

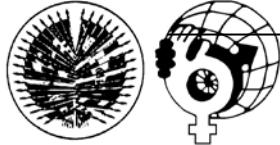
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CIM



**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN**

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN (CIM) TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
AT ITS THIRTY-SIXTH REGULAR SESSION



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

No.02-018/05

February 24, 2006

Dear Secretary General:

Pursuant to Article 91.f of the Charter of the Organization of American States, I am pleased to send you the document Annual Report of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to the General Assembly, for the period from March 2005 to February 2006, to be transmitted to the Chair of the Permanent Council.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Carmen Lomellin
Executive Secretary

Jose Miguel Insulza
Secretary General
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

Attachment

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
I. ORIGIN, LEGAL BASIS, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECTIVES	5
II. MANDATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY	7
III. MANDATES OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE CIM	13
A. THE ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES	13
B. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	14
IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES.....	15
A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2004-2006 BIENNIAL WORK PLAN	15
1. <i>Women's Human Rights and Elimination of Violence against Women</i>	15
a. Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará	15
b. Other activities in the area of violence against women:.....	16
c. Trafficking in Women and Children in the Americas for Purposes of Exploitation	18
2. <i>Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)</i>	20
a. Training.....	20
b. Follow-up SEPIA I – Gender and Labor.....	21
c. Other activities.....	22
3. <i>Summit of the Americas</i>	23
V. MEASURABLE RESULTS	23
VI. RELATIONS WITH OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS	25
A. The Inter-American System.....	25
1. Within the OAS.....	25
2. Other Inter-American organizations.....	25
B. The United Nations System.....	26
C. Other regional and International Entities and Organizations.....	26
D. Civil Society Organizations.....	26
VII. FINANCIAL SITUATION.....	27
VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS	28
ANNEX I MEETINGS OF THE CIM, MARCH 2005 – FEBRUARY 2006.....	31
ANNEX II BUDGETARY EXECUTION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005.....	33
ANNEX III DRAFT RESOLUTION STRENGTHENING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN.....	35

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of Articles 91.f and 126 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) presents its annual report to the Permanent Council, so that the Council may then submit it to the thirty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly, with any observations and recommendations it deems appropriate.

This report summarizes the activities carried out by the CIM from March 2005 to February 2006. During this reporting period, the CIM worked intensively on the issue of gender-based violence, particularly in the establishment of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI). It also continued working on implementation of the Inter-American Program on Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and on the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents and children.

In its role as the technical advisory organ of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) on all aspects of gender equity and equality, it encouraged the inclusion of mandates on the subject, some of which were incorporated in both the Declaration and the Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas.

The major achievements in the period covered by this report are reflected therein.

Nilc  a Freire
President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During this reporting period, the CIM implemented the Biennial Work Program approved by its 32nd Assembly of Delegates, as well as the mandates received from the OAS General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas:

- **Women's Human Rights and Elimination of Gender-Based Violence.** The CIM continued to urge ratification of the Convention of Belém do Pará by all OAS member states. On December 14, 2005 Jamaica deposited its instrument of ratification, bringing the total number of states party to 32. The Permanent Secretariat of CIM, as Secretariat to MESECVI implemented the **Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI), adopted in October 2004.** In implementing its mandates, the First Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI was held in Washington, D.C., August 22-24. As Secretariat of the Mechanism, the CIM initiated the first evaluation round of the states party.
- **Trafficking in Women, Adolescents and Children in the Americas for the Purposes of Exploitation.** The CIM organized seminars for training and awareness-building in Belize, Bolivia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru to strengthen and encourage governmental and nongovernmental response to the problem. It also participated in the design of campaigns to prevent trafficking in persons in Bolivia and Mexico, and presented papers on the subject in Chile, Peru, to the United Nations Population Fund and the University of the United Nations. Through the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit, the CIM is engaged in the first phase of research on trafficking of persons in Haiti. In addition, a web site was launched at www.oas.org/atip.
- **Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace Building: Andean Region.** The course, offered October 3-7, 2005 in Peru, was a joint initiative of the CIM, the OAS Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts (OPRC) and the Inclusive Security Program of the Hunt Alternatives Fund. Thirty women and men from the participating countries working in the areas of peace and security were trained in promoting the integration of a gender perspective and participation of women in conflict resolution and peace-building. A second course will be offered in Central America in 2006.
- **Integration of a gender perspective in the OAS.** From October 2005 to February 2006, officials from various OAS units in charge of programs and policies attended training sessions on gender analysis applicable to their sector. There was also a special information session for directors and unit chiefs. A unit for *Training the Trainers* is in development to offer regular gender training at the OAS in order to develop a cadre familiar with the knowledge, techniques, and materials needed to replicate the program. The Government of Canada is funding the project.
- **Integration of a gender perspective in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas.** The CIM cooperated with the Secretariat of the Summit Process and the Permanent Missions to ensure the integration of gender-perspective in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, and composed recommendations that were transmitted to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) for its consideration.

I. ORIGIN, LEGAL BASIS, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECTIVES

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) was established at the Sixth International Conference of American States (Havana, 1928) to prepare "juridical information and data of any other kind which may be deemed advisable to enable the Seventh International Conference of American States to take up the consideration of the civil and political equality of women in the continent."

The Ninth International Conference of American States (Bogotá, 1948) approved the first Statute of the Commission, which consolidated its structure and authorized the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) to establish the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM.

In 1953, the Commission signed an agreement with the OAS Permanent Council under which the CIM was recognized as a specialized Inter-American organization with permanent status and technical autonomy in the pursuit of its objectives.

The Tenth Inter-American Conference (Caracas, 1954) amended the CIM's Statute and confirmed it as a specialized organization with permanent status. It also expanded its powers and authorized it to amend its own Statute in the future.

Subsequently, in 1978, in accordance with Article 134 of the OAS Charter and the Standards for the Implementation and Coordination of the Provisions of the Charter Relating to the Inter-American Specialized Organizations, a new agreement between the Inter-American Commission of Women and the Organization of American States was signed.

The purpose of the Commission is to promote and protect the rights of women, and to support Member States in their efforts to ensure full access to civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, so that women and men may participate on an equal footing in all spheres of society, enjoy fully and equally the benefits of development, and share responsibility for the future.

The CIM fulfills its objectives through the following organs: the Assembly of Delegates; the Executive Committee, composed of the president, vice president, and five member countries, all elected by the Assembly; the delegates appointed by governments; the national committees of cooperation, chaired by the principal delegates, who perform the Commission's function on the national level; and the Permanent Secretariat, which performs the Commission's administrative, technical, and executive functions. The Assembly of Delegates is the supreme authority of the CIM, and its resolutions, together with those of the OAS General Assembly, set the guidelines for the work of the CIM.

The CIM Statute authorizes governments with a permanent observer accredited to the OAS to have permanent observer status with the Inter-American Commission of Women as well.

II. MANDATES AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The CIM receives mandates from the OAS General Assembly each year. The most relevant mandates of the last decade for its work can be found below.

- AG/RES. 587 (XII-O/82), "Day of the Women of the Americas," which declared February 18th as the DAY OF THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS in commemoration of the date in 1928 when the Inter-American Commission of Women was created in Havana, Cuba. Since 1983, the CIM has carried out different commemorative activities both at its headquarters and in Member States.

Violence Against Women- Convention of Belém do Pará

- AG/RES. 1257 (XXIV-O/94), "Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará,'" by which the Convention was adopted, and which marked the achievement of one of the Commission's principal goals. The Convention came into effect on March 5, 1995. As of this writing, 32 countries have ratified it.
- AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará,'" which instructed the CIM Permanent Secretariat to report biennially to the OAS General Assembly on the progress made in its application.
- AG/RES. 1626 (XXIX-O/99), "First Biennial Report to the General Assembly on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará.'
- AG/RES. 1768 (XXXI-O/01), "Second Biennial Report to the General Assembly on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará."
- AG/RES 1942 (XXXII-O/03), "Third Biennial Report on the Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention of the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, 'Convention of Belém Do Pará'" which requests that the General Secretariat provides the necessary support for a meeting of experts, to consider recommendations as to the most appropriate manner to follow up on the "Convention of Belém Do Pará," and to convene, in coordination with the CIM, a conference of States Party to the Convention, with the participation of those states not parties to the Convention and of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to decide on the follow up of this instrument. Finally, the resolution encourages States that have not ratified the Convention to consider ratifying or adhering to the convention.
- AG/RES. 2012 (XXXIV-O/04), Violence Against Women Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish, and Eradicate Violence Against Women, "Convention of Belém do

Pará", which urges all OAS states to participate actively in the drafting of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention.

- AG/RES 2138 (XXXV-O/05), "Fourth Biennial Report on the Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES 1456 (XXVII-O/97), "Promotion of the Inter-American Convention of the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, "Convention of Belém Do Pará" which takes note of the Fourth Biennial Report of the CIM on the fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 1456 (XXVII-O/97), and requests the Commission to continue presenting these reports. The resolution welcomes the adoption of the Statute of MESECVI and invites all states parties and states not party to the Convention, permanent observers, international financial institutions, and civil society organizations to contribute to the OAS specific fund established for that purpose. It requests the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its Thirty-Sixth session on the implementation of MESECVI.

Full and Equal Participation of Women

- AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), "Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000," which established that the Secretary General would present biennial reports to the General Assembly on compliance with this resolution, explaining how the various areas of the General Secretariat had cooperated toward that end. In the year 2000, the Assembly received the last report and adopted Resolution AG/RES. 1729/00 (XXX-O/00), "Seventh Biennial Report of the Secretary General on Compliance with Resolution AG/RES. 829 (XVI-O/86), 'Full and Equal Participation of Women by the Year 2000'.", which urges the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to continue working to achieve full and equal participation of women in development and in the decision-making process, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women; and instructs the Secretary General of the OAS to increase his efforts to guarantee equal opportunity for women's access to senior executive positions in the OAS, taking into account the **Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (PIA)**.

Gender Equity and Equality

- AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), "Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," in which the General Assembly adopted that instrument and instructed the CIM to serve as the organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of said Program and the actions taken by the CIM to implement it. It urged the OAS General Secretariat to see that a gender perspective was included in all work, projects, and programs of the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, in fulfillment of the Program. It instructed the Permanent Council to propose to the OAS General Assembly, at its thirty-first regular session, the allocation of technical, human, and financial resources, within the program-budget of the Organization, so that both the General Secretariat and the CIM could implement this Program. Moreover, it requested that the General Secretariat allot the human and financial resources in the program budget for 2001 needed to implement both this Program and resolution AG/RES 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), "Status of Women in the Americas and Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women." It further urged the organs of the OAS and specialized organizations of the inter-American system to provide the support necessary to implement the Inter-American Program.

- AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), “Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” which received the first report on the implementation and promotion of the Inter-American Program.
- AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), “Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” which received the second report on the implementation and promotion of the Inter-American Program; reaffirmed the governments’ commitment to integrate a gender perspective into their national programs and policies, and requests the Secretary General to 1) instruct the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, through the appropriate channels, to include in their reports to the General Assembly an account of the measures taken to implement the Inter-American Program and 2) report to the thirty-third regular session of the General Assembly on the implementation of this program.
- AG/RES 1941 (XXXII-O/03), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” which reaffirms the support of the Member States for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating policy on gender equity, equality and women’s human rights within the hemisphere and among others, requests the Secretary General to convene the Second Meeting of Ministers or the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States in April 2004.
- AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality”, reaffirms the support for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy on gender equity and equality and the promotion of women’s human rights. It also urges the Secretary General to continue to give the IAP his full support, with special emphasis on the priorities set by the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-II). The resolution additionally supports CIM’s efforts to integrate and implement activities and programs for integrating a gender perspective into the results of ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, and science and technology. Finally, it urges the Member States and the Permanent Council, to promote the advancement of women as well as take into consideration of the recommendations of REMIM II.
- AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality”, reaffirms the support of the General Assembly for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy on gender equity and quality and the promotion of women’s human rights; once again requests the Permanent Council, to continue its efforts to integrate a gender perspective into its resolutions, activities, and initiatives and to consider increasing the resources allocated to the CIM in the program-budget, enabling it to carry out its mandates in full. It urges member states to develop public policies and strengthen institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women and to gather and analyze data disaggregated by sex in all sectors of the economy, and to include gender-impact considerations in developing their national policies and positions related to the negotiations of bilateral and regional trade agreements. It urges the Secretary General to continue to foster the integration of a gender perspective in all programs and policies of the Organization, to convene the first meeting of the Inter-Institutional Forum on Gender Equity and Equality (IIFGEE); and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth regular session on the implementation of the Inter-American Program and of this resolution.

Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS

- AG/RES. 1872 (XXXII-O/02), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS,” which urged the Secretary General to reaffirm the urgent goal that women occupy 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 level and above by the year 2005; to appoint qualified women as representatives and special envoys; and to actively seek and support the nomination, election, or appointment of qualified women to all vacant positions in the OAS. It also requested that he continue his work to establish policies of gender equality in the workplace, monitor closely the progress made by OAS organs, agencies, and entities in meeting the goal, and report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-third regular session. The resolution also urged all Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the President of the CIM by identifying, and regularly submitting, through their permanent missions to the OAS, the most highly-qualified women candidates to occupy positions of trust within the OAS and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions, which will have been widely publicized in all Member States.
- AG/RES. 1954 (XXXII-O/03), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS,” which urges the Secretary General to redouble efforts to reach the urgent goal that women occupy 50% of posts at each level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 level and above by the year 2005; to appoint qualified women as representatives and special envoys; and to take into account the objective of gender balance and the criterion of geographic distribution when filling vacancies in the OAS, especially positions of higher authority. It also requests that he continue to make gender equity and equality one of the priorities in his efforts to establish a new institutional culture in the OAS and monitor closely the progress made by OAS organs, agencies, and entities in meeting the goal, and report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth regular session. The resolution also urges all Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the President of the CIM by identifying, and regularly submitting, through their permanent missions to the OAS, the most highly-qualified women candidates to occupy positions of trust within the OAS and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions, which will have been widely publicized in all Member States. It calls on OAS organs, agencies and entities to meet the goal of 2005 and continue to accelerate the recruitment of qualified women, to include the objective of improving gender balance in their actions plans and to encourage that specific activities be undertaken to address gender issues within the workplace, as one of the follow-up actions to the Gender Mainstreaming Project.
- AG/RES. 1977 (XXXIV-O/04), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS”, which urges the Secretary General to ensure that women occupy 50% of posts at each grade level within the OAS organs, agencies, and entities, particularly at the P-5 grade level and above, by 2005, in order to achieve gender balance at all levels in the OAS. It additionally urges the appointment of qualified women as representatives and special envoys to represent the Secretary General in matters relating to all areas and sectors. It requests the Secretary General to take this resolution into account while preparing his “Restructuring Plan.” It additionally encourages Member States to support the efforts of the Secretary General and the CIM by regularly submitting the candidacies of the most highly-qualified women to occupy positions of trust within the OAS.

- AG/RES. 2096 (XXXV-O/05), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS”, which urges the Secretary General along with technical support from the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM and all people involved in the hiring and selection process, to develop a human resources policy which the principle of gender equity and equality is fully integrated. The resolution also calls for the Secretary General to redouble efforts to meet the goal of having women, including indigenous women, occupy 50 percent of posts at each grade level, particularly at the P-5 grade level and above, and to continue to accelerate their recruitment of women for vacant positions; to appoint women as representatives and special envoys to represent the Secretary General in matters relating to all areas and sectors. Additionally, the resolution urges all member states to support the efforts of the Secretary General and of the CIM by identifying and through, their permanent missions of the OAS, regularly submitting the candidacies of women to occupy positions of trust within the OAS, and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions. Finally, the resolution requests the Secretary General to monitor closely the progress made by the organs, agencies and entities of the Organization in meeting the goal of women’s occupying 50 percent of posts at all grade levels and to keep the Permanent Council informed with respect to the implementation of this resolution.

Summit of the Americas

- AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00), “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,” which requested that the Member States in the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) take concrete action to integrate a gender perspective as a cross-cutting theme in the Proposed Political Declaration and Plan of Action for the Third Summit of the Americas. It requested that the SIRG consider including a specific section related to women’s issues within the area of “democracy and human rights.” It recommended that the Meetings of Ministers or of the Highest-ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States be held every four years in order to contribute to the preparatory and follow-up activities of the Summits of the Americas. It further encouraged the governments to consider the recommendations of the Inter-American Commission of Women in the process of preparing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas, and requested that the CIM prepare recommendations and provide technical support for this purpose. It instructed the General Secretariat and the CIM to transmit this resolution to all the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to ensure that they would take it into account in the preparation and implementation of their work plans and programs. It instructed the OAS General Secretariat to allocate the necessary resources to the CIM for the implementation of these mandates, within the resources allocated in the program-budget and other resources.

- AG/RES. 2011 (XXXIV-O/04), “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,” which entrusts the Secretariat for the Summit Process to work in coordination with the CIM to ensure that the objectives of the Inter-American Program are included in the preparatory meetings for the Fourth Summit of the Americas, as well as the Inter-American ministerial meetings, in order to ensure that a gender perspective is included in the agendas, working papers, strategies, themes and outcomes, and that gender is recognized as an integral component of all proposed policies, programs, and initiatives. It further urges the Member States to continue to support civil society participation and collaboration in all OAS activities before the Fourth Summit of the Americas, and asks for the Member States’ financial support for institutions and mechanisms that encourage a gender perspective.

Trafficking in Persons

- AG/RES. 1948 (XXXII-O/03), “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, especially Women, Adolescents, and Children,” which urges all Member States to adopt measures to implement the CIM resolution entitled “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children” [CIM/RES 225/02 (XXXI-O/02)]. It also requests the sharing of information and best practices amongst Member States in combating trafficking, as well as proposes the expansion of research to other Member States in order to gauge the presence of trafficking. Finally, the resolution instructs the Secretary General to appoint an “OAS Coordinator on the Issue of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children,” to be housed in the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM.
- AG/RES. 2019 (XXXIV-O/04), “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children,” reiterates the request to the Member States to consider signing and ratifying, or acceding to, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. It also urges the Member States to take the measures necessary to implement the recommendations emanating from the resolution "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children" [CIM/RES. 225/02 (XXXI-O/02)]. It further welcomes the recommendation of the Fifth Meeting of Ministers of Justice to hold a meeting of national authorities, with the participation of the CIM, the IIN, the United Nations, the IOM, and other related international organizations, for the purpose of studying cooperation mechanisms among the States to ensure protection of and assistance to the victims, prevention of the crime, and the prosecution of its perpetrators of human trafficking. Lastly, it instructs the OAS Secretary General to appoint a Trafficking in Persons Coordinator as mentioned in AG/RES. 1948 (XXXIII-O/03). The Secretary General, in conjunction with the trafficking coordinator is requested to present a report each year to the Permanent Council on the activities being carried out by the various OAS organs to address the issue of trafficking in persons.
- AG/RES. 2051 (XXXIV-O/04), “Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Smuggling of, and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere,” urges the Member States to consider the signature and ratification of, or accession to the international instruments relating to the fight against commercial sexual exploitation of children and against trafficking in children in the Hemisphere. It also requests the CIM to present to the Permanent Council, before December 31, 2004, a study on trafficking in children for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation in the Hemisphere. Additionally it asks the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to present studies relating to the commercial sexual exploitation, smuggling of, and trafficking of children to the Permanent Council.
- AG/RES. 2118 (XXXV-O/05), “Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons,” urges member states to consider, as appropriate, signing or ratifying the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children supplementing said Convention, and to take the necessary national measures to implement those instruments. It renews the mandate to the Permanent Council to convene a meeting of national authorities on trafficking in persons, before the thirty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly, with the purpose of studying mechanisms for integral cooperation

among states to ensure the protection of and assistance to victims, prevention of the crime, and punishment of its perpetrators, bearing in mind the respect for human rights of victims. This meeting will also facilitate the sharing of information and experience, policy dialogue and cooperation among countries of origin, transit, and destination in cases of trafficking in persons, as well as the establishment or improvement of statistical records in this regard. The resolution requests the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, and to the next Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas (REMJA-VI).

Strengthening of the CIM

- AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), "Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization," which requested the Permanent Council to consider the possibility of examining these reports with the assistance of the technical areas of the General Secretariat. It instructed the General Secretariat to make every possible effort to improve the financial status of the organs, agencies, and entities, and in particular, the Inter-American Commission of Women, within the allocated resources approved in the program-budget and other resources
- AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), "Strengthening of the CIM", encourages the Secretary General to provide sufficient human and financial resources to the CIM, and invites Member States as well as the permanent observers, individuals, and public, private, national, or international organizations that wish to do so, to make voluntary contributions to fund CIM's projects and programs.
- AG/RES. 2099 (XXXV-O/05), "Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women", which urges the Secretary General to provide the CIM, with sufficient human and financial resources to strengthen its capacity to carry out its increasing mandates and to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding. It invites member states and permanent observers, as well as individuals and national or international organizations, whether public or private, that wish to do so to make voluntary contributions to support the development and implementation of CIM projects and programs. It also renews the mandate to the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP), to invite the CIM Executive Secretary to present periodic reports on the financial resources needed to fulfill its mandates.

III. MANDATES OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE CIM

A. The Assembly of Delegates

The Assembly of Delegates, the highest decision-making organ of the CIM, regularly meets every two years. The Thirty-Second Assembly of Delegates was held in Washington DC, from October 27 to October 29, 2004. The following mandates of the Assembly were implemented during this reporting period, as reflected in this document.

- CIM/RES. 229 (XXXII-O/04) Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará
- CIM/RES. 230 (XXXII-O/04) Gender and Access to Decent Work to Address Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance
- CIM/RES. 231 (XXXII-O/04) Promoting the Role of Women in Conflict Prevention, Management and Conflict Resolution and Post-Conflict Peace Building
- CIM/RES. 232 (XXXII-O/04) Integration of a Gender Perspective into Hemispheric Policies and in the Summit of the Americas
- CIM/RES. 233 (XXXII-O/04) Biennial Work Program of the CIM 2004-2006: Program Guidelines
- CIM/RES. 234 (XXXII-O/04) Meetings of the Executive Committee for the Period 2004-2006
- CIM/RES. 235 (XXXII-O/04) Venue and Date of the Thirty-Third Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women
- CIM/RES. 236 (XXXII-O/04) Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents and Children
- CIM/DEC. 02 (XXXII-O/04) Declaration on the Adoption of the Statute of the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Convention of Belém do Pará"
- CIM/DEC. 03 (XXXII-O/04) Declaration on the Impact of the Proposed Restructuring of the Organization of American States

B. **The Executive Committee**

Meetings of the Executive Committee held during this reporting period:

DATE	MEETING	PLACE
April 21-22, 2005	First Regular Session of the 2004-2006 Executive Committee	Washington DC
December 8-9, 2005	Second Regular Session of the 2004-2006 Executive Committee	Washington DC

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

A. Implementation of the 2004-2006 Biennial Work Plan

During this reporting period, the CIM continued carrying out the 2004-2006 Biennial Work Plan adopted by the XXXII Assembly of Delegates of the CIM. It also executed mandates of the OAS General Assembly and the Summits of the Americas.

The priorities were: 1) women's human rights and the elimination of violence against women: Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of *Belém do Pará* and "Fighting the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents and children; 2) implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality; and 3) integrating a gender perspective in the Summit of the Americas.

1. *Women's Human Rights and Elimination of Violence against Women*

a. **Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará**

The CIM continued to urge ratification of the Convention of *Belém do Pará* by all OAS member states. On December 14, 2005 the Government of Jamaica deposited its instrument of ratification, bringing the total of States Party to the Convention to 32.

i. ***Initiation of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI)***

During the period covered by this report, the CIM focused on initiating the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI). The following is a brief summary of the activities completed. A full report is contained in the document on compliance with AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05), "Fourth Biennial Report on compliance with resolution AG/RES.1456 (XXVII-O/97) Promotion of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, *Convention of Belém do Pará*."

As an initial step, the President of the CIM sent a note to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Party to the Convention on January 28, 2005, asking them to designate an expert to serve on the Committee of Experts (CEVI), the Mechanism's technical organ. To date, 25 experts have been named.

Following said designations, and with the generous support of the governments of Mexico and Brazil, the CIM convened the first meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI), in Washington, D.C. from August 22-24, 2005. As Technical Secretariat, the CIM Secretariat provided the CEVI with the draft agenda, rules of procedure, questionnaire to send to the governments, annual work calendar, and methodology. After a detailed review, and with the necessary changes, the CEVI approved these instruments. It also elected Leila Linhares Barsted, the Brazilian expert, as Coordinator, and

Margarita Puerto Gómez, the Honduran expert, as Alternate Coordinator. They will serve in these capacities for a two-year term.

On September 13, 2005, the Secretariat sent a note to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the States Party inviting them to designate a Competent National Authority (ANC) who will serve as a liaison between the governments and the MESECVI Secretariat, as provided in Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure. To date, 25 States Party have appointed their Competent National Authority.

On November 7, 2005 the Secretariat sent a questionnaire for evaluation of the Convention's implementation to the ANCs that had been named, and to the permanent missions of the states party that had not yet designated their contact point. The CEVI will review the replies at its first meeting of the multilateral evaluation round to be held on June 12 and 13, 2006.

ii. Support for the Competent National Authority. National Women's Institute of Mexico

On November 17, 2005, the National Women's Institute of Mexico organized an event in the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs to discuss implementation of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI), and to report on its establishment at the national level and how it fits in the "National Program for a Violence-Free Life."

Participants in the meeting included the Director of Global Affairs of the Mexican Foreign Ministry, Lic. Ernesto Céspedes, the Principal Delegate to the CIM, Lic. Patricia Espinosa, representatives of the judicial branch, international organizations, civil society organizations, and the media. The Principal Specialist of the CIM made a presentation on the nature and operation of the MESECVI and the current status of its implementation.

b. Other activities in the area of violence against women:

- **International Campaign on Violence Against Women.** The CIM, in partnership with other international organizations, sponsored and carried out the international campaign of "16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women, November 25-December 10, 2005." The campaign's slogan was "For the Life of Women. For the Health of the World. No more Violence!" The 16-day campaign spanned and stressed four significant dates related to violence against women and human rights: the International Day of No More Violence Against Women (November 25), the World Day of HIV/AIDS (December 1), the anniversary of the massacre of Montreal (December 6), and International Human Rights Day (December 10).

This initiative endeavored to promote the organization and mobilization of civil society in order to denounce various forms of violence against women, and to strengthen the work of anti-violence women's movements on the world level. The primary focus was the link between gender-based violence and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which has struck a growing number of women and girls.

General coordination of the campaign was the responsibility of the NGO, Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL), with ISIS International as the focal point for information for Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition to the CIM, the participants in the project were: the United Nations, through the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the Inter-American Antiparliamentary Group on Population and Development (GPI), and the Inter-American Alliance for the Prevention of Gender-based Violence through Health (INTERCAMBIOS)

- “**International Congress to Support Harmonization of Domestic Legislation with International Instruments on Women’s Human Rights—Full Force for Human Rights of Women in Mexico.**” At the invitation of Mexico’s Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, the Principal Specialist of the CIM made presentations on “The right of women to live without violence and the obligation of the Mexican State to guarantee it in the framework of the Convention of Belém do Pará”, in seminars held in San Luis de Potosí, Potosí (April), Federal District (July) Morelia, Michoacán (September) and Villahermosa, Tabasco (October). The Principal Specialist of the Department of Legal Affairs and Services of the OAS represented the CIM at seminars held in Tijuana, Baja California (June) and Monterrey, Nuevo León (August).
- In January 2005 the Executive Secretary took part in the **Panel on Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children** that was sponsored by FLACSO Ecuador. The trip was coordinated by Victoria Moncayo, President of CECIM and Principal Delegate to the CIM. During the trip the Executive Secretary visited training centers and met with regional representatives of CECIM. On this visit the Executive Secretary gave an address on the topic to a network of Ecuadorian women organized by a local NGO, “Sí SePpuede” [Yes, one can].
- The Executive Secretary made a presentation at the **Regional Forum of the Group of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, Interparliamentary Forum of the Americas. Meeting of Women FIPA**, held in Barbados March 20-23, 2005. The presentation covered regional efforts to combat violence against women.
- The Executive Secretary of the CIM participated in the panel “Results and Lessons Learned from Studies on Gender and Justice” in the framework of the meeting “**Protection of Women’s Human Rights in the Inter-American System: A Look at Access to Justice,**” organized by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). The events in which the CIM participated took place in Washington, D.C. in April 2005, and in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September 2005.
- The Principal Specialist of the CIM was invited to make a presentation on the Belém do Pará Convention and its follow-up mechanism in the teleconference “**Strengthening Legal Institutions for Development with Equity in Uruguay,**” sponsored by the World Bank. The event was held in Washington, D.C. on May 3, 2005.

- The Spanish Agency for International Cooperation invited the CIM to the **Seminar on the Anti-violence Network**. On that occasion, the Principal Specialist made a presentation to showcase the CIM's work and report on the characteristics of the new follow-up mechanism for the Convention of Bélem do Pará. The event took place in May 2005 in Antigua, Guatemala.
- The Executive Secretary and the Principal Specialist of the CIM took part in various panels in the seminar "**Alternative Approaches in the Health Sector for Women Survivors of Sexual Violence**," organized by the Gender, Ethnicity, and Health Unit of the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), and IPAS Mexico. The seminar was held August 2-4 in Washington, D.C., and was attended by representatives of nongovernmental organizations, regional networks, international organizations and aid agencies that work in this area.
- Continuing with an interagency initiative started several years ago, the CIM took part in the follow-up meeting "**Validation of Model Law and Policies on Intra-family Violence against Women**," organized by the Gender, Ethnicity, and Health Unit of the Pan American Health Organization, and made a presentation on the MESECVI. Other participants included representatives of UNIFEM, CLADEM, IPAS, ISIS International, the International Parliamentary Group, governmental representatives and NGOs for women's human rights. The event occurred in Washington, D.C. from September 6-8, 2005.
- The Principal Specialist of the CIM took part in the **Dialogue with Special Rapporteurs of the United Nations and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights** on the subject "*Gender-based Violence and Equitable Development: the Role of the International Community*," which took place on October 24 at the headquarters of the World Bank, in Washington, D.C. The event was inaugurated by the Bank's President, Paul Wolfowitz, and Vice President and General Counselor Roberto Dañino. The Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women of the United Nations, Yakin Ertürk, referred to the role that should be played by nongovernmental actors to deal with the problem of violence. The Special Rapporteur on Women's Human Rights of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS, Susana Villarán, addressed the topic from a regional perspective. Finally, the Principal Economist of the Gender and Development Unit of the World Bank, Andrew Morrison, presented the findings of a recent study on how to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in medium and low-income countries.

c. Trafficking in Women and Children in the Americas for Purposes of Exploitation

Through its Anti-Trafficking Unit, the CIM has continued to implement the mandates of resolutions AG/RES. 2118 (XXXV-O/05) "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons" and CIM/RES.225 (XXXI-O/02) "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women, Adolescents, and Children." The following is a brief summary of the work accomplished; the complete report of activities is published in the document on compliance with resolution AG/RES. 2118 (XXXV-O/05) "Fighting the Crime of Trafficking in Persons."

In March 2005 the Anti-Trafficking Unit and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) convened a meeting on trafficking in persons in the Netherlands Antilles, the Bahamas,

Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, and Suriname to assess progress and follow up on a research and training project on trafficking in persons in these Caribbean countries. The meeting afforded the first opportunity for governmental representatives and experts from throughout the subregion to gather and explore regional strategies for preventing and combating the problem.

During the period of this report the CIM organized ten training and awareness-building seminars in Venezuela (January), Belize (April), Peru (April), Bolivia (July and October), Ecuador (August), Guatemala (September and December), Mexico (March, May, and October). These seminars, tailored for government officials, lawmakers, diplomats, police and immigration officials, NGOs, youth, and the media, sought to strengthen and encourage the governmental and nongovernmental capacity to respond decisively to the problems posed by trafficking in women and children.

The CIM also helped design campaigns for the prevention of trafficking in persons in Bolivia and Mexico. These activities were carried out in cooperation with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Labor, and Employment; the International Organization for Migrations; the International Labor Organization; and NGOs.

During this same reporting period, the CIM, through the Anti-Trafficking Unit, hired the professional services of a consultant in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to undertake a preliminary study in order to gain more information on the problem of trafficking in Haiti and the challenges faced by the Brigade for Minors: an agency created to defend adolescents and children who are trafficked in that country. The project is in its initial stage of execution.

In addition, an anti-trafficking web site has been completed and is now available to the public. The URL is <http://www.oas.org/atip>.

The Anti-Trafficking Unit of the CIM made presentations at several events, among them:

First Latin-American Congress of Police and Missing Persons. Santiago, Chile, October 19-21. The CIM was invited by the National Police (Carabineros) of Chile, Save the Children of Sweden, and the Network of Missing Latin Americans to present a paper on the problem of trafficking in persons in the hemisphere.

Series of Seminars on Key Aspects of Migration: International Trafficking in Human Beings. New York, New York, October 18. The CIM was invited by the United Nations Population Fund and the University of the United Nations to be a presenter in this seminar. The presentation stressed the theme of trafficking in persons in the context of organized crime, with emphasis on two case studies in which the OAS participated directly: Mexico and Bolivia.

The 2005-2110 Strategic Plan of the Inter-American Center Against Disappearance, Exploitation, and Trafficking (CIDETT) February 2006. The CIM was invited by Save the Children of Sweden to take part in Lima, Peru, in a technical workshop that described activities undertaken by the OAS to combat trafficking in persons. There was also a presentation of activities and indicators to be developed by the CIDETT in its strategic plan.

2. Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)

The CIM is responsible for monitoring, coordinating and evaluating the implementation of this program, in coordination with National Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women. Through Resolution AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality," the Thirty-fifth Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly reiterated its support for the efforts of CIM to carry out and follow up on the Inter-American Program and to implement activities and programs to mainstream gender into ministerial agendas. This resolution also supports the CIM's efforts to coordinate the first meeting of the Inter-Institutional Forum on Gender Equity and Equality (IIFGEE), the purpose of which is to strengthen links and cooperation among international and regional agencies for carrying out the IAP.

a. Training

i. Integration of a Gender Perspective within the OAS

Following the success of the "Project for Integration of Gender Perspective" in 2000-2003, in which OAS staff in charge of programs and policies received gender training, the Government of Canada is providing funding for additional training courses. On October 24, there was a meeting to coordinate Phase II of the project, with participation of representatives of CICAD; the Office of Human Resource Services; the Office of Education, Science and Technology; the Office of Public Information; and the Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts of the Department of Democratic and Political Affairs. An information meeting with directors and chiefs of offices and additional training courses are planned for February and March 2006.

These courses reinforce the training received on integration of a gender perspective and cover additional topics such as harassment and abuse of power. Courses will be offered for new staff and for those that could not participate in the first round. A key feature is the unit on *training of trainers*, which will institutionalize gender training in the OAS, and set up a seasoned team with knowledge, techniques, and materials needed to replicate the program.

ii. Training on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-building

The CIM, the Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts of the OAS (OPRC), and the Initiative for Inclusive Security program of the Hunt Alternatives Fund have formed a strategic partnership to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of peace and reconstruction processes in the Americas and to promote the inclusion of women in these processes.. As an initial activity, the First Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-building: Andean Region, was held in Lima, Peru, October 3-7, 2005. The Hunt Alternative Fund and the People's Republic of China funded this initiative.

The primary purpose of the course was to give government and civil society leaders of countries with current or recent conflicts the tools needed to integrate a gender perspective in mediation, negotiation, peace-building, and post-conflict reconstruction, and to encourage the participation of women in these processes. This process is intended to develop a support network of men and women in civil society and political parties in each country, and at the hemisphere level, that

will be able to promote and strengthen the initiatives to achieve participation and inclusion of women in the peace processes at all levels. This course was designed specifically for the countries of the Andean region, where there are various conflict situations and where women play a key role in the promotion of peace, democracy, and development.

There were nearly 200 applications for the course, from which 20 women and 10 men were selected. The selectees—from the federal, state, and municipal government, civil society, the security sector (armed forces, police, etc.), and the academic sector—work in areas related to governance, peace-building, and the prevention and resolution of conflicts. The interagency training team developed a new curriculum that crosscuts a gender perspective and the theme of conflicts.

A varied methodology for conducting the course used lectures and group activities to afford participants the opportunity to exchange experiences. National groups analyzed specific conflicts in their countries and designed processes to address them, with a gender perspective. The cases were:

Venezuela: Evaluation of the conflict arising from inequities in the exercise of the rights of groups supporting the government and opposition groups, in the peaceful march through areas of Caracas in which these groups may or may not be predominant.

Colombia: Evaluation of the conflict arising from the cultivation of illicit crops in Saizo District in Córdoba Department, where the AUC [United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia] massacred men, leaving the women to assume greater responsibility in the home.

Bolivia: Evaluation of the conflict(s) arising from proposals for regional autonomy in the country.

Peru: Development of a proposal to integrate a gender perspective in the Comprehensive Reparations Plan.

Ecuador: Analysis of the conflict situation arising from application of the Quota Law [for women candidates in elections] in Ecuador.

As an immediate result, the participants took the initiative of forming the Andean Peace-builders Network (redpazandina@yahoo.com). In the short time elapsing since the end of the course, there has been an intensive exchange of information on the network. In addition, the Colombian group has already held two repeat courses in its country. A second training course will be held in Central America in 2006.

The final report of the first course and other pertinent information are available on the CIM web site.

b. Follow-up SEPIA I – Gender and Labor [follow-up to the IAP]

The CIM made a presentation at the Second Meeting of the Working Groups in the Framework of the Thirteenth Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML) of the OAS, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from April 11-13, 2005. This presentation focused, on the CIM's recommendations concerning the integration of gender perspective in the policies of the Ministries of Labor. CIM also shared the results of the Forum on Gender held in Buenos Aires on April 7 and 8, 2005. This meeting was held in the framework of preparations for the Fourth Summit of the Americas, which took place in November in Argentina.

c. Other activities

- In February 2005 the Executive Secretary took part with representatives of other intergovernmental organizations in a panel of the **United Nations Commission on the Legal and Social Status of Women** on “The Role of Intergovernmental Organizations in Shaping Policies on Gender Equality.”
- The CIM, as a member of the **Working Group on the Role of Women in Reconstruction and Stabilization Operations**, took part in a series of meetings (November 2004-February 2005) that identified the major issues and lessons learned with regard to the role of women in reconstruction and stabilization operations. This working group met to draw up policy recommendations aimed at correcting gaps in the inclusion of women in reconstruction and stabilization operations to those responsible for drafting U.S. government policies. These recommendations sought a systematic approaches to the cause of failures in specific areas of post-conflict reconstruction and to generate policy options. The initial discussions focused on: the role of women in reconstruction; the role of the media; natural resources; civil and military planning; evaluation of progress in reconstruction; disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration; telecommunications; and justice in transition and reconciliation.
- The CIM attended the 21st session of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development of the **Pan American Health Organization**, held in Washington, D.C. on March 14 and 15, 2005. The topic of the meeting was “Drafting and implementation of a PAHO Policy on Gender Equality.” CIM presented a paper on “Mainstreaming a Gender-Equality Perspective in the OAS: Lessons Learned.” The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) also presented their experience in this area.
- In April 2005, the Principal Specialist participated as a panelist in the **Forum of the Group of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas (FIPA)**. These meetings, titled “Improvement of Leadership by Women to Strengthen democracy,” sought to enhance the leadership capability of the women parliamentarians.
- In May 2005, the CIM attended the seminar **Gender and Trade: Identifying Myths, Overcoming Challenges and Developing Alternatives**, organized by Woodrow Wilson Center, the Center of Concern, the Hispanic Council on International Relations, and the International Gender and Trade Network. José Manuel Salazar, Director of the Office for Trade, Growth, and Competitiveness, took part in the panel “Addressing Gender in Trade: Economic, Legal, and Political Challenges.”
- In June 2005, the Principal Specialist of the CIM was a panelist in the teleconference **Development with Equity and Millennium Development Goals: Challenges for Equity in the Labor and Trade Agendas**. The event, organized by the World Bank and UNIFEM, was held in Washington, D.C.
- The CIM attended the **International Symposium on Women and Information and Communication Technology (ICT): Creating Global Transformation**, held in Baltimore, Maryland, June 13 and 14, 2005. The event was organized by the Center for Women and

Information Technology of the University of Maryland to conduct, disseminate, and implement research, processes, and to focus on activities that will substantially increase women's participation and leadership in education and information technology.

- The Principal Specialist of the CIM took part in the **Course on Leadership and Social Management for Gender Equality** organized by the Inter-American Institute for Social Development (INDES) of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), held in Washington, D.C. from September 12 to 17, 2005.

3. Summit of the Americas

Carrying out resolution CIM/RES.230 (XXXII-O/04) "Gender and Access to Decent Work to Address Poverty and Strengthen Democratic Governance," the Permanent Secretariat prepared recommendations that were transmitted for the consideration of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). Meetings were held with the Secretariat of the Summits of the Americas to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in the preparatory process for the Summit and to guarantee the CIM's participation.

The CIM attended several meetings of the SIRG held in Washington, where the drafts of the Declaration of Mar del Plata and its Plan of Action were negotiated. The Executive Secretary also attended the meeting of the SIRG held in Argentina in September 2005, and in that framework took part, as well, in the meeting organized for representatives of civil society.

In addition, she participated in the Gender Forum of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, held in Argentina, April 7-9, where she made a presentation on the CIM recommendations to the summit. Topics covered in the forum included: poverty, exploitation of women, trafficking in women and children, violence in gender relations and the role of gender in the economy, migration, and indigenous communities. There was also a panel on "Labor: Training, Development, and Empowerment" and one on "Strengthening of Democracy."

V. MEASURABLE RESULTS

Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará

- Ratification of the Convention of Belém do Pará by Jamaica, bringing the number of states party to 32.

Initiation of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI)

- Twenty-five experts appointed to the MESECVI;
- Holding of the First Meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI). Adoption of the following instruments:

- Rules of Procedure of the CEVI (MESECVI/CIVI/doc.10/05);
 - Questionnaire for Evaluating the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.5/05 rev. 1);
 - Annual Work Calendar of the CEVI (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.6/05 rev. 1); and
 - Method for Evaluation of and Follow-up on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.7/05 rev. 1.)
- Twenty-five Competent National Authorities (ANC) appointed to the MESECVI

Trafficking in women and children in the Americas for purposes of sexual exploitation

- Holding of the first subregional meeting in the Caribbean on the subject of trafficking in persons;
- Plans for awareness-building campaigns (Mexico and Bolivia);
- Training and awareness-building seminars held in Belize, Bolivia (2), Ecuador, Guatemala (2), Mexico (3), and Peru;
- Start of the first phase of the project aimed at reactivating the Brigade of Minors (Haiti); and
- Setup of the web page against trafficking in persons: www.oas.org/atip.

Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)

- Holding the First Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-building: Andean Region:
 - Specific funds: US\$30,000 from the Chinese Government for implementation of the project;
 - 30 persons trained (5 from Bolivia, 5 from Colombia, 5 from Ecuador, 10 from Peru, 5 from Venezuela), representing the sectors;
 - Production of training materials;
 - Establishment of a computer network for peace builders: redpazandina@yahoogroups.com; and
 - Multiplier effect of the course: two training courses in Colombia.
- Carrying out of Phase II of the gender training courses in the OAS:
 - Conducting a briefing for directors and office chiefs;
 - Personnel of units and offices trained: 30 (Inter-American Commission for Drug Abuse Control, Office of Human Resource Services, Division of Fellowships and Training for Human Development, Department of Communications and External Relations, and Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts of the Department of Democratic and Political Affairs.)

i. RELATIONS WITH OTHER REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. The Inter-American System

1. Within the OAS

Permanent Council. The Executive Secretary participated in meetings of the Permanent Council and the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP) to report on the activities, projects, and financial condition of the CIM.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR): The CIM cooperated in the meeting “The Protection of Women’s Rights in the Inter-American System: A Look at Access to Justice,” organized by the IACHR.

Summits of the Americas Secretariat: The CIM maintained ongoing collaboration with the Secretariat to ensure that the gender issues were included in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Fourth Summit of the Americas.

Office for Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts: In 2005, this office collaborated with CIM to carry out the “First Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-Building: Andean Region,” which took place in Lima, Peru.

Office of Education, Science and Technology: The CIM and OEST work collaboratively in the development of SEPIA IV –Gender and Science and Technology.

Office of Public Information: In 2005, in addition to completing production of a video on women and leadership, the office disseminated information about CIM activities through press releases, radio programs, and the Internet.

The *Inter-American Commission for Drug Abuse Control*, the *Office of Human Resource Services*, the *Division of Scholarships and Training for Human Development*, and the *Office for the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts* of the *Department of Democratic and Political Affairs* have participated in Phase II of the CIDA/OAS project for integration of a gender perspectivein the OAS.

2. Other Inter-American organizations

In order to promote the advancement of women at the regional and international levels, the CIM carries out cooperation activities with various entities of the inter-American system. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Inter-American Children’s Institute (IACI), and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) are invited to participate in all regular meetings of the Executive Committee, so as to continue exchanging information, and exploring joint initiatives, as noted above.

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The CIM cooperates closely with the IDB, in particular as a member of the Council of the Program for the Support of Women’s Leadership and Representation (PROLEAD).

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO): The CIM works closely with PAHO on issues involving violence against women, including regional campaigns, and constantly exchanges information with the Gender, Ethnicity, and Health Unit. The CIM has joined the advisory team of the recently established Regional Observatory on Gender Violence and Health in the Americas (ORVS).

Inter-American Children's Institute (IACI). The IACI collaborates with the CIM in the trafficking project.

B. The United Nations System

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM): The CIM worked with PAHO and UNIFEM to launch the international campaign “16 days of activism against violence against women, November 25-December 10, 2005.” Dr. Marijke Velzeboer Salcedo, Director of UNIFEM’s Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, took part in the second regular meeting of the Executive Committee, where she reported on the campaign and the current work of UNIFEM.

World Bank: The CIM continues to maintain a close relationship and exchange information with the Legal Vice-presidency of the World Bank regarding the issues of gender and violence against women.

C. Other regional and international entities and organizations

International Organization for Migration (IOM): The IOM is the CIM’s partner for the Phase II of the trafficking project.

D. Civil society organizations

The CIM Permanent Secretariat maintains close contact with a number of civil society organizations. During the past year, it worked with the following NGOs:

Global Summit of Women: The CIM continues collaborating with the Global Summit of Women. In February, 2005, the Executive Secretary took part in the International Planning Committee meeting. She also attended the annual summit held in June in Mexico City. Lic. Patricia Espinosa, President of the National Women’s Institute of Mexico and Principal Delegate to the CIM, chaired the event.

The Initiative for Inclusive Security (formerly *inclusive Security: Women Waging Peace*): This organization works to ensure women’s participation in peace building and conflict resolution through implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000). The CIM has been working with this NGO since 2002 to support the application of the UN resolution in the region and to strengthen the leadership and participation of the women of the Americas. In 2005 the CIM and Inclusive Security signed a memorandum of understanding to carry out the training courses on gender, conflict, and peace-building. The first course, focusing on the Andean region, was offered in October 2005 in Peru. Plans are underway for the second course, to be held in 2006 in Central America.

National Hispana Leadership Institute: The CIM has an ongoing relationship with this organization. The Permanent Secretariat participates in the training program for the NHLI Fellows. As part of the current relations with the Institute, the CIM addressed scholarship recipients of the “Young Latinas Learning to Lead” program in July and members of the annual program in September. The Executive Secretary also took part in the NHLI annual meeting and leadership training conference, held in November 2005.

Inter-American Dialogue: The CIM maintains a close relationship with the Director of Special Projects and Vice-President of the Inter-American Dialogue.

Council of Women World Leaders (CWWL): This Council, established in 1997, is a network comprised of current and former women heads of government. Its sister organization, the International Assembly of Women Ministers, is composed of the sitting women ministers of all portfolios and central bank governors, which today number approximately 600 women.

Furthermore, some members of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI are members of civil society organizations, such as CLADEM; Kuña Aty (Paraguay); Citizenship, Study, Research, and Action (Brazil); Crisis Center (Bahamas); DOMOS-CPI (Chile); Women’s Collective and Health (Dominican Republic). This results in closer interaction and more exchange of information with civil society.

VII. FINANCIAL SITUATION

The CIM notes with concern that that mandates entrusted to it by the OAS member states in the last five years have increased significantly, yet the human and material resources assigned to it are continually shrinking. This jeopardizes proper fulfillment of mandates such as:

- 1) To serve as the organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, [AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)];
- 2) To act as Secretariat of the Conference of the States Party and the Committee of Experts of the recently created Follow-up Mechanism for Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará [AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05)];
- 3) In cooperation with the General Secretariat, to hold the Meeting of Ministers or Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM) every four years [AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00)];
- 4) To serve as the technical advisory body of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) for all aspects of gender equity and equality (Chapter 15, Plan of Action, Third Summit of the Americas);
- 5) To serve as the focal point for providing assistance to the efforts, the exchange of information, and the activities of the member states in combating the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents, and children [CIM/RES. 225 (XXI-O/02)].

In the past eight years, the OAS General Assembly has approved resolutions that reiterate the need to improve the financial situation of the CIM,^{1/} through both budget allocations and specific contributions by the member states. In 2005, the General Assembly adopted AG/RES. 2099 (XXXV-O/05), “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women,” which also urges the Secretary General to provide sufficient human and financial resources to the CIM, and invites member states and permanent observers, as well as individuals and national or international organizations, whether public or private, to make voluntary contributions to support the development and implementation of CIM projects and programs. The resolution also urges the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding. It is important to highlight that the major initiatives of the CIM over the past several years have all been accomplished through external funding.

To date, there has been no change in the financial situation of the CIM. .

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The CIM respectfully requests that the Permanent Council transmit the following recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly, through the appropriate entities, for inclusion in draft resolutions on the topics indicated below.

1. To urge the Secretary General to take the necessary steps for allocation of funds to carry out the following mandates:
 - a. To implement the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP)^{2/} and integrate a gender perspective into all activities, projects, and programs of the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS;

^{1/}. AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97) and AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), “Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization,” AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), “Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality”, AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), and AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), “Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” AG/RES 1941 (XXXIII-O/03), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” and finally, AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women.”

^{2/}. As provided in Section 2.1.5 of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and in the following resolutions: AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97) and AG/RES. 1586 (XXVIII-O/98), “Observations and Recommendations on the Annual Reports of the Organs, Agencies, and Entities of the Organization,” AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), “Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01) and AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), “Adoption and Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03) and AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality,” AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04) and AG/RES. 2099 (XXXV-O/05) “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women.”

- b. To serve as Secretariat of the Conference of the States Party and the Committee of Experts of the recently established Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará [AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05)];
 - c. In coordination with the General Secretariat, to hold the Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM) every four years [AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00)];
 - d. To carry out the activities of the CIM as a technical advisory body of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) in all aspects of gender equity and equality (Chapter 15, Plan of Action, Third Summit of the Americas);
 - e. To perform the duties of the CIM as a focal point for assisting the efforts, exchange of information, and activities of the member states to combat the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents, and children (CIM/RES. 225 (XXI-O/02)).
2. In view of the ever-growing mandates assigned to the CIM, to urge the member states to make voluntary contributions to fund the CIM's activities, which now include the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI), and other projects.
3. Implement resolutions AG/RES. 1790 (XXXI-O/01) y AG/RES. 1872 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1954 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 1977 (XXXIV-O/04) and AG/RES. 2096 (XXXV-O/05) "Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS," which is also addressed in Section 2.1.6 of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, which reiterates the need for steps to ensure full and equal access of men and women to posts at all levels in the OAS system, especially in decision-making positions.

ANNEX I

Meetings organized by the CIM Permanent Secretariat, March 2005 – February 2006

March 14-16, 2005

**Meeting of the OIM and the CIM / OAS – For the Caribbean region on
trafficking in persons – Washington, D.C.**

Documents:

Exploratory evaluation of trafficking in persons in the Caribbean region

April 21-22, 2005

**First Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee of the CIM –
Washington, D.C.**

Document: *Summary Minutes (CIM/CD/doc.13/05)*

August 22-24, 2005

**First Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Follow-up
Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do
Pará – Washington, D.C.**

Final documents: *Rules of Procedure of the CEVI
(MESECVI/CEVI/doc.10/05), Questionnaire for Evaluating the
Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention of Belém do Pará
(MESECVI/CEVI/doc.5/05 rev.1), Annual Work Calendar of the CEVI
(MESECVI/CEVI/doc.6/05 rev.1) and Method for Evaluation of and
Follow-up on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention of
Belém do Pará (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.7/05 rev.1).*

November 3-7, 2005

**First Training Course on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-building:
Andean Region – Lima, Peru**

Documents: *Final Report (CIM/CD/doc.13/05)
Training materials for integrating a gender perspective in
conflictive situations*

December 8-9, 2005

**Second Regular Meeting of the Executive Committee of the CIM –
Washington, D.C.**

Document: *Summary Minutes (CIM/CD/doc.31/05)*

ANNEX II

BUDGETARY EXECUTION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005

**REGULAR FUND- 2005
(US\$1,000)**

SUMMARY

ACCOUNT	(1) MODIFIED BUDGET	(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	(3) OBLIGATIONS	(4) EXPENDITURE	(5) BALANCE AVAILABLE
111.05.23010 Permanent Secretariat	708.6	708.6	10.7	697.9	.0
111.05.23011 President- Executive Committee	34.2	34.2	14.8	19.4	.0
111.05.23013 Strategic Plan of Action	4.2	4.2	.0	4.2	.0
111.05.23014 Horizontal Cooperation	6.5	6.5	.0	6.5	.0
111.05.23016 Gender Perspective	19.3	19.3	3.9	15.4	.0
TOTALS	772.8	772.8	29.4	743.4	.0

COLUMN 1 MODIFIED VERSION OF APPROVED BUDGET
COLUMN 2 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS-FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATIONS-
COMMITMENTS
COLUMN 3 OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS ENTERED INTO TO DATE
COLUMN 4 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS
COLUMN 5 AVAILABLE BALANCE

SPECIFIC FUNDS - 2005
(US\$1,000)

SUMMARY

ACCOUNT	(1) DONOR	(2) MODIFIED BUDGET	(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	(4) OBLIGATIONS	(5) EXPENDITURE	(6) AVAILABLE BALANCE
311.05.23010 Gender Perspective Project	CIDA- CANADA	48.2	48.2	.0	28.8	19.4
311.05.23010 Meeting of Experts on Mechanism of Convention of Belém do Pará	GOVT. OF MEXICO	85.5	85.5	.0	28.4	57.1
	GOVT. OF BRAZIL	20.0	20.0	.0	.2	19.8
311.05.23010 Anti- Trafficking in Persons Project	USAID ^{3/}	367.1	367.1	.0	296.5	70.6
	U.S. DEPT. OF STATE	405.5	405.5	41.1	305.1	59.3
	GOVT. OF MEXICO	37.2	37.2	.0	1.9	35.3
	GOVT. OF PHILIP- PINOS	7.5	7.5	.0	.0	7.5
	OIM ^{4/}	2.1	2.1	.0	2.1	.0
311.05.23010 First Course on Gender, Peace, and Conflict Resolution: Andean Region	HUNT ALTER- NATIVES FUND	72.8	72.8	6.2	59.0	7.6
	GOVT. OF CHINA	30.0	30.0	.0	30.0	.0

COLUMN 1 DONOR

COLUMN 2 MODIFIED APPROVED BUDGET

COLUMN 3 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATIONS-
COMMITMENTS

COLUMN 4 OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS ENTERED INTO TO DATE

COLUMN 5 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS-COMMITMENTS

COLUMN 6 AVAILABLE BALANCE

^{3/} United States Agency for International Development.

^{4/} International Organization for Migration.

ANNEX III

DRAFT RESOLUTION

STRENGTHENING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

TAKING NOTE OF:

The provisions of AG/RES. 2099 (XXXV-O/05) “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women”;

That in the last five years the CIM has received additional mandates from the OAS member states without the corresponding budgetary appropriations for those purposes, and is functioning as:

- 1) The organ for follow-up, coordination, and evaluation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) [AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)];
- 2) The Secretariat of the Conference of States Party and Committee of Experts of the recently established Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará [AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05)];
- 3) The coordinator, together with the General Secretariat, of the Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM) every four years [AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00)];
- 4) The technical advisory body of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG) in all aspects of gender equity and equality (Chapter 15, Plan of Action, Third Summit of the Americas);

- 5) The focal point for assisting the efforts, exchange of information, and activities of the member states to combat the crime of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents, and children [CIM/RES. 225 (XXI-O/02)];

RECALLING:

That resolution AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00), which adopted the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), urged the General Secretariat to strengthen the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM by allocating to it the necessary human and financial resources, and to help it obtain funds from private sources;

That resolutions AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03), and AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04) instructed the General Secretariat and the Permanent Council to make every possible effort to allocate technical, human, and financial resources to the CIM so it will be better equipped to perform its essential activities; and

That the Second Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-II), held in April 2004, adopted resolution CIM/REMIM-II/RES. 8/04, reiterating the need for greater human and financial support for the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge the Secretary General to provide the Inter-American Commission of Women, in its role as a specialized organ of the OAS, with adequate human and financial resources to strengthen its ability to carry out its burgeoning mandates.
2. To urge the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities submitted to external donors for funding.

3. To invite member states and permanent observers, as well as individuals and national or international organizations, whether public or private, that wish to do so to make voluntary contributions to support the development and implementation of CIM projects and programs.

4. To renew the mandate to the Permanent Council, through the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP), to invite the CIM Executive Secretary to present periodic reports on the financial resources needed to fulfill its mandates.

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