



FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM
BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI)
Sixteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts
December 10th, 11th, and 12th, 2019
Washington D.C.

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**AGREEMENTS OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF
THE MECHANISM TO FOLLOW UP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT,
AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,
“CONVENTION OF *BELEM DO PARA*” (CEVI)**

The Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belem do Para Convention (MESECVI), gathered during its Sixteenth Meeting on December 10th, 11th and 12th in Washington D.C.;

AGREES TO:

1. Approve the “Report of Activities of the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts”, document MESECVI/CEVI/doc.256/19, with the incorporation of the changes requested;
2. Take note of the Draft Third Hemispheric Follow-up Report to the Recommendations of the Committee of Experts, and request the Technical Secretariat to incorporate the information received by the States which have not yet sent in their information as well as the comments of the Experts and circulate it to CEVI for review and final approval;
3. Approve the National Follow-up Reports to the Recommendations on the Implementation of the Convention of Belem do Para corresponding to the Third Round of Multilateral Evaluation, in accordance with the comments indicated by the Experts, and request the Secretariat to disseminate them among the corresponding states for additional observations in accordance with Art. 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts;
4. Create a mixed Working Group among the Experts to develop a strategy with a view to strengthening the capacities of the Caribbean in relation to the work of the MESECVI;
5. Modify Article 2 paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts, which will read as follows: “Article 2. Composition of the Committee - The Committee will be made up of experts in the field covered by the Convention and will exercise their functions independently, autonomously and in a personal capacity. The experts will not participate in the evaluation of their own country, but they will be

able to promote and disseminate the reports, standards and other activities carried out within the Committee.”;

6. Modify Article 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts, which will read as follows: “Upon completion of the review of the reports of all the States Party in each round, the Committee will issue a report for each country on the implementation of the corresponding recommendations, including the observations analyzed from each State Party”;

7. Adapt the Rules of Procedure to the two previous modifications made.

8. Request the Technical Secretariat to prepare a draft letter of understanding with the IACHR for defining a joint work strategy with themes and actions of common interest and present it to the Committee at the next CEVI Meeting;

9. Request the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI to prepare work projects to advance the following topics for the Fourth Round of Multilateral Evaluation according to the comments expressed by the Experts:

- a. Addressing violence against women with disabilities;
- b. Establishment of shelter standards for women survivors of violence;
- c. Cyber violence (general recommendation);
- d. Violence in Child Marriage and Early Union, its causes and consequences in Latin America and the Caribbean in accordance with the Belem do Para Convention (Hemispheric Report);
- e. General Recommendation on gender stereotypes in Access to Justice;
- f. Women living with HIV (invite representatives to the next meeting and expressly include them in the documents of the MESECVI);
- g. Coordination of Administrative Data Collection (include questions to the States);
- h. Violence against human rights defenders and their right to defend rights (press release);
- i. Continue to study the theme of consent in power relations in cases of sexual violence;
- j. Protocol on onsite visits and sourcing funding for them;
- k. Statement on budgetary issues to respond to Violence against Women in the States that have had budget cuts;
- l. Press Release on the importance of strengthening of mechanisms for the advancement of women

10. Continue strengthening cooperation and exchange of good practices and information between the Mechanism, as well as with other organizations that address the issue of violence against women at the sub-regional, regional and international levels and the platform of independent mechanisms on women’s human rights, and all those multilateral organizations that bring together authorities on women rights;

11. Greet the States Parties that have designated Experts in 2019 and reiterate the request to the States Parties that have not yet designated Experts promptly;

12. Remind the States Parties of their duty to provide contributions regularly to the MESECVI in accordance with the provisions approved by the States themselves in Article 11 of the MESECVI Statute and Article 12 of the CEVI Rules of Procedure, in order to facilitate the holding of meetings of both the Committee and the States Parties and to finance the participation of both the Experts and authorities, so as to guarantee the conditions and economic resources for the regular activities of the MESECVI;

13. Celebrate the election of the new authorities of the Committee of Experts and welcome their appointment: Tatiana Rein as President and Rinette Djokarto, and Marcela Huaita as Vice-Presidents of CEVI;

14. Express gratitude to the Experts who left the Committee in 2018 and 2019 for their enormous contribution to the efforts of recent years: Sandra Dean Patterson and Gaynel Curry, Bahamas; Julieta Paredes, Bolivia; Lidia Gregoria Jiménez, Paraguay.

15. Express gratitude through a written communication to the Expert from Costa Rica Sylvia Mesa Peluffo, for her time served as President of CEVI during 2018 and 2019.