



INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

OEA/Ser.L
CIM/doc.142/19
April 25th 2019
Original: Spanish

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ) PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18)

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
I. Background, Legal Foundations, Structure, and Objectives.....	5
II. Mandatos de la Asamblea General de la OEA (2018).....	6
III. Strengthening the MESECVI	8
a. Appointments of CNAs and CEVI experts	8
b. Publications.....	8
c. Promoting the participation of civil society organizations.....	9
d. Interinstitutional cooperation meetings	10
e. Technical assistance	13
IV. Promotion of the Convention and the MESECVI recommendations	13
a. Awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing activities	13
b. Press Releases and Letters.....	14
c. Continuing education	15
d. Belém do Pará Convention portal	16
V. Third Multilateral Evaluation Round 2018/2019.....	16
a. Second Special Conference of States Party.....	16
b. Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI.....	17
c. Activation of the Follow-Up Phase.....	19
VI. Financing the MESECVI	19

Appendix I - Status of Designation of Experts and National Competent Authorities (CNAs) in the Multilateral Evaluation Rounds

Appendix I - States Pending Appointment of Official Notification of Experts as of February 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In its capacity as the Technical Secretariat of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI), the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) hereby submits to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) this report on the work carried out by the MESECVI between February 2018 and February 2019, in compliance with resolution AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18). All the documents and background information referred to herein can be found in the MESECVI section of the CIM website.

During the course of this year and in accordance with its mandate, the MESECVI has continued to work to ensure the full and effective enforcement of the Convention of Belém do Pará by the States Parties. In that context, the 2018–2023 MESECVI Strategic Plan was approved (document MESECVI-II-CE/doc.133/18 rev. 1) at the Second Special Conference of the States Parties (CSP) held on February 21, 2018, in Washington, D.C.

In general terms, the 2018–2023 MESECVI Strategic Plan has the following central axes: (1) strengthening the MESECVI's institutional framework, (2) contributing to the strengthening of the MESECVI States Parties' technical capacities for implementing the Convention of Belém do Pará from an approach based on intersectionality and the human rights of women throughout the entire life cycle, with emphasis on prevention and redress, (3) assisting the States Parties in identifying intersectoral responses to issues related to violence against women, and (4) raising the awareness of society as a whole regarding violence against women.

In addition, during this period, efforts were stepped up to encourage the States Parties of the Convention of Belém do Pará to adapt their legislation in accordance with documents and recommendations adopted during the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round. To that end, the MESECVI has prepared substantive and specific materials related to the Convention of Belém do Pará.

At the Sixth (MESECVI-VI/doc.118/15 rev. 1) and Seventh (MESECVI-VII/doc.126/17) Conferences of the States Parties, the Competent National Authorities (CNAs) expressed their willingness to continue to make progress with preparing the Draft Model Law on Femicide/Feminicide, in conjunction with the MESECVI Committee of Experts (CEVI) and in consultation with the OAS Secretariat for Legal Affairs, other agencies of the inter-American system, the States Parties, and civil society. Finally, at the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts in December 2018, the CEVI approved the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide),¹ thus crystallizing the States Parties' efforts in that regard.

The Inter-American Model Law on Femicide/Feminicide aims to serve as a tool for creating or updating legislation in the region, and for strengthening prevention, protection, attention, investigation, prosecution, punitive, and comprehensive redress actions to ensure the right of all women and girls to a life without violence. It provides an integrated overview of the issue, free of stereotyped patterns of behavior, so that states and other parties interested in the defense of women's rights can enjoy the highest standard of protection and interpretation in ensuring and enforcing the rights enshrined in the Convention of Belém do Pará.

The Fifteenth Meeting of the CEVI also adopted the General Recommendations on Legitimate Defense and Violence against Women pursuant to Article 2 of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.249/18) and on Disappeared Women and Girls in the Hemisphere in accordance with Articles 7.b and 8 of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.240/18). In addition, it

¹ Available at: <http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/LeyModeloFemicidio-EN.pdf>

oversaw the launch of the Follow-up Phase on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the MESECVI Committee of Experts arising from the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round.

For the Follow-up Phase, during January and February 2019 the Technical Secretariat prepared communications for distributing the indicator matrix and the instructions to the States Parties, by means of verbal notes sent to the OAS permanent missions. The aim is to begin the first part of the Follow-up Phase on the MESECVI Third Multilateral Evaluation Round. In parallel to that, invitations have been prepared for civil society organizations to participate by submitting Shadow Reports.

In connection with this, in order to ensure the correct functioning of the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round and to keep the States Parties informed about the MESECVI's activities, during this period the Technical Secretariat reiterated the importance of appointing or replacing the Competent National Authorities (CNAs) and the Experts of the CEVI. According to the MESECVI Statute and Rules of Procedure, CNAs are to be appointed by each of the States Parties (Art. 5.2 of the Statute and Art. 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of States Parties), and the States Parties are responsible for ensuring their participation in all the Mechanism's meetings. As for the Experts, Art. 5.3 of the Statute provides that the Committee of Experts (CEVI), the Mechanism's technical organ, is to be comprised of experts appointed by each State Party to the Convention from among its nationals.

As regards international cooperation, the MESECVI is a part of the platform of international and regional mechanisms on violence against women and women's rights, an initiative created by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and it has participated in all of its activities. By strengthening cooperation at the global and regional levels, the independent mechanisms work together to devise harmonized strategies and undertake joint actions for enhancing the protection and promotion of women's human rights and combating violence against women across the world, pursuant to the relevant international and regional instruments.

Finally during this period, the MESECVI publicized the National Reports² and the *Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará: Prevention of Violence against Women in The Americas – Paths to Follow* (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.242/17),³ as part of its outreach plan. Particular priority was given to the dissemination of the general and specific recommendations and of specific situations detected during the Third Evaluation Round, including such relevant details as the fact that states allocate less than 1% of their national budgets to plans and programs for combating violence against women.

I. BACKGROUND, LEGAL FOUNDATIONS, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with its mandate under resolutions CIM/RES. 224/02 (XXXI-O/02), AG/RES. 1942 (XXXIII-O/03), and CIM/REMIM-II/RES. 6/04, the Inter-American Commission of Women took steps to develop a proposal for a mechanism to follow up on the implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará). Its Executive Secretariat prepared a working document containing a draft statute for a follow-up mechanism and carried out prior consultations with the OAS member states, specialized international organizations, and civil society groups.

A meeting of government experts was held from July 20 to 21, 2004, to analyze the proposed mechanism and formulate recommendations for the States Party to the Convention of Belém do Pará. At the

2 Available at: <http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/TercerInformeHemisferico-EN.pdf>

3 Available at: <http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/TercerInformeHemisferico-EN.pdf>

conclusion of the meeting, the experts submitted the draft statute of the mechanism to follow-up on the Convention of Belém do Pará to the Conference of States Party for adoption.

On October 26, 2004, at a meeting convened by the Secretary General of the OAS, the Conference of States Party adopted the Statute of the MESECVI. By this action, they expressed their political will for a consensual, independent system to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Convention, to which they would report progress towards complying with the Convention and whose recommendations they agreed to implement.

The Follow-up Mechanism consists of two bodies: the Conference of States Party (CSF), a political body comprising the representatives of the States Party, and the Committee of Experts (CEVI), a technical body comprising specialists in the areas addressed by the Convention. Even though the experts are appointed by the governments, they exercise their functions independently in their personal capacities. The CIM Executive Secretariat provides secretariat services for both the Conference and the Committee of Experts and houses the headquarters of the MESECVI.

Multilateral evaluation rounds consist of two phases: an evaluation phase and a follow-up phase. During the first phase, the competent national authorities (CNAs) of each state party respond to a CEVI questionnaire. The CEVI uses their responses to prepare preliminary reports, which it forwards to the CNAs for comment. The Committee reconsiders them and approves the final country reports and the hemispheric report. Both contain recommendations for the States Party on improving their implementation of the Convention: the country reports, specific recommendations, and the hemispheric report, general ones. Lastly, these reports are submitted to the Conference of States Party for adoption and publication. The Third Multilateral Evaluation Round is currently in its initial phase.

II. MANDATES CONFERRED BY THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2018)

The 48th regular session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) was held on June 4 and 5, 2018, in Washington, D.C. On that occasion the delegations adopted resolution AG/RES. 2928 (XLVIII-O/18), section xv of which includes an express reference to “Strengthening the Follow-up Mechanism on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI)”.

The resolution provides as follows:

RECALLING that the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará) establishes the duty of the States Party to pursue, by all appropriate means and without delay, policies and programs to prevent, punish, and eradicate discrimination and violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres; and mindful that it is important and necessary to strengthen the Convention’s follow-up mechanism, the MESECVI; and

TAKING NOTE of the Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará and the recommendations contained therein,

RESOLVES:

1. To reaffirm its commitment to strengthening the Follow-up Mechanism on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (MESECVI) and its Committee of Experts, and to follow up on the full

implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará by promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls by addressing the multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination and violence suffered by women belonging to vulnerable groups, and by reiterating the importance of exchanges of good practices and challenges, among all the States Party, in this Third Multilateral Evaluation Round.

2. To note the adoption of the MESECVI Strategic Plan for 2018-2023, document MESECVI-II-CE/doc.133/18 rev. 1, the axes of which are: (1) Strengthening the institutional framework of the MESECVI; (2) Contributing to the strengthening of the MESECVI States Party's technical capacities for implementing the Convention of Belém do Pará from an approach based on intersectionality and the human rights of women throughout their entire life cycle, with emphasis on prevention and redress; (3) Assisting the States Party in identifying intersectoral responses to issues related to violence against women; and (4) Raising the awareness of society as a whole regarding violence against women; and to request that the MESECVI Technical Secretariat and the agencies of the MESECVI follow up on it for the Mechanism's effective strengthening.

3. In keeping with the recommendations contained in the Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará, to insist on the importance of earmarking by member states of adequate budgets for the prevention of violence against women and for victim attention, in particular for the creation and strengthening of comprehensive protocols for victims of sexual violence.

4. Further to the Hemispheric Report of the MESECVI Committee of Experts on sexual violence and child pregnancy, and recognizing the efforts made by the states party to address this problem, to request that the MESECVI Committee of Experts prepare a practical guide for action that incorporates the legislation and good practices that are being implemented in the region in connection with the topic.^{4/}

5. To request that the MESECVI Technical Secretariat promote and support the organization of dialogues among competent national authorities and the MESECVI Committee of Experts on progress and challenges with relevant topics related to the strengthening, implementation, and dissemination of the Convention of Belém do Pará, as agreed at the Seventh Conference of MESECVI States Party.

6. To reiterate to the General Secretariat the importance of equipping the MESECVI Technical Secretariat with the human, technical, and financial resources needed for its optimal functioning, including regular updates of information on web sites and social networks, for which purpose it is essential that sources of external funding be identified.

III. STRENGTHENING THE MESECVI

a. Appointments of CNAs and CEVI experts

National Competent Authorities Appointed during 2018 and 2019:

- **April 16:** National Competent Authority of Peru - Ana María Mendieta Trefogli, Minister of Women and At-Risk Populations and Silvia Rosario Loli Espinoza, Vice Minister of Women as Alternate Delegate.

⁴ The United States cannot associate itself with this section of the resolution because we are not a party to the Convention of Belem do Para. Nevertheless, the U.S. Government remains strongly.

- **April 19** : National Competent Authority of Chile - Isabel Plá Jarufe, Minister of Women and Gender Equity
- **April 24:** National Competent Authority of Jamaica - Sharon Coburn Robinson, Director of Policy and Research, Bureau of Gender Affairs.
- **November 21:** National Competent Authority of Guatemala - Yolanda Sián Ramírez, Secretary of Women.
- **November 30:** Helen Royer, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family and Gender Affairs as the National Competent Authority of the Commonwealth of Dominica, for the XV Meeting of the Experts of the MESECVI.
- **March 22, 2019:** Gloria Edelmira Montenegro Figueroa, Minister for Women's Affairs and Vulnerable Populations, as Peru's new NCA.
- **April 2:** Darling Carolina Ríos Munguía, Vice Minister at the Ministry of Women's Affairs, as Nicaragua's NCA.

Experts Appointed October 2017 during 2018 and 2019:

- **August 20, 2018:** Tatiana Rein ratified as Principal Expert, Chile.
- **October 30, 2018:** Marcel Patricia Huaita Alegre and Ángela Teresa Hernandez Cajo, Principal Expert and Alternate Expert, respectively, Peru.
- **November 8, 2018:** Elaine Sands and Simone Bridgewater were designated as Experts by the Bahamas only for the fifteenth meeting of the CEVI.

The Technical Secretariat received resignations from the following Principal Experts: Francine Foster (Grenada), Dinte Conway (Guyana), Gabriela Malaguera (Venezuela), and Julieta Paredes (Bolivia).

b. Publications

Basic Documents of the MESECVI (MESECVI, 2018)

This document contains the entire contents of the Belém do Pará Convention; the Statutes of the MESECVI; the Regulations of the Conference of States Party; and the Regulations of the Committee of Experts. The consolidation of all guidelines relative to the Belém do Pará Convention underlies the search for bringing together all of the information under one single instrument and thus facilitating the work of the Technical Secretariat, the States Party, the Committee of Experts, other international and regional bodies, civil society organizations, and any person who might need it. Ultimately, this document is being provided as a useful and accessible instrument. In addition, this document strives to publicize the guidelines and act as a roadmap for the bodies of MESECVI so they can work together for the effective enforcement of the Belém do Pará Convention.

Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide)

Femicide is the most extreme and irreversible expression of violence and discrimination against women, radically opposed to all rights and guarantees provided by international and domestic human rights laws. In view of the gravity of this situation, the Committee of Experts of MESECVI has been working on the consolidation of the comprehensive “Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide).”

It has been drafted on the basis of a participatory process aimed at ensuring that all persons and institutions involved are represented in the contents of the Draft Model Law. Because of that, various consultation events were held to discuss the principal elements of the draft, move forward in consolidating its contents, and evaluate how the violent deaths of women have been addressed by law in

the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. These meetings were attended by CEVI experts, competent national authorities, civil society organizations, academics, litigants, specialists in the matter, and representatives of other international mechanisms that work on preventing, punishing, and eradicating violence against women.

Finally, at the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, held on December 3, 4, and 5, 2018 at OAS headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Committee approved the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide), culminating in a process that started at the Sixth Conference of States Party to the Belém do Pará Convention (CEP) in October 2015.

The Model Law on Femicide/Feminicide seeks to serve as a tool to create or update legislation in the region and to strengthen comprehensive prevention, protection, care, investigation, prosecution, punishment, and reparation actions to guarantee the right of women and girls to a life without violence and without stereotyped patterns of conduct. It is based on the principles of equality and nondiscrimination, due diligence of the state, centrality of the rights of victims, the best interests of children and adolescents, the empowerment of women, the progressiveness of human rights, and the prohibition on regressivity. This Model Law provides an integrative overview of femicide/feminicide so that survivors, victims, and their next of kin can enjoy the highest standards of protection when their rights, as set forth in the Belém do Pará Convention, are being guaranteed and enforced.

The innovative elements include the specification of the sphere of application, the investigation and trial process, the offenses and penalties, the consequences for obstructing access to justice, the rights of victims and their next of kin, including reparations, public policies for prevention, among others. In addition, it recognizes the equality of rights from a diversity-based perspective, because it points out that there may be aggravating factor when a woman is in a situation of vulnerability because of her race, ethnic belonging, or status as an immigrant or refugee, or because she is pregnant, with a disability, in an unfavorable socioeconomic situation, or is affected by a situation of armed conflict, political violence, human trafficking, labor or sexual exploitation, or in a natural disaster, among others.

c. Promoting the participation of civil society organizations

The Seventh Conference of States Party agreed “to continue motivating and encouraging the participation of civil society and other social actors in the activities of the MESECVI, within the framework of Article 10.2 of its Statute, taking into consideration the ‘Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society Organizations in OAS Activities,’ document CP/RES. 759 (1217/99).”

According to what is set forth in Article 3g) of the Regulations of CEVI, which refers to promoting and facilitating cooperation between States Party and civil society organizations, both at the meetings of the CEVI and at the meetings of the CEP, civil society organizations have participated. As a result, there has been an increase in participation at MESECVI’s Third Evaluation Round, owing to the submittal of shadow reports.⁵

At the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts, a forum for dialogue was opened between the experts and civil society representatives. On that occasion, Lolita Chávez, Defender of Guatemala (Maya Quiche), who advocated for her permanence in indigenous territories that are being remilitarized, violating the rights of the population, filed a complaint with the state of Guatemala for the grave situation of violence against women and reiterated the importance of working with indigenous women; and

⁵ The list of civil society organizations that have participated in drawing up Shadow Reports is available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/ShadowReports.asp>

Mercedes Hernández, Director of the Women's Association of Guatemala, who requested the Committee to issue a legal opinion on Women Defenders of Human Rights and Territories and women refugees outside the Americas.

As for activating the Follow-up Phase of the MESECVI, in February 2019, in addition to preparing communications in order to invite States Party to participate, a press release was drafted to invite civil society organizations to forward shadow reports or to respond to the indicators as part of a consultative process. The announcement contains details of their participation, what their participation entails, the details of how they participated, and how to register with the OAS for credentials.

d. Interinstitutional cooperation meetings

On March 8 - 9, 2018, Sylvia Mesa, President of the CEVI and Expert from Costa Rica participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Violence Against Women in Politics hosted by Dubravka Šimonović, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. At the event, the CEVI President presented the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women in Political Life and discussed the next steps in the implementation process.

The Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention was released March 13, 2018, during the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW'62), in New York where Lorena Castillo García de Varela, the First Lady of Panama gave the opening remarks. The event was also attended by the following: Liriola Leoteau, President of the Conference of States Party of the MESECVI and General Director of the National Institute for Women (INAMU) of Panama; Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts; Dubravka Šimonović, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; Bárbara Jiménez, CLADEM; Luiza Carvalho, UN Women; and Carmen Moreno Toscano, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women.

June 3, 2018, during the forty-eighth General Assembly of the OAS, the Inter-American Commission of Women hosted a meeting attended by international and regional bodies and civil society organizations dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls both in Latin American and internationally, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 5 - a promise and goal shared by all Member States of the Organization of American States. The Declaration on Gender and Women's Equality as a Benefit to Humanity⁶ was presented at the meeting.

The MESECVI also participated in two meetings with representatives from international and regional mechanisms to discuss the violence against women and women's rights. The first meeting was held in March 2018 in New York and the second in Boulder Colorado, October 2, 2018. The experts discussed the progress and challenges of the issue, the main problems faced by the regions with respect to violence against women and femicide, efforts being made around the world to combat this pandemic and discourse and movements fighting against gender equality.

Both meetings were organized by Dubravka Simonovic, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and were attended by Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts; Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI; Margaret Macaulay, President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women; Dailia Leinarte, President of the Committee of the CEDAW; Alda Facio, member of the United Nations Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice; and Feride

06 Declaration available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/docs/DeclaracionIgualdadGenero-EN.pdf>

Acar, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence of the Council of Europe (GREVIO).

November 8, 2018, the MESECVI participated in the 10th Conference on Femicide/Feminicide ¡Ni Una Menos! Not One Woman Less! Strengthening EU-CELAC Cooperation in the struggle against femicide in Brussels, Belgium. The Conference was organized by the Greens/European Free Alliance coalition in the European Parliament, the EU Advocacy Network, and the Heinrich Böll Foundation. The Experts of the MESECVI shared their recommendations for the effective implementation of legislation on femicide in Latin America and had the opportunity to delve into the challenges associated with access to justice, revictimization of women, gender stereotypes, the importance of a gender focus in informed handling of cases of violence against women, among other topics.

The following day, November 9, 2018, representatives from the MESECVI spoke at the Workshop on gender perspective in media representations of violence against women and femicide/feminicide: challenges and opportunities for cooperation between the European Union and Latin America, organized by the in the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Brussels, Belgium. Experts discussed the development of spaces for cooperation between women's organizations, governmental bodies, the private sector and the media, as well recommendations for bi-regional cooperation.

Both meetings in Brussels offered the opportunity for cooperation and the exchange of ideas and good practices. Participating over the course of the two days of meetings were: Dubravka Šimonović, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; Tatiana Rein Venegas, Vice-President of the CEVI and Expert from Chile; Leila Linhares Barsted, CEVI Expert in Brazil; Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI; Eva Villarreal, Specialist from the Inter-American Commission on Women/MESECVI; Patsilí Toledo, Attorney and Expert member of the Antigona Research Group at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain; Natalia Gherardi, Executive Director of the Latin-American Group for Gender and Justice Argentina (ELA), among other international experts.

On November 27, 2018, Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, participated in the Regional Exchange Workshop – Essential Services in Latin America and the Caribbean in Panama City, Panama. She specifically participated in the section that compared the challenges associated with treatment in the region. The workshop was organized to allow the exchange of experiences in support of strengthening the response to women and girl survivors of violence and improve the quality of services in the region; define the regional work strategy to be implemented in the next few years; strengthen inter-agency cooperation in response to violence against women, among other topics.

Officials from the governments of Peru, Guatemala, Panama, Uruguay, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Paraguay, El Salvador, Honduras, Argentina, Mexico, Costa Rica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and Nicaragua attended the workshop, as well as the UNFPA representatives from those same countries. Also in attendance were the regional representatives of the United Nations offices (UN Women, UNPD, UN OPS, WHO, UNODC, UNICEF, etc.) and the networks or civil society organizations⁷ that work on the issue.

On November 29, 2018, Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, participated in a meeting on the role of the judiciary on addressing harmful gender stereotypes in Panama City, Panama. This initiative was organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the National Institute for Women (INAMU), the Office for Access to Justice and Gender of the Judicial Branch and the Superior Institute of the Judiciary of Panama (Unidad de Acceso a la Justicia

17 CLADEM, Red Feminista against gender violence, among others.

y Género del Órgano Judicial y el Instituto Superior de la Judicatura de Panamá). The purpose of the meeting was to foster and solidify the role the judiciary in Panama can play in the defense of women's rights by addressing prejudicial and illegal gender stereotypes and consider the impact of stereotypes in cases of gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive rights, generate ideas for follow up and facilitate the exchange of good practices in the region.

From February 19 to 21, 2019, in Paris, France, a meeting was held among representatives of MESECVI, GREVIO, and EUROSocial for the purpose of strengthening international cooperation and exchanges between the follow-up mechanisms on the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) and the Istanbul Convention (GREVIO), with support from EUROSocial.

In the framework of the sixty-third period of sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW'63) in New York, Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, and Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, participated in highly important events on international cooperation capacity building and building strategic partnerships for the fight against gender-based violence. In each instance, the representatives took advantage of the meetings to provide in-depth details and innovative elements of the Model Law on Femicide, share the findings and work of the MESECVI, contribute to the dissemination of the Belém do Pará Convention, and strengthen international cooperation mechanisms.

On March 11, 2019, the representatives attended the event organized by the Council of Europe on "The Council of Europe Istanbul Convention: A Global Instrument for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Girls." Likewise, on March 13, they attended the Meeting of International and Regional Mechanisms on Violence against Women and Women's Rights, organized by Dubravka Šimonović, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences (SRVAW), for the purpose of strengthening partnerships between international and regional mechanisms that combat gender-based violence. Finally, on March 14, they attended the launching of the Analysis Report on Legislation on Femicide in Latin America and the Caribbean and Inputs for a Model Law on Femicide/Feminicide organized by the states of Argentina, Ecuador, Panama, UN Women, and the MESECVI/OAS.

e. Technical Assistance

The Strategic Plan of the MESECVI 2018-2023 seeks to continue working on technical capacity building of national mechanisms for women for the effective implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.

On November 13 and 14, 2018, in San Salvador, El Salvador, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, delivered a keynote lecture on Measuring the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention and conducted two technical assistance sessions: Workshop on the Guide of MESECVI Indicators and Workshop on Observations made to El Salvador in the Country Report and follow-up reports. The meetings were held in the framework of the Workshop on the Progress and Challenges of the Five-Year Plan of Action of the National Policy for Women's Access to a Life without Violence 2016-2021. The meeting was organized by EUROSocial and the Salvadoran Institute for Women's Development (ISDEMU).

IV. PROMOTION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE MESECVI RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing activities

The Strategic Plan of the MESECVI 2018-2023 seeks to continue working on raising the awareness of society as a whole about violence against women, as well as promoting the Belém do Pará Convention.

Along this line, the competent national authorities, the experts of the CEVI, or the professionals of the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI have participated in many awareness-raising and exchange activities in various countries of the region.

As a rule, during this period, the representatives of the MESECVI have attended more than 50 activities throughout the region of the Americas and Europe, among which the following are noteworthy: training sessions on gender and human rights, working groups, workshops, seminars on gender policies, debates in national parliaments, review forums, meetings, and consultation meetings with civil society, training for judges, best practices events, course on capacity building, round-table talks, among other events posted on the news section of the web page.⁸

At each meeting, contributions have been made at the request of the states themselves with the promotion of the Belém do Pará Convention and instruments to improve implementation on the basis of the Recommendations by the Committee of Experts, the Declarations of the MESECVI, the *Third Hemispheric Report on Prevention, the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women in Political Life, the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide)*, among other documents.

Furthermore, on August 15, 2018, the Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, participated in the Thirtieth Anniversary Commemoration of the San Salvador Protocol, invited by the Working Group of the San Salvador Protocol (WGSSP), with the cooperation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the OAS Department of Social Inclusion.

On November 25, 2018, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI commemorated the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women with an online awareness-raising campaign on the recommendations of the Committee of Experts enshrined in the Third Hemispheric Report on Prevention. A poster about the importance of investing in prevention was disseminated, and 16 posters were launched with various recommendations in the framework of the 16 days of activism which came to an end on December 10, Human Rights Day, which were posted on the social media of MESECVI.⁹

In line with the above, the state of Panama, through the Women's Institute in Panama (INAMU), headed by Liriola Leoteau, INAMU's Director and President of the Conference of States Party to the MESECVI, organized the meeting on "The Belém do Pará Convention and Violence against Women in Political Life." The event was aimed at sharing best practices and the challenges being encountered by democracies to eradicate violence against women in the exercise of their political rights. The following also participated: Carmen Moreno, Executive Secretary of CIM; Luis Porto, Senior Advisor for Strategy and Organizational Development of the OAS; Urania Atenea Ungo, Expert of the CEVI in Panama; Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI; and noteworthy women politicians.

In January and February 2019, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI prepared the event to launch the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide) in the OAS Meeting Hall of the Americas in Washington, D.C., which was inaugurated by Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the OAS; and with the participation of Liriola Leoteau, Director of INAMU and President of the Conference of States Party to the MESECVI; Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI; Paula Narváez, Advisor to UN Women Regional Office for the Americas and the Caribbean; and Rita Segato, renowned

8 Available at: <https://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/about.asp>

9 Available at: <https://twitter.com/MESECVI/status/1096059545921687555>

Argentinian anthropologist; among other distinguished guests. The purpose was to present and debate about details of the Model Law and the joint work between the mechanisms to concretize this instrument. Alongside this, a dissemination strategy is being prepared to publicize and position the Model Law on Femicide/Feminicide, the General Recommendations of the Committee of Experts to the States Party to the Convention, enshrined in the Third Hemispheric Report on Prevention, the Specific Recommendations for the states that participated in the Third Evaluation Round, enshrined in the national reports, and the General Recommendations on legitimate defense and missing women.

b. Press Releases and Letters

Article 3 l) of the Bylaws of the Committee of Expert Pending Appointment of Experts, establishes that one of the functions of the Committee is to develop recommendations, when they deem necessary, for the States Party to adopt measures necessary in support of the human rights of women, and when specific circumstances call for a special pronouncement. In that case, the Technical Secretariat will issue information relevant to the specific case.

The CEVI, with the technical and communication advice of the Technical Secretariat, has developed and participated in issuing communications in conjunction with other regional and international organizations on violence against women in reference to current cases in the region related to the prevention, punishment and /or eradication of violence against women in the region. These organizations include: the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against women, its causes and consequences; the United Nations Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and practice (WGDAW); the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Rights of Women in Africa – African Commission on Human and People's Rights; the Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights; the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Rights (GREVIO) from the Council of Europe; and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; and the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

In 2018, the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI issued close to 45 press releases approved by the Committee of Experts and has sent close to 30 formal letters. Each statement has been addressed to a State Party to the Belém do Pará Convention, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, and Peru. Nevertheless, the Committee has also issued its opinion to highlight the statements made by the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, about the possibility of starting the process of becoming a State Party to the Belém do Pará Convention. In 2019, the Technical Secretariat has disseminated 5 press releases and sent 2 letters.

With respect to the contents of the releases, all involve cases of violence against women and girls. In particular, the Committee has spoken to voice concern over the proliferation of speeches against human rights, judgments that violate the right of all women to live lives without violence, protocols that obstruct access to justice of women who are victims of violence, legislative setbacks, among others. Likewise, it has spoken to commend the progress achieved in implementing the Belém do Pará Convention, progress made in drafting laws aimed at guaranteeing a life without violence for girls and women, budget allocations for the issue, prioritization of the issues of violence against women, among other examples.

c. Continuing education

- **Specialization and International Course on Public Policy and Gender Justice¹⁰:** In April

10 Details available in Spanish at: https://www.clacso.org.ar/red_de_posgrados/Politicas_Publicas_y_Justicia_de_Genero.php?s=4&idioma=esp

2018, the second cohort, organized by the OAS, Latin-American Council of Social Studies (CLASCO) and Flasco, Brazil, began online. The academic coordination is conducted by Magdalena Valdivieso Ide, Ph.D. Political Science, University of Chile and Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI. The specialization requires 52 credits earned during 480 hours of classwork, while the international course is 12 credits earned in 120 hours of classwork. The class is scheduled to end in March 2019.

The specialization and the course are designed to offer comprehensive theoretical and practical training, through the analysis of structural gender inequality base on the provisions in international women's human rights regulations and the study of the public policy response to the issue. The course is directed toward both under-graduate and post-graduate students, public and justice officials; members of the legislative branch; members and managers of NGOs and professionals interested in public policies on gender; activists and militants of organizations and social movements; and representatives of political parties. Registration for the third cohort is currently open.

- **Degree in Communication, Gender and Human Rights Studies:** The CIM/MESECVI continues to co-certify and collaborate with the Civil Communication Association for Equality (Argentina) to offer this degree. The fourth round began mid-March 2018 and should be complete at the end of November 2018¹¹.

d. Belém do Pará Convention Internet Portal

The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI is currently raising money to maintain and update this platform.

V. THIRD MULTILATERAL EVALUATION ROUND 2018/2019

a. Second Extraordinary Conference of States Party of the MESECVI

The Second Special Conference of States Party of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women "Belem do Pará" (MESECVI), was held on February 21, 2018, at the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS), in Washington, DC. Twenty-two delegations from the following countries participated in this meeting: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela. The event was opened by the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Ambassador Néstor Méndez, and the President of the Conference of States Party to the MESECVI/General Director of the National Institute for Women of Panama, Liriola Leoteau.

A dialogue was held on emerging issues within the framework of the Strategic Plan of the MESECVI 2018-2023. The President of the Conference of States Party (CoSP), Ms. Liriola Leoteau, initiated the dialogue, giving the floor to the Judge of the Inter-American Court, Elizabeth Odio Benito, who spoke about "*Violence against women and access to justice*." Next, Julianne Malveaux, President and founder of Economic Education, began her presentation on "*Violence and Human Rights of Afro-Descendant Women*". Otilia Lux de Cotí, an activist for the rights of indigenous communities, continued with the dialogue by making her presentation on "*Violence and the human rights of indigenous women*". Next, Pamela Molina, Disability Specialist of the Organization of American States (OAS), presented on

¹¹ For more information, please visit (in Spanish): <http://www.comunicarigualdad.com.ar/diploma-de-comunicacion-y-genero/>

"Violence and women with disabilities". Continuing with the dialogue, Claudia Paz y Paz, Secretary of Multidimensional Security of the OAS, spoke about *"Trafficking and Missing Women"*.

The Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, Luz Patricia Mejia Guerrero, then presented the Report on the status of implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017, in which the different activities carried out by the Secretariat were highlighted. The Strategic Plan 2018-2023 was then presented and adopted, with participants agreeing to include a perspective of the intersectionality of women's human rights with an emphasis on prevention and reparation throughout the plan.

Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, presented the Declaration of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women as a Benefit to Humanity, adopted in Panama, November 28, 2017, document OEA/CEVI/DOC.244/17.rev1. After the dialogue between the delegations, the agreements of the Second Special Conference of the States Party of the Convention of Belem do Pará were adopted.

Within the framework of the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the CIM, the President presented a draft declaration on regional challenges for the human rights of women in the Americas and the eradication of violence against women for the consideration of the Conference of States Party. The delegations from Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela spoke on the presented draft and recommended that it be considered within the framework of the General Assembly of the OAS, allowing for more analysis time and greater impact, which is reflected in the agreements of the Second Conference of States Party of the MESECVI.

b. Decimoquinta Reunión del Comité de Expertas del MESECVI

The Committee of Experts of the MESECVI met to hold its Fifteenth Meeting on December, 3, 4, and 5, 2018 at the headquarters of the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C. This meeting was attended by 18 experts from the following countries: Argentina, Bahamas, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The meeting was inaugurated by Sylvia Mesa Peluffo, President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI; Ambassador Carlos Játiva, Chair of the Permanent Council and Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the OAS; Carmen Moreno, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); and Lara Blanco, UN Women's Regional Deputy Director for the Americas and the Caribbean. In addition to the participation of the Experts of MESECVI of Latin America and the Caribbean, at the opening event, there was the attendance of guest experts such as Mercedes Hernández, Director of the Women's Association of Guatemala; Patsilí Toledo, attorney and member of the research group Antígona of the Autonomous University of Barcelona; Natalia Gherardi, Executive Director of the Latin American Justice and Gender Team (ELA), Argentina; and Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI.

Thereafter, the Meeting of the Committee of Experts started in the Rubén Dario Meeting Room at OAS headquarters with the debate for the consolidation and approval of the Draft Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide)." This debate was moderated by the President of the CEVI. Each one of the articles of the draft law was discussed, and in each case, experts made comments and annotations.

On the second day, there was a debate on regional cooperation between UN Women and the MESECVI. The meeting was attended by Lara Blanco, Analyst of the Women's Program and UN Women's Regional Deputy Director for the Americas and the Caribbean, and Luz Patricia Mejía Guerrero, Technical

Secretary of the MESECVI. Lara Blanco stressed the importance of establishing strategies and partnerships and pointed out the steps that must be taken to improve regional cooperation. As for the elimination of violence against women in the legislation, she indicated that they have worked with the MESECVI on providing advisory services, specifically on the regulatory framework of the Model Law on Femicide. As for Luz Patricia Mejía, she mentioned meetings with intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms and pointed out the importance of civil society participation in drawing up shadow reports.

The Executive Secretary of CIM, Carmen Moreno, stressed the importance of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership as an important element for coordination between intergovernmental institutions and cooperation agencies to enhance the impact of the efforts made to strengthen the women leadership in the Americas. The Secretary pointed out that the Task Force comes from a mandate of the last Summit of the Americas, which strives to bring together synergies for the purpose of achieving target 5.5 of the SDGs on the participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes, thus contributing as well to dismantling obstacles to their empowerment.

Afterwards, the Chair of the CEVI presented the report on the activities of the MESECVI, highlighting approval of the Declaration on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment for the Good of Humanity and the Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.

Regarding draft legal opinions, the following issues were discussed: human trafficking, legitimate defense, missing women and girls, and child marriage. At first, Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI, took the floor to present the Amicus brief in the case of human trafficking to the CEDAW Committee on the subject of missing women and legitimate defense of victims of violence. Afterwards, the debate was declared open to all those attending. It was agreed that this initiative would be carried out and promoted with the idea of defining the direction that would be taken in this issue. The Secretary proposed sending the corresponding document via email to move the subject forward.

Thereafter, the *General Recommendation on Legitimate Defense in application of Article 2 of the Belém do Pará Convention* was approved, because of the importance of working on cases of women victims of violence who have killed or caused injury to their assailants and who are then are indicted as criminal offenders, although they have acted to defend their own lives or those of their children. The Committee stressed that it is indispensable to apply the gender-based perspective in these court proceedings and to incorporate a contextual analysis that would make it possible to understand that the reaction of women victims of violence cannot be judged on the basis of the same standards traditionally used in these cases.

The *General Recommendation on Missing Women and Girls in the Hemisphere pursuant to Articles 7b and 8 of the Belém do Pará Convention* was immediately approved. On the basis of this document, the CEVI recognized that, in some countries of the region, there are high numbers of women and girls reported missing, as well as their connection with other forms of violence such as femicide, trafficking in women and girls, and sexual violence. The Committee drafted this document for the purpose of including the disappearance of women and girls into the framework of the Convention and therefore to outline the obligations of States Party to prevent, investigate, punish, and eradicate this form of violence against women and girls.

Finally, the draft of the legal opinion on Child Marriage was presented. The following persons participated in the round of presentations: Mirta Moragas, CIM Consultant; Santa Mateo, Gender Specialist, Plan International, Dominican Republic, and Eugenia López Uribe, Senior Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, Girls Not Brides.

On the last day of the meeting, the Chair of the CEVI started the debate on pending issues of the Model Law on Femicide. The experts had the opportunity to discuss the details and decide on the last articles.

Finally, the Committee of Experts approved the Inter-American Model Law on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of the Gender-Related Killing of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide) and the debate on this matter was terminated so that the meeting could proceed with its approval.

Afterwards, the Evaluation and Definition of the Methodology of the Follow-up Phase of the MESECVI started. The Chair of CEVI started the discussion by pointing out that it was necessary to extend the deadline for the multilateral evaluation process. The Technical Secretary of MESECVI explained in detail the dynamics between the Secretariat, the competent national authorities, and the experts. It was agreed to start up the Follow-up Phase of the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round, extend the Evaluation Round to four years, and notify States Party about this decision.

In addition, on this occasion, other matters were discussed, such as the impact of press releases from the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI. The Technical Secretary explained the communication guidelines and stressed that these documents must use verifiable information. Finally, after a dialogue among those attending, the experts adopted the agreements document MESECVI/CEVI/doc.251/18 pertaining to the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI. Carmen Moreno Toscano, Executive Secretary of CIM, and Sylvia Mesa, President of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, delivered remarks for the closing of the meeting.

c. Activación de la Fase de Seguimiento de la Tercera Ronda de Evaluación Multilateral

At the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI held in December 2018, the experts agreed to start the Follow-up Phase of the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, pertaining to the Third Multilateral Evaluation Round, and to extend the Evaluation Round to four years (agreements document MESECVI/CEVI/doc.251/18).

In January and February 2019, the Technical Secretariat prepared the notification to States Party about the activation of the Follow-up Phase. In March 2019, a verbal note was sent to the Permanent Missions to the OAS so that they would send the matrix of indicators, as well as instructions on how to provide adequate responses, to the States Party to the Belém do Pará Convention. In addition, the initial deadline for responding to the indicators was communicated. Alongside this, civil society organizations were invited to participate by sending Shadow Reports.

In each verbal note, the Permanent Missions were informed that the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI, at its Fifteenth Meeting, had agreed “to start the Follow-up Phase of the Third Evaluation Round” (item 12), as a result of which they were invited to continue contributing to moving forward with preventing violence against women and girls in the region. The link to the Practical Guide to the Use of the System of Indicators for Measuring Progress in the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention is attached herewith as it serves as a support tool for compiling the information required.

The Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI has resolved to set the first deadline for responding at May 13, 2019. Nevertheless, it is estimated that the process of receiving responses from the States shall be completed in July 2019.

VI. FINANCING THE MESECVI

Sources of MESECVI funding:

All OAS and CIM Assemblies have repeatedly called upon the governments to support the MESECVI with human and financial resources. The Resolution of the Forty-eighth Ordinary Session of the General Assembly of the OAS, document AG/doc.5641/18, resolved to reiterate to the Secretary General of the

importance of providing adequate human, technical and financial resources to allow the MESECVI to optimize its function, including the regular update of internet and social media sites, which are essential for the identification of external sources of funding.

The Agreements from the Second Extraordinary Conference of States Party, held February 21, 2018, document MESECVI-II-CE/doc.134/18.rev1, in Washington DC, establish that strengthening the MESECVI requires the support of the States Party who should provide human and/or financial resources, and the need to find alternative funding sources to allow the Mechanism to function properly. The Agreements of the Second Extraordinary Conference of States Party include the following:

“Urge the General Assembly of the OAS to maintain and incorporate the budget line item, approved by the Forty-seventh Ordinary Session of the General Assembly, that funds the Inter-American Commission on Women (CIM) and includes the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI, and that will allow the execution of the MESECVI Strategic Plan for 2018-2023.

Urge the States Party to make voluntary contributions to the best of their abilities in order to ensure compliance with the tasks listed in the MESECVI Strategic Plan for 2018-2023, the Mechanism, the Technical Secretariat, and provide for the presence of their experts at meetings held by the Mechanism; incentivize government bodies and other public, private, national and international entities to make contributions opt the Mechanism.”

In 2018, the fund created for the MESECVI received contributions from Argentina, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Trinidad and Tobago. These funds were intended to finance part of the operation of the MESECVI. There is still, however, a need to focus efforts on strengthening the MESECVI by mobilizing resources from both the States Party to the Convention and from other possible donors through the development and execution of specialized projects, as listed in the table below:

Contributions to the MESECVI		
Year	Donor	Total (USD \$)
2013	Argentina	15,000.00
	France	2,091.89
	Mexico	29,453.11
	Nicaragua	5,000.00
	Suriname	2,000.00
	Trinidad and Tobago	15,000.00
2013 Total		68,545.00
2014	Argentina	15,000.00

	Mexico Nicaragua	34,529.59 6,000.00
2014 Total		55,529.59
2015	Mexico Nicaragua	29,717.87 6,000.00
2015 Total		35,717.87
2016	Mexico Trinidad y Tobago	30,253.85 15,000.00
2016 Total		45,253.85
2017	Panama Mexico	78,159.80 25,013.89
2017 Total		103,173.69
2018	Trinidad and Tobago México Argentina Nicaragua Panama	30,000.00 20,973.26 10,000.00 5,000.00 6,100.00
2018 Total		72,073.26
2019	Panama	15,000.00 ¹²
2019 Total		15,000.00
Grand Total		395,293.26

12 This amount will be effective after June 2019.

ANNEX I
Status of Designation of Experts and National Competent Authorities (CNAs) in the Multilateral Evaluation Rounds

COUNTRY	EXPERTS			CNA		
	REM 1	REM 2	REM 3	REM 1	REM 2	REM 3
1. Antigua and Barbuda	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
2. Argentina	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SI
3. Bahamas	SÍ	SÍ	SI	SÍ	SÍ	SI
4. Barbados	SÍ	SÍ	SI	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
5. Belize	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ
6. Bolivia	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ	NO	NO
7. Brazil	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO
8. Chile	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
9. Colombia	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
10. Costa Rica	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
11. Dominica	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SI
12. Ecuador	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO
13. El Salvador	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
14. Grenada	NO	SÍ	NO	NO	SÍ	SÍ
15. Guatemala	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SI
16. Guyana	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
17. Haiti	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
18. Honduras	SÍ	NO	SÍ	SÍ	NO	NO
19. Jamaica	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
20. Mexico	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
21. Nicaragua	SÍ	NO	NO	SÍ	NO	SI
22. Panama	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ
23. Paraguay	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
24. Peru	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
25. Dominican Republic	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SI
26. St. Kitts and Nevis	NO	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ	SÍ
27. St. Lucia	NO	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ
28. St. Vincent and the Grenadines	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ	SÍ
29. Suriname	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	NO	SÍ	SÍ
30. Trinidad and Tobago	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ

COUNTRY	EXPERTS			CNA		
	REM 1	REM 2	REM 3	REM 1	REM 2	REM 3
31. Uruguay	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SÍ	SI	SI
32. Venezuela	SÍ	SI	NO	SÍ	SI	SI
TOTAL	29	30	27	28	26	28

ANNEX II
States Pending Appointment of Official Notification of Experts as of February 2019

Country		Name
1	Bolivia	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)
2	Grenada	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)
3	Guyana	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)
4	Haiti ¹³	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)
5	Nicaragua ¹⁴	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)
6	Venezuela	Pending Appointment of Experts (T and A)

13 The Expert has not participated since 2009.

14 The Expert has not participated since 2007.