...)

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 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:**

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

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 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. ...clarifications regarding terminology and the Agreements, in accordance with its national legislation and 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".