

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-NINTH REGULAR SESSION

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INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of Articles 91.f and 126 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the CIM presents its annual report to the Permanent Council, for submission it to the 39th Regular Session of the General Assembly, with any observations and recommendations it deems appropriate.

This report summarizes CIM's activities from March 2008 to February 2009, in which the CIM continued its work to promote women's human rights and the elimination of gender violence. Work also continued on implementing the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP).

During the reporting period CIM held its Thirty Fourth Assembly of Delegates in Santiago, Chile at which it elected a new slate of officials for the 2008-2010 biennium. The new Executive Committee is committed to expanding the political impact of the CIM and heightening the visibility of its work at the level of the OAS and throughout the hemisphere. Also, CIM wants to further deepen its engagement with international agencies in order to deepen collaboration; strengthen its work of mainstreaming gender and better realize gender equality and equality.

Of note, is the upcoming Fifth Summit of the Americas to be held in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on April 17-19, 2009 under the theme: *Securing our Citizens' Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability*. CIM's priority continues to be finding effective strategies for the gender perspective to be fully reflected in the Draft Declaration of Port of Spain.

Yet as CIM continues realize progress, this can be greatly multiplied if the Commission receives adequate funding for the fulfillment of its exponentially growing mandates.

Laura Albornoz Pollmann
President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For the period March 2008-2009, the CIM implemented the 2006-2008 Biennial Work Program approved by its 34th Assembly of Delegates of the CIM, 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 Permanent Secretariat of CIM, as Technical Secretariat to the **Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI)**, continued working to develop the Mechanism to complete the First Multilateral Round. Preparatory work for the Second Multilateral Round is also underway. The Technical Secretariat was successful in attaining completion of the First Round of Multilateral Evaluation. The work of the Technical Secretariat was fundamental in the preparation for the hosting of the Second Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI held in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on July 9-10, 2008 which adopted the Rules of procedure of the Conference of State Parties and the Declaration, Conclusions and Agreements of the Second Conference of State Parties.

Gender Aspects of HIV-AIDS

Progress has been made in the HIV projects for Central America and the Caribbean, which seek to encourage the formulation and implementation of comprehensive policies and programs to prevent and provide care and treatment for VAW and HIV. These projects will be implemented in 2009 with funding from the Spanish International Cooperation Agency; the People's Republic of China, Korea and France. During this reporting period, the CIM progressed in addressing women's human rights through examining the important intersection between violence against women (VAW) and HIV in the development of two capacity-building projects for Central America and CARICOM, respectively; both to be executed in 2009. The pilot experiences of both projects will be undertaken to create integrated policies and programs to address both issues.

A successful component of the CARICOM project has been the completion of an online training course for health and gender personnel in December 2008. A further accomplishment was the publication of a booklet entitled: **'The Multiple Faces of the Intersections between HIV and Violence against Women'** in conjunction with CIM's partners: Development Connections (DVCN), UNIFEM, PAHO and The Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network.

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

The CIM also continued working on implementation of the IAP. The OAS Department of Social Development and Employment (SEDI) and the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL) have been working alongside the CIM on an initiative in this regard. A project drafted under the OAS/CIDA Cooperation Plan 2008-2011 Work Plan to support implementation of the "Strategic Guidelines of the XV IACML for Advancing Gender Equality and Nondiscrimination with a Decent Work Framework" was developed to be executed by the CIM in collaboration with its partners.

In keeping with the mandate of the IAP to integrate a gender perspective in the execution of programs and activities by all organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, the CIM developed a proposal within the framework of the OAS/CIDA Cooperation 2008-2011 Work Plan, to continue the work on gender mainstreaming already being carried out at the OAS. Titled *Incorporation of Gender Analysis and Gender Equity and Equality as Cross-Cutting Topics and Objectives in all OAS Programs*, the project builds on a previous initiative sponsored by the government of Canada to provide training to OAS staff on gender analysis and gender equity and equality, so that this focus can be integrated as crosscutting topics and objectives in all OAS programs.

Summit of the Americas

CIM has been working closely with the Summits of the Americas Secretariat (SAS) in preparation for the Fifth Summit of the Americas to be held in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on April 17-19, 2009 under the theme: *Securing our Citizens' Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability*. CIM's priority is for the gender perspective fully reflected in the Draft Declaration of Port of Spain. To that end, REMIM III provided specific recommendations for incorporation into the Fifth Summit. Additionally, a virtual gender platform for civil society was held on February 18-27, 2009 to provide an opportunity for women NGO's from the hemisphere to input into the summit process.

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 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 permanent Inter-American organization 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 permanent organization. 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; 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 establishes the guidelines for CIM's work.

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 every year. Below are the mandates from the last Assembly. Attached to this report is a list of the major mandates received in the past two decades (Annex III).

A. *Special Commemorations*

1. *Day of the Women of the Americas*

- AG/RES. 587 (XII-O/82), "Day of the Women of the Americas," declared February 18th the DAY OF THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS to commemorate the day in 1928 when CIM was established in Havana, Cuba.

Since 1983, CIM has carried out different commemorative activities both at its headquarters and in the member states.

2. *Inter-American Year of the Women*

- AG/RES. 2322 (XXXVII-O/07) "Inter-American Year of Women" this resolution highlights the need to continue actively promoting integration of the gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies and programs in the political, economic, and social areas; accordingly and bearing in mind the opportunity provided, in 2010, by the 15th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, and the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, to promote broad mobilization in the Americas to evaluate successes and challenges in the defense of women's human rights and gender equity and equality and to strengthen public sensitivity to gender issues and the support gave to this proposal by the Executive Committee of the CIM (April 19–20, 2007) that 2010 was proclaimed the Inter-American Year of Women.

This resolution also requested that the Permanent Council form a working group to prepare a program of activities for the Inter-American Year of Women that provides for participation by officials of governments, parliaments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, and identifies sources of funding for those activities. It requested that the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) support the activities of the working group. The resolution also made provisions for the creation of a specific fund to finance activities related to the Inter-American Year of Women. This fund is open to contributions by member states, permanent observers, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, and the international community in general. Lastly, the resolution requested that the Permanent Council present a report on the implementation of this resolution to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.

B. Violence against Women- Convention of Belém do Pará

- AG/RES. 2371 (XXXVIII-O/08), "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,'" decided i) to take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the activities 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" (MESECVI); ii) to welcome the progress of the first multilateral evaluation round of the MESECVI; and to express its conviction that this exercise will contribute significantly to achievement of the objectives set forth in the Convention iii) to congratulate the states parties on their efforts to meet the objectives of the Convention; and once again to urge those states that have not yet done so to designate their experts and competent national authorities, so as to ensure the full implementation and success of the Mechanism iv) to thank the Government of Mexico for its continuing contribution to the Mechanism; and to invite all states parties and states not party to the Convention, permanent observers, international financial institutions, and civil society organizations to contribute to the Specific Fund established in the OAS to finance MESECVI's operations v) to reiterate its gratitude to the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) for its support of the states parties in the process of implementation of the MESECVI; and to thank it for its important role, as technical secretariat of the Mechanism, in the fulfillment of the objectives of the Convention of Belém do Pará vi) to urge the states parties to the Convention and all OAS member states to strengthen the MESECVI and hemispheric cooperation in combating violence against women, including the participation of experts in meetings of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) vii) to encourage the states parties to the Convention to provide economic support or human resources to the MESECVI to enable it to comply with its work calendar and to ensure the its optimal functioning viii) to request the Secretary General, in accordance with available financial resources, and with the agreement of the Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Affairs (CAAP), to allocate the human, technical, and financial resources needed to enable the CIM to continue supporting the implementation of the MESECVI ix) to request the Secretary General to analyze the possibility of holding a donors' meeting to make it possible to obtain the resources needed for the MESECVI to function x) to thank the Government of the Argentine Republic for having hosted the Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the MESECVI in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from July 18 to 20, 2007; and to urge member states to lend their support to enable the meetings of the CEVI to be held in the states parties to the Convention, as far as possible on a rotating basis xi) to thank the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its commitment to hosting the Second Conference of States Parties to the Convention of Belém do Pará in July 2008, which will consider and adopt the Hemispheric Report on the first multilateral evaluation round of MESECVI.

- AG/RES 2331 (XXXVII-O/07), "Fifth 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", calls for to encourage those member states that have not yet done i) signing, ratifying, or acceding to, as the case may be, the Convention of Belém do Pará; ii) to urge member states to allocate more human and financial resources in their national and regional budgets to help victims of violence and to prevent, punish, and eradicate all forms of violence against women; iii) urge regional and international cooperation and development assistance agencies to make financial and/or human resource contributions to the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM; and iv) urges the Secretary General to respond to the need to allocate more human and financial resources to enable the CIM to continue

supporting the efforts of the member states regarding implementation of the Convention of *Belém do Pará*.

C. *Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality*

- AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08), "Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality", (IAP) which urges the Secretary General's to continue with the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) submitted in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05). Reaffirmed its 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; and to continue to support its efforts in the follow-up to and implementation of the IAP, including activities to continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, and science and technology, and on the issues of leadership, conflict and peace building, and natural disasters, among others, as well as in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process. Requested to that member states i) to take note of the Secretary General's seventh report on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), submitted in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2324 (XXXVII-O/07); and to urge him to continue with its implementation ii) to reaffirm its 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 and to continue to support the CIM's efforts at follow-up and implementation of the IAP, including activities to continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, social development, science and technology, and sustainable development, in matters related to leadership, migration, conflicts and peace-building, and natural disasters, among others, as well as in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process; iii) to request the Permanent Council, in fulfillment of the mandates handed down by this Assembly, the Summits of the Americas, and the IAP to continue its efforts to integrate a gender perspective in its resolutions, activities, and initiatives, as the case may be, to ensure that they benefit women and men on an equal and equitable basis; and hold a meeting, in the first half of 2009, with the participation of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system to exchange best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the IAP iv) to urge the member states to: Continue their efforts to develop public policies, strengthen institutional mechanisms for the advancement of girls, youths, and women, and enforce laws that promote respect for their human rights and gender equity and equality, including equal opportunity for women and men at all levels; begin or continue, in accordance with their domestic law and as appropriate, to compile statistics and analyze data disaggregated by sex and race in all sectors, so as to better understand and address the differentiated impact of policies, programs, and projects on specific populations, including, *inter alia*, girls, youths, and women; and fulfill the mandates of the Fourth Summit of the Americas through: The development of support programs that take into account the differentiated impact of labor and social policies on young people, women, and men and that can contribute to eliminating discrimination against women and young people in the workplace and to increasing their full and equal access to decent, dignified, and productive work; and the production and utilization of statistics disaggregated by sex and race, particularly in the labor area, for the development of labor policies based on gender equity and equality v) to urge the Secretary General to convene in 2008 the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States and take the necessary action for it to be held;

vi) to continue, with support from the CIM, promoting and working on full implementation of the IAP so as to achieve integration of a gender perspective in all programs, activities, and policies of the Organization of American States (OAS); vii) Continue working with the CIM to ensure integration of the gender perspective into the development of the programs and activities of all the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization; viii) to request the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization that have not yet done so to include in their annual reports to the General Assembly their initiatives to mainstream the gender perspective into their policies, programs, projects, and activities; and to forward that information to the CIM so that it may be included in the annual report to the General Assembly that is drawn up pursuant to this resolution; and Urge the Department of Human Resources to hold each year, with support from the CIM, an OAS Gender Analysis Training Program, targeted especially at senior staff in managerial posts and new staff members, and prepare, with support from the CIM, a preliminary document containing a proposal to establish a mechanism for measurement and disaggregated statistical data to facilitate follow-up on the programs and activities of all organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization ix) to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session, in coordination with the CIM, on the implementation of the Inter-American Program and of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

D. Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS

• AG/RES. 2427 (XXXVIII-O/08), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS.” bearing in mind Article 137 of the OAS Charter, which states that the Organization does not allow any restriction based on race, creed, or sex with respect to eligibility to hold positions in the Organization and to participate in its activities; and Article 120 of the Charter and Article 37 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, which stipulate that first consideration shall be given to efficiency, competence, and integrity in the recruitment of General Secretariat personnel, but that importance shall also be attached to the criterion of the widest possible geographic distribution in hiring personnel at all grade levels; noting with satisfaction the advances made in meeting the goal of having women occupy 50 percent of posts at all levels, especially at those grade levels where the goal has been met or exceeded. Aware that, despite this progress, the goal of 50/50 gender distribution in senior management positions has not been met, resolved to urge the Secretary General to i) ensure, through the Department of Human Resources, that a human resource policy is developed and applied that is based on the principle of gender equity and equality; ii) continue his work to establish policies of gender equality in the workplace and to make each manager accountable for the application of these policies; iii) redouble his efforts to achieve, as a matter of priority, the goal of having women, including indigenous women, occupy 50 percent of posts at each grade level within the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS), particularly at the P-5 grade level and above, bearing in mind the application of the criteria of diversity and geographic distribution in professional positions; and appoint women as representatives and special envoys to represent the Secretary General in matters relating to all areas and sectors, and as heads of electoral observation missions iv) urge all member states to support the efforts of the Secretary General by identifying and submitting the candidacies of women 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 v) call on the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS to: Redouble efforts to meet the goal of having 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, taking into account the

criteria of diversity and equitable geographic distribution; and Encourage specific activities to integrate the gender perspective into its work, according to the specific subject areas of the various departments and offices, as one of the measures for follow-up and strengthening of the project undertaken to these ends by the OAS General Secretariat vi) request the Secretary General to monitor closely the progress made by the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in meeting the goal of having women occupy 50 percent of posts at all grade levels, to keep the Permanent Council informed with respect to the implementation of this resolution, providing an annual update with relevant statistics from the Department of Human Resources and detailed information on the strategies and actions taken to implement this resolution and reach that goal vii) request the General Secretariat to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

E. Migration

- AG/RES. 2289 (XXXVII-O/07) “The Human Rights of all Migrant Workers and Their Families” instruct the relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to support, during the 2008-2009 biennium, the execution of and, when appropriate, to implement the Inter-American Program for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants, Including Migrant Workers and Their Families. To request as well the calling of established in the Inter-American Program, a meeting of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP) in the first half of 2008 and another one in the first half of 2009, with the participation of government experts and representatives of the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, other international organizations, and civil society, for the purpose of sharing best practices and activities carried out last year in support of the Program, as well as new proposals that might be incorporated into it. Also calls for the relevant organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to include, in their annual reports to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth regular sessions, their actions aimed at implementing the activities set out in the Program.

F. Summit of the Americas

- AG/RES. 2011 (XXXIV-O/04), “Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Summits of the Americas,” 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.

G. Trafficking in Persons

- AG/RES. 2348 (XXXVII-O/07), “Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere,” reiterates its commitment to fight the crime of trafficking in persons, by means of a comprehensive approach that takes into account the

prevention of trafficking, prosecution of its perpetrators, protection of and assistance to its victims, and respect for their human rights, as well as the strengthening of international cooperation in the area and implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of other relevant international instruments. Also refers to the importance of encouraging to member states to take the necessary measures to implement, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations of the First Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons. Under Recommendation II.9, adopted at that meeting, states undertake to create training and sensitivity programs for government officials, especially in the areas of migration, consular affairs, sanitation and police, including a gender approach and combating discrimination.

H. Support for the CIM

- AG/RES. 2374 (XXXVIII-O/08), “Support for the Inter-American Commission of Women.” recalls Resolution AG/RES. 2323 (XXXVII-O/07), “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women,” which urged the Secretary General to take measures to support the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and to promote gender equity and equality within the Organization of American States (OAS) and in the Hemisphere. It also noted that, according to resolution AG/RES. 2161 (XXXVI-O/06), in the past five years the CIM has received additional priority mandates from the OAS member states without the corresponding budgetary appropriations. This resolution agreed to i) reiterate its instruction to the Secretary General to provide the CIM, with sufficient human and financial resources to strengthen its ability to carry out its growing mandates; ii) reiterate its instruction to the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding, and its invitation to 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 and iii) to request that the Secretary General report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

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-Fourth Assembly of Delegates was held in Santiago, Chile, from November 10-12, 2008, at which the 2008-2010 Biennium Work Plan was presented.

The Thirty-Fourth Assembly of Delegates adopted the following declaration and resolutions which are currently being executed. Their full implementation will be reported on in the next period.

CIM/DEC. 5 (XXXIV-O/08)	Declaration of Santiago: “Strengthening National Machineries for the Advancement of Women in Order to Mainstream Gender in Public Policies”
CIM/RES. 248 (XXXIV-O/08)	Gender Mainstreaming in Hemispheric Policies and in the Summit of the Americas
CIM/RES. 249 (XXXIV-O/08)	Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women ‘Convention of Belém do Pará’”
CIM/RES. 250 (XXXIV-O/08)	Reform of the Legal Instruments of the Inter-American Commission of Women
CIM/RES. 251 (XXXIV-O/08)	HIV Gender-Based Violence and Empowerment
CIM/RES. 252 (XXXIV-O/08)	Gender and Migration
CIM/RES. 253 (XXXIV-O/08)	Biennial Work Plan of the CIM for 2008-2010: Program Guidelines
CIM/RES. 254 (XXXIV-O/08)	Gender, Climate Change and Natural Disasters
CIM/RES. 255 (XXXIV-O/08)	Place and Date of the Thirty Fifth Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women
CIM/RES. 256 (XXXIV-O/08)	Vote of Thanks to the People and Government of Chile

B. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In March 2008-February 2009 the Executive Committee held the following meetings:

DATE	MEETING	PLACE
May 7-8, 2008	Third Regular Session of the Executive Committee of CIM – Washington, D.C. Document: <i>Summary minutes</i> (CIM/CD/doc.27/08)	Washington, D.C.
January 26, 2009	* Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Executive Committee of CIM – Washington, D.C.	Washington, DC

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2006-2008 BIENNIAL WORK PLAN

During this reporting period, the CIM continues to implement the 2006-2008 Biennial Work Plan adopted by the Thirty-Third Assembly of Delegates of the CIM. The 2008-2010 Biennial Work Plan was reviewed at the Thirty Fourth Assembly of Delegates. Several proposals were made for amendments including reducing its scope and reorganizing the topics. It was agreed that the Executive Committee in its First Regular Session would establish the actions and strategies to be followed for its implementation.

The 2006-2008 priorities were as follows:

- 1) Women's Human Rights and the Elimination of Violence against Women.
- 2) Support to the Implementation of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Convention of *Belém do Pará* (MESECVI).
- 3) Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality.
- 4) Women's Participation in Power and Decision-Making structures: Gender Equity.
- 5) The Multidimensional Aspects of HIV.
- 6) Follow-up of the Mandates to 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*

There have been no further signatories to the Convention of *Belem do Para* as of February 2009 when a total of 32 States Party had ratified the Convention.

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

Inasmuch as CIM's Permanent Secretariat, in its capacity of Technical Secretariat of MESECVI, continued the implementation process, a summary is given of the activities carried out during the period covered by this report.

- **Second Conference of States Parties**

The Second Conference of States Parties was held on July 9 and 10, 2008, in Caracas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Twenty-one States Parties to the Convention were represented. At the opening session, all sectors of government and civil society were represented. At the outset of the Second Conference of States Parties, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was elected to serve as its new Chair until its next meeting. The Dominican Republic was re-elected First Vice Chair and Mexico was reelected Second Vice Chair. Also adopted were the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties and the

Decisions, Conclusions, and Agreements of the Second Conference of States Parties to MESECVI. Subsequently, the meeting received the final report of the Coordinator of the Committee of Experts to the Conference of States Parties, which contained a presentation of the country reports and the Hemispheric Report. Also, the CIM Executive Secretariat presented a summary of the report of the Technical Secretariat on the status of implementation of the mechanism. Lastly, the delegation of Guatemala indicated the decision of its government to offer to host the next Conference; which was accepted.

- **Fourth Meeting of Committee of Experts (CEVI)**

The Fourth Meeting of Experts which was held in Washington, D.C. from August 13 to 15, 2008 began with the official launch of the Hemispheric Report and the holding of the **Seminar on Strategies for Monitoring Implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) to the Governments**. Taking part in the meeting were eminent specialists of international organizations, civil society, and academia, who presented to the CEVI their suggestions for developing strategies to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made to the governments in the Hemispheric Report.

The Committee approved a Declaration on Femicide, as well as the indicators for monitoring implementation of the recommendations. Each expert was assigned a new country for analysis. It was decided that the expert who had formerly participated in a country's evaluation would provide support to the expert who was now to evaluate that country. The Secretariat was also instructed to begin to prepare the questionnaires and schedule of activities, thus beginning the preparations for the next Multilateral Evaluation Round.

- **Technical Secretariat**

For the period under review, the last two of the Technical Secretariat's three special publications were published in August 2008. The second contains the Hemispheric Report and the Decisions, Conclusions, and Agreements of the Second Conference of States Parties to MESECVI. The third contains a compilation of the basic documents of the MESECVI, including the Inter-American Convention of Belém do Pará, the Statute of the MESECVI, and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties and of the Committee of Experts (CEVI).

At present, this First Round is at the stage of monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the CEVI to the states. In August 2008, the Secretariat forwarded to the OAS Permanent Missions and the CNAs, the document containing the indicators for monitoring implementation of the CEVI's Recommendations, for return by the States Parties with the information requested by November 30, 2008. Due to a dearth of responses, the Technical Secretariat has had to issue a reminder to the Permanent Missions and CNAs so that responses may be received by the deadline of February 25, 2009.

- **Financing**

The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago made a contribution of US\$15,000.00 to the Special Fund of the MESECVI for the functioning of the mechanism. Member States have continued to be encouraged to promote, within the framework of the CAAP, the establishment of a permanent budget from the OAS Regular Fund, as is the case with the other follow up mechanisms that have as a host the OAS General Secretariat.

- **Femicide/Feminicide**

The MESECVI Secretariat continued to do research on femicide/feminicide and also worked on the draft declaration on Femicide. At the Fourth Meeting of Experts was held in Washington, D.C. on August 13 to 15, 2008, the Committee considered and then approved the Declaration on Femicide. Work is to be undertaken in 2009 by the Technical Secretariat to develop awareness on this topic

- c. **Gender Aspects of HIV/AIDS**

- **Implementation of Projects on HIV for the Caribbean and Central America**

CIM's has undertaken two projects - one for Central America and one for the Caribbean – to develop comprehensive strategies for integrating interventions on HIV and VAW, and to develop pilot programmes for implementing the strategy.

The CARICOM project entitled: *Strengthening Capabilities to Integrate Services for HIV and Violence Against Women in the Caribbean – A Pilot Project* will develop pilot experiences in the Commonwealth of Dominica and Barbados. It is funded by the Governments of China, Korea and France, respectively.

In October 2008, the University of the West Indies HIV/AIDS Response Programme (UWIHARP) of the Cave Hill Campus was contracted to undertake a needs assessment study for both pilot countries in CARICOM. Currently, the fieldwork in both countries has been completed and the final report will be submitted to the CIM on March 11, 2009. The findings of this study will provide the basis for the second phase of the CARICOM pilot experience, to be completed in 2009, in which the implementation of a model of integrated services will be undertaken with the stakeholders in each of the pilot countries.

In addition to this project, CIM/OAS with its partners Development Connections (DVCN), UNIFEM, CAFRA and Development Connections (DVCN) hosted an online capacity-building training course on: *Empowerment, Violence and HIV* for service providers participating from 10 different countries in the Anglophone Caribbean, including people employed at NGO's, government agencies, community groups, and citizens. This training course which ran from August – December 2008, aimed to develop individual competencies and institutional capacities for addressing the multiple intersections between HIV and VAW via an empowerment approach.

CIM/OAS in conjunction with its partners, Development Connections (DVCN), PAHO, UNIFEM and The Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network published a compilation entitled: **The Multiple Faces of the Intersections between HIV and Violence against Women** in 2008. The electronic version of the compilation was published through DVCN listserv (1,013 subscribers) in January 2009. The links to the English and Spanish versions have received 5,265 hits (January 12-31, 2009). The announcement of the publication was disseminated by the following listserves: **IGWG** - Interagency Gender Working Group, administrated by Population Reference Bureau (USAID)- January 13, 2009; b. **SVRI** – Sexual Violence Research Initiative, coordinated by Medical Research Council, South Africa and World Health Organization – January 13, 2009; **GENSALUD** – administrated by Pan American Health Organization – January 13, 2009 and **Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)**.

In addition, four informational bulletins on the Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) of service providers in Barbados were prepared in January 2009 for the CIM webpage.

Integration of Policies and Programs on HIV and Violence Against Women from a Human Rights Perspective in Central America is to be carried out over 2008-2009 in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama, with funding from the Spanish International Corporation Agency. CIM in a joint effort with PAHO began activities on this project in September 2008 as soon funds became available. To date, work has begun with the country coordinators in Guatemala and Honduras on the mapping of actors; situational analysis of HIV and VAW and on the establishing the baseline information. The design of the resource center on HIV and VAW for Central America, preparation of directories and installation of the listserv are also underway.

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

a. SEPIA I - Gender and Labor

CIM has been working with the Social Development and Employment Department (DSDE/OAS) in devising a regional proposal, to be implemented with support from the Government of Canada, to include a gender perspective in employment policies and programs within the framework of the **XV Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor (IACML)** as provided in SEPIA I. This proposed project was developed within the framework of the OAS/CIDA Cooperation 2008-2011 Work Plan and is entitled: *Strengthening of Women's Rights and Promotion of Gender Equality Phase I - Advancement of Gender Equality within a Decent Work Framework*. The Executive Secretariat of CIM is about to begin implementing the hemispheric project and is responsible for coordinating the activities of this project jointly with the Department of Social Development and Employment (DSDE/OAS) and the Inter-American Network for Labor Administration (RIAL). CIM is collaborating with DSDE in the preparation process of a study on the institutionalization of the gender-based approach in the Ministries of Labor to obtain a hemispheric diagnostic regarding the advances registered during the past decade with respect to the institutionalization of the gender perspective in the member ministries of the IACML. The

results from this study will present a main input for the CIDA/CIM Labor Project whose components include high level dialogues; a training program; and the development of tools to support gender mainstreaming.

b. Gender Mainstreaming Within the OAS

The CIM developed a project proposal entitled: *Incorporation of Gender Analysis and Gender Equity and Equality as Cross-Cutting Topics and Objectives in all OAS Programs*, within the framework of the OAS/CIDA Cooperation 2008-2011 Work Plan. This project will continue the work on gender mainstreaming already being carried out at the OAS and builds on a previous CIM initiative sponsored by the government of Canada to provide training to OAS staff on gender analysis and gender equity and equality, so that this focus can be integrated as crosscutting topics and objectives in all OAS programs.

This project focuses on providing training and developing indicators for specific programs and issues not previously addressed; as well as providing on a regular basis virtual courses for OAS Staff and outside participants on gender mainstreaming. An on-line information System including a virtual library, fora and interactive gender tools for consultation by OAS staff will also be developed. Execution of this project is scheduled to begin as soon as funding becomes available.

c. Women and Migration

i. **Inter-American Program on the Human Rights of Migrants, including Migrant Workers and their Families**

On March 7, 2008 the CIM gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the CAJP on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants. It reported on activities carried out and those under way at the CIM, in pursuit of the mandates issued in that program. It also included some recommendations - such as the need to prioritize issues; define indicators for assessing progress; and mainstream the gender perspective as a cross-cutting theme.

ii. **Female Migration in El Salvador and Nicaragua**

The CIM Secretariat had prepared a case study on the phenomenon of female migration in El Salvador and Nicaragua, which was presented in November 2008 at the Assembly of Delegates. The study examines the characteristics of women's migration and its positive impact, including the positive effect of monetary and social remittances on the families of migrant women; and the women themselves. Conversely, it also focuses on the problems that women encounter when migrating with or without legal documentation. (CIM/doc.11/08)

iii. Digital Library on Migration and Gender

The CIM is still developing its virtual library on best practices in the areas of gender and migration. However, in this reporting period, the CIM has made available on its Web page a digital library on the topics of migration and gender.

iv. Course on Gender and Migration

The CIM, in collaboration with the OAS Department of International Law provided technical support to developing a special course on gender and migration entitled: “The Human Rights of Migrants”. The Course, organized by the OAS Department of International Law, the International Organization on Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), was held on March 6th, 2008. The Course provided members of OAS Permanent Missions and General Secretariat, with an overview of the basic legal framework and international instruments at the intersection of international human rights law, international migration law and international labor law.

v. Special Committee on Migratory Matters

The CIM Executive Secretary had presented a document on gender and migration for consideration at the January 22, 2008 Meeting of the Special Committee on Migration. The report included: giving migration priority status on international agendas; links between migration, poverty, social and economic development; the gendered aspects of migration and the need, when devising and implementing public policies, to consider the differential impact, so as to fully meet the needs of both men and women. CIM’s recommendations were incorporated into the Special Committee work plan on the topic and the program was approved at the meeting of March 13, 2008.

d. Women, Peace and Security

Publication of the Curriculum for the Workshop on Gender, Conflict, and Peace-Building

The curriculum on Gender, Conflict and Peace Building resulting from the training workshops held in Peru in 2005 and Guatemala in 2006 was published. The purpose of the curriculum is to facilitate replication of the workshop in Spanish-speaking countries. The curriculum was formally presented on May 8, 2008, during the III Executive Committee Meeting. It includes a Manual for Participants; a Trainer’s Manual and an extensive list of resources. It has been published on the CIM web page and distributed in DVD format.

e. The Political Participation of Women

With the support of the Spanish Government, the CIM in 2008 embarked on a pilot project in the Andean region on quota laws. This initiative aims to analyze the shortcomings in those laws in the countries in which they are in effect and to foster them in countries that still lack such laws. The findings will be compiled into a Manual on Best Practices in this

field which will include a detailed description of the mechanisms which have proven to be effective in ensuring more effective participation by women in politics.

f. Gender and Natural Disasters

i. Study on Gender and Natural Disasters

The CIM Secretariat prepared a document entitled: *Gender Mainstreaming in Natural Disaster Mitigation and Response in Latin America and the Caribbean*. This study examines women's particular vulnerabilities in the face of natural disasters; natural disaster mitigation and response and emphasizes the role played by women as active and ingenious participants in responding to disasters. Within the framework of the OAS, it also outlines the efforts of the various political bodies of the Organization on this topic; identifies the gaps that persist and challenges confronting the Hemisphere in this area and sets forth guidelines for inclusion in a hemispheric strategy on the topic. (CIM/doc.10/08)

ii. Study on Gender and Global Warming

Under the topic of climate change, a study was prepared and released in November 2008 on the gender aspects of global warming. This preliminary research explores the relationship between climate change and gender, with a view to making recommendations on the best means and methods to mainstream gender into public policies on climate change. The negative effects of climate change on women, in particular, is explored; as well as the role women play in adaptation and mitigation.

3. FOLLOW-UP TO THE SUMMITS OF THE AMERICAS

The Fifth Summit of the Americas is scheduled for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on April 17-19, 2009 under the theme: *Securing our Citizens' Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability*. In preparation for such, the CIM Secretariat, through its Summit Point of Contact and the Executive Secretary, held meetings with the OAS Summits of the Americas Office from July-October 2008 to ensure a strong gender focus in this Summit process and that gender is a cross-cutting element of it. The objective of these meetings was to find strategies for building upon the successes which the CIM had already realized in steadily deepening the commitment to a gender perspective in past Summits of the Americas.

The Summit of the Americas Office (SAS) has also been collaborating with the CIM Secretariat for the holding of a virtual gender forum for civil society working in the field of gender and development, so that NGO's can input into the Draft Declaration of Port of Spain. This virtual forum to be held on February 18-27, 2009, will be informed by the recommendations of the Third REMIM Meeting convoked on November 13, 2008 in Santiago.

The recommendations from REMIM-III were presented to the Fifth SIRG Preparatory Meeting in November 2008 and the results of the virtual gender forum for civil society held on February 18-27, 2009 will be sent to the SIRG meeting of March 2009.

4. SPECIAL EVENTS AND DISSEMINATION

- **Photography Contest - 80TH Anniversary of the CIM**

In May 2008, in Observance of the 80th Anniversary of the CIM, the Commission in conjunction with the Museum of the Americas (AMA/OAS) officially launched a Photography competition at the Third Regular CIM Executive Meeting, entitled: *'When I Grow Up...'*. This contest was aimed at 11 to 14 year old girls from the hemisphere and it was designed to capture the dreams and aspirations that young girls have about their future. They illustrated how their generation assesses the progress achieved by women in society and what is yet to be achieved by young women. The results of this contest were released at the 34th Assembly of Delegates as the culmination of activities for the 80th Anniversary. What was also very special about this creative endeavour, is that CIM was able to facilitate the participation of girls in marginalized or rural areas, since disposable cameras were sent to each OAS Office and distributed in schools and institutions in marginalized or rural areas. The winners were: Carol Geraldine Marquez Moron from Peru, Rosa Maria Fabian from the Dominican Republic and Sarah Abendanon from Suriname. There were also 10 special commendations.

- **Global Summit of Women 2008**

CIM, through its former President, Dr. Jacqui Quinn-Leandro, participated in the 18th Global Summit of Women 2008, in Hanoi, Vietnam from June 5-7, 2008. The Summit, officially opened by Vietnamese Prime Minister, His Excellency Nguyen Tan Dung and Summit President Irene Natividad, hosted over 900 women leaders from 70 countries and provided a global forum for exchanges of effective strategies forged by powerful women in government, business and NGO's. At the Summit, Dr. Quinn-Leandro chaired the first Ministerial Roundtable which focused on Public Private Partnerships for the Economic Empowerment of Women and Girls. The CIM President also fully endorsed a new initiative called the: *Global Consortium of Women Leaders to End Cervical Cancer*, one of the main themes of this year's Summit and presented a statement on behalf of the women of the Americas, in which she underscored CIM's commitment to the fight against cervical cancer.

- **Vital Voices Guatemala and the Economic Development Mentorship Program for Central American Women Leaders**

From June 23-28, 2008, the CIM joined *Vital Voices Global Partnership in Guatemala* for the launch of the VV Guatemala Chapter and Central American Network. As its first activity, the Guatemala VV Chapter launched an Economic Development Mentorship Program for young Central American Women Leaders. The CIM, as a partner in this initiative, mentored two indigenous Guatemalan women, Rutila Ajanel and Leticia Teleguario at the OAS, from Sept 15 to 26, 2008. Both young women coordinate a network of mostly Mayan women and youth that seeks to promote social and comprehensive development of their communities as a mechanism to prevent young people from migrating.

Their mentorship at the OAS included a visit with the OAS Secretary General, as well as meetings with Directors and officials from approximately 20 OAS Departments

which deal with issues concerning political and community participation, women and youth, migrants, human rights, identity and rights of indigenous people, sustainable development and economic development.

- **Seminar: International Agreements as Instruments for Eradicating Violence against Women - The Convention of “Belém do Pará**

The National Women’s Institute of Uruguay, Interagency Commission for Gender Issues in the International Arena, with support from the *Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional Para el Desarrollo* [Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation] (AECID) and the CIM, organized the international seminar: *International Agreements as Instruments for Eradicating Violence against Women - The Convention of “Belém do Pará*, held on Thursday, September 11, 2008 in the auditorium of the University of the Republic. The event’s most important objective was to present the report of Uruguay approved by the CEVI. Three of the panelists invited to participate were the Coordinator of the CEVI, the Expert of Uruguay, and the MESECVI Technical Secretariat.

- **International Forum to Prevent, Treat, and Punish Violence against Women**

The *International Forum to Prevent, Treat, and Punish Violence against Women* was held in Mexico City on October 3, 2008. The meeting’s objective was to promote and disseminate international agreements on the issue, as well as to disseminate the recommendations that the Government of Mexico had received from the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the MESECVI. The following were invited to participate as panelists: the Technical Secretary of the Mechanism, Mexico’s National Authority to the MESECVI, one of the CEVI experts, and an ECLAC representative.

- **Meeting with PAHO on Gender and Leadership Training**

In August 2008, CIM Executive Secretary met with officials of FLACSO, PAHO, UNESCO, University of Miami and the Flaherty Center. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a pilot project being carried out in Latin America to address a range of issues: gender and leadership training for women scientists and raising awareness of women in scientific research; gender politics in science; boosting the numbers of women in science and advancing the careers of women in scientific endeavor. CIM was being invited to partner on this project in light of its being replicated in other sub-regions.

The CIM also attended the planning meeting: *Leadership and Gender Training for Women Researchers in AIDS and Environmental Health Sciences*, organized by PAHO, the National Institutes of Health and FLACSO, which was held on September 3-5, 2008 in Washington, DC. The purpose of this meeting was to analyze the “**Virtual Training and Mentoring Program for Iberic-American Researchers in Health Sciences**,” developed by the UNESCO Regional Chair on Women, Science and Technology in partnership with the FOGARTY International Center, NIH, and adapt the program to two specific communities: researchers and professionals who work on gender and HIV/AIDS and researchers and professionals who work on gender and Environmental Health. A *Leadership and Gender*

Training conference for women scientists working on HIV throughout the Region was proposed. This idea has been taken up by the organizers of the meeting, who informed that funds could be requested from the NIH to finance an initiative of this nature.

- **Vital Voices of America – “Women as a Bridge to a More Prosperous Future”**

The CIM Executive Secretary attended this Conference held in Argentina from October 5-8, 2008, which brought together key women leaders in politics and business. This Conference marked the 10th Anniversary of the first Vital Voices meeting in Uruguay. Panels included: Women Promoting Health and Safeguarding Human Rights: Combating Violence Against Women; Women in Political Leadership: Fostering Good Governance and Transparency; Women Leading the Path to Sustainability and Public/Private Partnerships, Leveling the Playing Field for Women’s Social and Economic Progress and Latin American and Caribbean Women Artisans Export Development Program. The CIM Executive Secretary presented on CIM’s work in the intersection of VAW and HIV and was also invited to give an overview on Trafficking in the Western Hemisphere.

- **Meeting with Global Health Partners**

The CIM Executive Secretary attended a series of meetings in New York held on June 17-19, 2008 with an NGO Global Health Partners (GHP). This NGO currently provides training for medical personnel in small towns and villages in Nicaragua and is teaming up with QIAGEN, INC which is developing its low-cost HPV test in Nicaragua. The purpose of the project is for sensitization on prevention of cervical cancer through the HPV vaccine. In 2009, QIAGEN, INC wants to host a major event in Chile on HPV Prevention. GHP was inviting CIM to partner with it once the project is more developed.

V. QUANTIFIABLE RESULTS

Follow-up Mechanism to Implement the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará

- Second Conference of State Parties to the MESECVI
- Meeting of CEVI Experts.
- Publication of 600 information brochures on MESECVI in English and Spanish.
- Document on Indicators to follow up on the recommendations from the Committee of Experts (CEVI)
- Declaration on Femicide.

Gender Aspects of HIV/AIDS

Two projects (to be executed in 2009) with the following deliverables:

- Integrating Policies and Programs on HIV and Violence against Women using a Human Rights' Standpoint in Central America.
- Strengthening Capabilities to Integrate Services for HIV and Violence against Women in the Caribbean:
 - One study on the findings by March 2009.
 - An online capacity-building course for certification with accompanying report has been completed.
 - One publication on the intersection of VAW and HIV.
 - Four bulletins on the Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) of service providers in Barbados have been prepared for the website based on a CIM study done in Barbados in May 2007.

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

- Two documents on gender and climate change were prepared by the Permanent Secretariat.
- Publication of the Curriculum for the Workshop on Gender, Conflict and Peace-Building.
- Digital Library on Gender and Migration.
- Sixteen National Reports for the 34th Assembly of Delegates.
- Four Inter-Agency Reports for the 34th Assembly of Delegates (IICA, PAHO, IIN, UNIFEM)

Meetings Held

- **Third Regular Session of the Executive Committee of the CIM** – May 7 to 8, 2008.
Washington, D.C.
Document: Summary Minutes (CIM/CD/doc.27/08)
- **Second Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI** – July 9 to 10, 2008.
Caracas, Venezuela
Document: Rapporteurs Report (MESECVI-II/doc.49/08)

- **Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts to the MESECVI** – August 13 to 15, 2008
Washington, D.C.
Document: Summary Minutes (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.90/08)
- **Thirty Fourth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM** – November 10 to 12, 2008
Santiago, Chile
Document: Summary Minutes (CIM/doc.53/08)
- **Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-III)** – November 13, 2008
Santiago Chile
Document: Summary Minutes (CIM/REMIM-III/doc.8/08)

THIRTY FOURTH ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES OF THE CIM

Declaration and Resolutions

- Declaration of Santiago: Strengthening National Machineries for the Advancement of Women in Order to Mainstream Gender in Public Policies [CIM/DEC. 5 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Gender Mainstreaming in Hemispheric Policies and in the Summit of the Americas [CIM/RES. 248 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication Violence against Women ‘Convention of Belem do Para’ [CIM/RES. 249 (CIMIV-O/08)]
- Reform of the Legal Instruments of the Inter-American Commission of Women [CIM/RES. 250 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- HIV Gender-Based Violence and Empowerment [CIM/RES. 251 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Gender and Migration [CIM/RES. 252 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Biennial Work Plan of the CIM for 2008-2010: Program Guidelines [CIM/RES. 253 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Gender, Climate Change and Natural Disasters [CIM/RES. 254 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Place and Date of the Thirty Fifth Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women [CIM/RES. 255 (XXXIV-O/08)]
- Vote of Thanks to the People and Government of Chile [CIM/RES. 256 (XXXIV-O/08)]

VI. 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) and Committee on Hemispheric Security to report on the activities, projects, and financial condition of the CIM.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR): The CIM regularly exchanges information with the Special *Rapporteurship* on Women of the IACHR and is permanently in touch with it to conceptualize, program and implement its programs, projects and technical cooperation activities.

Department of Public Security. CIM works with this office to ensure inclusion of a gender perspective in the area of trafficking in persons, especially women, adolescents, young girls and boys.

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

Office of Social Development and Employment: The CIM and the OSDE work collaboratively on follow up to SEPIA I- Gender and Labor, and the mandates of the IV Summit of the Americas.

Office of Public Information: this Office disseminated information about CIM activities through press releases, radio programs, and the Internet.

The *Inter-American Commission for Drug Abuse Control*, and CIM began to exchange information on violence against women, drugs and HIV, so as to support the projects carried out by each unit in these areas.

Museum of the Americas: CIM and the Museum are in touch and support each other in developing gender integration in the Museum's programs. They will undertake joint activities this year in connection with the celebration of the 80th anniversary of CIM.

2. Other Inter-American Organizations

In order to promote the advancement of women at the regional and international levels, the CIM coordinates 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 Children's Institute (IIN). The IIN and other organizations cooperate with CIM to prepare the special meeting on HIV.

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 on the gender aspects of HIV/AIDS. As in previous years, CIM worked with PAHO and UNIFEM to launch the international campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, November 25-December 10th, 2007." PAHO is also an institutional partner in carrying out projects on HIV in the Caribbean and Central America in 2009.

B. THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM): as in previous years, CIM worked with PAHO and UNIFEM to launch the international campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, November 25-December 10th, 2007." UNIFEM is likewise an institutional partner in carrying out projects on HIV in the Caribbean and Central America in 2009.

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

International Organization for Migration. Relations with the IOM have intensified because of the new technical cooperation activities carried out by CIM in the area of migration.

UNAIDS. This is one of the institutional partners in carrying out HIV projects in the Caribbean and Central America in 2009.

c. 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:

- *The Initiative for Inclusive Security:* Since 2002 CIM maintains close ties with this program of the Hunt Fund Alternatives to promote women's participation in peace building and conflict and support the implementation in the hemispheric of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000). Joint activities have included training workshops on Gender, Conflict and Peace-building in two sub-regions of Latin América; and publication of the relevant training manual to facilitate its replication in Spanish-speaking countries. CIM also co-sponsors and participates in the annual colloquium held every year under the Inclusive Security Initiative.

- *National Hispana Leadership Institute:* The CIM has an ongoing relationship with this organization. The Permanent Secretariat participates all years in the training program for the NHLI Fellows.
- Additionally, some members of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI are members of civil society organizations, such as CLADEM this results in closer interaction and more exchange of information with civil.

VII. FINANCIAL SITUATION

The CIM has six professional positions and one discretionary appointee, the Executive Secretary, funded out of the regular fund. In the past ten years, the OAS General Assembly has approved resolutions that reiterate the need to strengthen the financial situation of the CIM, through both budget allocations and specific contributions by the member states^{1/}. In 2006, by initiative of several Member States and with the support of the Secretary General, an additional of US\$100.0 were assigned to the CIM for the 2007 budget, and a new P-3 position was approved [AG/RES. 2257(XXXVI-O/06)].

The most recent resolution adopted by the General Assembly (AG/RES. 2323 (XXXVII-O/07) "Strengthening the Inter-American Commission of Women" recognizes that although CIM's budget and staff increased somewhat in 2007, its ability to fully comply with all the mandates is very limited. It reiterates the need for this agency to be endowed with greater capability to fulfill its essential role, strengthening its ability to discharge its growing mandates, particularly those acknowledged to be priorities by the member states.

That resolution also urged the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs in the priorities he sets for funding by external donors, and invited the member states and permanent observers, individuals and national and international public or private organizations to make voluntary contributions to fund the development and implementation of CIM projects and programs.

The CIM's mandates continue to grow especially after 2000 and among the most important are:

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," the resolutions AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2099 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2161 (XXXVI-O/06), and AG/RES. 2323 (XXXVII-O/07) are entitled "Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women."

- 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-IAP** [AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)];
- 2) To act as Technical Secretariat of the **Follow-up Mechanism for Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará** [AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05)]; which includes the work done for both the **Conference of the States Party** and the **Committee of Experts (CEVI)**.
- 3) Carry out 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) Discharge the mandates of the **Inter-American Program to Promote and Protect the Human Rights of Migrants, including Migrant Workers and their Families** [(AG/RES. 2141 (XXXV-O/05)]
- 6) Support the activities of the Permanent Council working group established to celebrate the Inter-American Year of Women with participation from government officials, legislatures, international organizations, civil society and the private sector (AG/RES. 2322 (XXXVII-O/07)).
- 7) Implement the biennial work plan approved by the Assembly of CIM Delegates, which includes implementation of 33 different activities or results connected with 11 areas: women's human rights; gender aspects of HIV/AIDS; trafficking in persons, especially women and children; and gender equity and equality; women, peace and security; women and natural disasters; women and migrations; gender equity; empowerment and participation of women; strengthening national mechanisms for women; and establishing cooperation channels with other entities.

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 implement the resolutions adopted by the member states and to provide additional human resources to the CIM, including at least one new professional position (among others to make it possible for the MESECVI to become fully operational, as to date only one staff member devotes part of her time to it) so as to strengthen the CIM and enhance its ability to fully comply with its mandates; and to include its projects and programs in the priorities set for funding by external donors.

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.
3. To 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), AG/RES. 2096 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2191 (XXXVI-O/06), and AG/RES. 2335 (XXXVII-O/07) "Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS." This issue 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 2008 – FEBRUARY 2009**

May 7-8, 2008	Third Regular Session of the Executive Committee of the CIM Washington, D.C. Document: <i>Summary Minutes</i> (CIM/CD/doc.27/08)
July 9-10, 2008	Second Conference of State Parties to the MESECVI Caracas, Venezuela Document: <i>Rapporteur's Report</i> (CIM/MESECVI/doc.49/08)
August 13-15, 2008	Fourth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI Washington, D.C. Documents: <i>Summary Minutes</i> (MESECVI/VEVI/doc.90/08)
November 10-12, 2008	Thirty Fourth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM Santiago, Chile Document: <i>Summary Minutes</i> (CIM/CD/doc.53/08)
November 13, 2008	Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-III) Santiago, Chile Document: <i>Summary Minutes</i> (CIM/REMIM-III/doc.8/08)

ANNEX II

BUDGETARY EXECUTION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008
REGULAR FUND – BUDGET 2008
(US\$1,000)
SUMMARY

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
ACCOUNT	MODIFIED BUDGET	ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	OBLIGATIONS	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE AVAILABLE
111.07.23010 Permanent Secretariat	934.8	934.8	19.0	915.8	0.0
111.07.23011 President-Executive Committee	35.0	35.0	2.0	33.0	0.0
111.07.23012 Assembly of the Delegates of the CIM	35.1	35.1	2.0	33.1	0.0
111.07.23013 Programmatic Guidelines	10.4	10.4	3.3	7.1	0.0
111.07.23014 Horizontal Cooperation	10.3	10.3	.7	9.6	0.0
111.07.23017 Prevention of Violence Against Women, Gender Mainstreaming, HIV/AIDS	120.7	120.7	9.5	111.2	0.0
TOTALS	1,146.3	1,146.3	36.5	1,109.8	0.0

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 - 2008
(US\$1,000)
SUMMARY**

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
ACCOUNT	DONOR	MODIFIED BUDGET	ALLOCATION OF FUNDS	OBLIGATIONS	EXPENDITURE	AVAILABLE BALANCE
311.08.23010 Implementation of the Mechanism "Convention of Belém do Pará" MESECVI	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	15.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	15.0
311.08.23010 Project on Participation and Gender Equity in the Municipal Public Finances in Nicaragua	Government of the Netherlands	84.3	84.3	0.0	65.4	18.9
311.08.23010 Project Strengthening capabilities to integrate services for HIV and Violence in the Caribbean	Government of France	23.0	23.0	0.0	2.8	20.2
	Government of Korea	24.0	24.0	1.0	2.8	20.2
311.08.23010 Second Conference of States Parties - MESECVI	Government of Venezuela	76.5	76.5	10.2	50.3	16.0
311.08.23010 Thirty-Fourth Assembly of the Delegates of the CIM	Government of Chile	67.2	67.2	.2	44.0	23.0
311.08.23010 Project on HIV/AIDS and Violence in Central America	Government of Spain	126.4	126.4	7.9	28.8	89.7

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

**OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS (UP
TO 2008) WITH MANDATES FOR THE CIM**

A. *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.
- AG/RES 2162 (XXXVI-O/06), “Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention of the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, “Convention of Belém Do Pará” (MESECVI), which takes note of the report of the Permanent Council on implementation of the MESECVI, urges those States Parties that have not already done so to appoint an expert and competent national authority and to submit their responses to the questionnaire. It calls upon the member states to consider, as the case may be, signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to the Convention of Belém do Pará. The resolution also invites all states parties and states not party to the Convention, permanent observers, international financial institutions, and civil society organizations to contribute to the specific fund established in the Organization of American States to finance MESECVI’s operations and thanks the Government of Mexico and Brasil for their valuable contributions to the Mechanism. It again requests that the Secretary General allocate more human, technical, and financial resources to enable the CIM to continue supporting the efforts of the states parties regarding the full implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará, as well as other initiatives by the member states geared toward the elimination of violence against women. It also requests that the Permanent Council report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session on MESECVI activities and the outcomes of the first evaluation round.
- AG/RES. 2330 (XXXVII-O/07), “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.’” decided i) to take note of the report of the Permanent Council on the activities of the MESECVI Mechanism; ii) to encourage the states parties to the Convention to meet the deadlines established in the annual work calendar of the Committee of Experts on Violence; to welcome the progress of the first multilateral evaluation round of the MESECVI; iii) to welcome the progress of the first multilateral evaluation round of the MESECVI; iv) to urge the states parties to the Convention as well as all member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) to strengthen the MESECVI and hemispheric cooperation to combat violence against women, including the participation of experts in CEVI meetings; v) to reiterate its gratitude to the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) for its support of the states parties in the process of implementation of the MESECVI; vi) to thank the Government of Mexico for its continuing contribution to the Mechanism, in both human and financial resources; and to invite all states parties and states not party to the Convention, permanent observers, international financial institutions, and civil society organizations to contribute to the Specific Fund established in the OAS to finance MESECVI’s operations; vii) to take note of the offer by the Argentine Republic to host the Third Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Violence (CEVI), to be held in late June in Buenos Aires; viii) to request the Secretary General to allocate more human, technical, and financial

resources to enable the CIM to continue supporting the implementation of the MESECVI and the full application of the Convention of *Belém do Pará* by the states parties, as well as other initiatives by the member states to eliminate violence against women; ix) to take note of the offer by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to host the Second Conference of States Parties to the Convention of *Belém do Pará*, to be held in late 2007; x) to request the Permanent Council to follow up on implementation of this resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session on MESECVI operations and on the outcome of the first multilateral evaluation round.

B. *Women's Human Rights and 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 ensure 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.

- AG/RES. 2141 (XXXV-O/05) Inter-American Program for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants, Including Migrant Workers and Their Families, which adopts this program and designates the CIM as one of the implementers. The Program instructs the CIM to: 1) Conduct research on female migration and its impact on family structure, the labor market, and migration control, *inter alia*; 2) Develop policies and programs designed to protect migrant women and their families, in particular women heads of household, and to combat violence against women; 3) Promote the implementation of resolutions of the CIM and of the OAS General Assembly on trafficking in persons; 4) Recommend ratification by the states of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its optional Protocols, and of the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and 5) Promote mechanisms for the safe return and reintegration of trafficking victims and special procedures to protect juvenile victims of trafficking.

- AG/RES. 2182 (XXXVI-O/06), “Adoption of the Amended Statutes of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reductions.” which designates the Executive Secretary of the CIM as one of the member of the Inter-American Committee on Natural Disaster Reductions, to ensure the integration of a gender perspective in the Organization's activities related to natural disaster reduction and risk management.

- AG/RES. 2192 (XXXVI-O/06), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality”, (IAP) which takes note of the Secretary General’s sixth report on the implementation of the IAP, and urges him to continue with its implementation. It reaffirms its support for the work of the CIM and its efforts in the follow-up to and implementation of the IAP, including activities to continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, and science and technology, and in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process. It 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. It urges the member states to continue their efforts to develop public policies and strengthen institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women and enforce laws that promote women’s human rights and gender equity and equality. In fulfillment of the mandates of the Fourth Summit of the Americas, it urges the development of support programs that take into account the different impact of labor and social policies on women and men and that can contribute to the elimination of discrimination against women in the workplace and helps increase their full and equal access to decent, dignified, and productive work. Furthermore, it calls for the production of statistics disaggregated by sex and race, particularly in the labor area. It also urges that the Secretary General allocate additional human, technical, and financial resources to the CIM to enable it to continue working on implementation of the IAP; to continue working with the CIM to ensure the incorporation of a gender perspective in developing the programs and actions of all the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization; to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session, in coordination with the CIM, on the implementation of the Inter-American Program and of this resolution by the organs, agencies, and entities of the inter-American system, and to convene the first meeting of the Inter-Institutional Forum on Gender Equity and Equality (IIFGEE).

- AG/RES. 2324 (XXXVII-O/07), “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality”, (IAP) which urgent to the Secretary General’s to continue with the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) submitted in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05). Reaffirmed its 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; and to continue to support its efforts in the follow-up to and implementation of the IAP, including activities to continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, and science and technology, and on the issues of leadership, conflict and peace building, and natural disasters, among others, as well as in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process, in particular the Fourth Summit of the Americas. Requested to the Secretary General i) call on, for 2008, the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States and to take the steps necessary to allocate the funds needed for it to be held; ii) continue promoting, with support from the CIM, full implementation of the IAP so as to achieve integration of a gender perspective into all programs and policies of the Organization of American States (OAS); iii) continue working with the CIM to ensure the integration of a gender perspective in the development of the programs and actions of all the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization; iv) allocate additional human, technical, and financial resources to the CIM to enable it to continue working on implementation of the IAP; v) promote follow-up and support activities in the OAS Gender Training Program, in particular for new staff, and training for trainers; vi) reiterate the request to the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to include in their annual reports to

the General Assembly their initiatives to mainstream the gender perspective into their policies, programs, projects, and activities.

C. *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.

- AG/RES. 2191 (XXXVI-O/06), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS,” urges the Secretary General 1) to develop, in coordination with the Department of Human Resources of the Secretariat for Administration and Finance, and the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), a human resources policy based on the principle of gender equity and equality; 2) to redouble his efforts to achieve, as a matter of priority, the goal of having women, including indigenous women, occupy 50 percent of posts at each grade level within the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS, particularly at the P-5 grade level and above, and to continue his work to establish policies of gender equality in the workplace; 3) to appoint women as representatives and special envoys to represent the Secretary General, and as heads of electoral observation missions; and 4) to enable the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM to effectively contribute to and facilitate the integration of the principle of gender equity and equality in human resource action plans. It urges all member states to support these efforts by identifying and submitting the candidacies of women to occupy positions of trust within the OAS, and to encourage more women to apply for vacant positions. It also calls on the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS to redouble efforts to meet the goal of having women occupy 50 percent of posts at each grade level and to continue to accelerate their recruitment of women for vacant positions and to include this objective in their human resource management action plans. It also requests the Secretary General to monitor closely the progress made by the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in meeting this goal and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session.

- AG/RES. 2335 (XXXVII-O/07), “Appointment of Women to Senior Management Positions at the OAS,” bearing in mind Article 137 of the OAS Charter, which states that the Organization does not allow any restriction based on race, creed, or sex with respect to eligibility to hold positions in the Organization and to participate in its activities; and Article 120 of the Charter and Article 37 of the General Standards to Govern the Operations of the General Secretariat, which stipulate that first consideration shall be given to efficiency, competence, and integrity in the recruitment of General Secretariat personnel, but that importance shall also be attached to the criterion of the widest possible geographic distribution in hiring personnel at all grade levels; noting with satisfaction the advances made in meeting the goal of having women occupy 50 percent of posts

at all levels, especially at those grade levels where the goal has been met or exceeded. Aware that, despite this progress, the goal of 50/50 gender distribution in senior management positions has not been met, resolved to urge the Secretary General to: i) enable the Permanent Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to effectively contribute to and facilitate the integration of the principle of gender equity and equality in human resource action plans; and closely monitored the progress made by the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization in meeting the goal of having women occupy 50 percent of posts at all grade levels, to keep the Permanent Council informed with respect to the implementation of this resolution, providing an annual update with relevant statistics from the Department of Human Resources and detailed information on the strategies and actions taken to implement this resolution and reach that goal, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session.

D. *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.

F. *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. 2050 (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).

- AG/RES. 2240 (XXXVI-O/06), "Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere," urges member states to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying, or acceding to, as the case may be, the international instruments relating to the fight against commercial sexual exploitation of children and against the smuggling of and trafficking in children in the Hemisphere; requests that the Department for the Prevention of Threats against Public Security, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women

(CIM) and the Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), to continue working on this subject and on the draft on smuggling of and trafficking in women and children for purposes of sexual exploitation in the Americas; instructs the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) to continue to support the progress made in this important area, with a view to preparing a study on the implications of the conclusions of that Advisory Opinion and requests the CIM, the IIN, the JSCA, the IACHR and the Department for the Prevention of Threats against Public Security to cooperate in the preparation of these studies.

- AG/RES. 2348 (XXXVII-O/07), "Combating the Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children in the Hemisphere," reiterates its commitment to fight the crime of trafficking in persons, by means of a comprehensive approach that takes into account the prevention of trafficking, prosecution of its perpetrators, protection of and assistance to its victims, and respect for their human rights, as well as the strengthening of international cooperation in the area and implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of other relevant international instruments. Also refers to the importance of encouraging to member states to take the necessary measures to implement, as appropriate, the conclusions and recommendations of the First Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons. Under Recommendation II.9, adopted at that meeting, states undertake to create training and sensitivity programs for government officials, especially in the areas of migration, consular affairs, sanitation and police, including a gender approach and combating discrimination.

G. 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.

- AG/RES. 2161 (XXXVI-O/06), “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women,” reiterates its instruction to the Secretary General to provide the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in its role as a specialized organization of the Organization of American States (OAS), with adequate human and financial resources to strengthen its ability to carry out its growing mandates, in particular those recognized as priorities by the member states and urges the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding. It also 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; 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 the Commission’s mandates, and requests the Secretary General to report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh regular session on the implementation of this resolution.

- AG/RES. 2323 (XXXVII-O/07), “Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women,” pointing out, even though its budget and staff were augmented to some extent in 2007, the CIM’s possibilities of fully complying with all its mandates are very limited; the need for this agency to have a greater capability to carry out its basic activities and the necessity that this organism so it would be better equipped to perform its essential activities; recalling that the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM was designated as the Technical Secretariat to the Conference of States Parties to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará,” and to the Committee of Experts of the Mechanism to follow up on implementation of said Convention (MESECVI) [AG/RES. 2138 (XXXV-O/05)]; and that additionally, and in compliance with resolution AG/RES. 1741 (XXX-O/00), in 2008 the CIM will coordinate the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-III), resolved: i) reiterate its instruction to the Secretary General to provide the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in its role as a specialized organization of the Organization of American States (OAS), with adequate human and financial resources to strengthen its ability to carry out its growing mandates, in particular those recognized as priorities by the member states; ii) to urge the Secretary General to include CIM projects and programs among the priorities presented to external donors for funding; iii) 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; iv) 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 the Commission’s mandates; and v) request the Secretary General to report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.