



INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2008-2010
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
March 30 to 31, 2009
Washington, D.C.

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Draft)

Place: Padilha Vidal Room (GSB)

Date: March 30 to 31, 2009

Time: 9:30 - 18:30 hours

Participants:

CIM Executive Committee 2008-2010:

Laura Albornoz Pollmann, President (Chile)
Jeannette Carrillo Madrigal, Vice-President (Costa Rica)
Loretta Butler-Turner, Principal Delegate (The Bahamas)
Martha Lucía Vásquez Zawadzky, Principal Delegate (Colombia)
María del Rocío García Gaytán, Principal Delegate (México)
Wanda K. Jones, Principal Delegate (United States)

Principal Delegates:

Doris García Paredes, Principal Delegate (Honduras)
Sonia Escobedo, Principal Delegate (Guatemala)

Delegations:

Ann Marie Layne, Minister Counsel, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda
Marina Fabiana Loguzzo, Director of the National Council of Women of Argentina
Ana M. Pastorino, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Argentina
Bridget McKay, Second Secretary, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of The Bahamas
Osmar V. Chohfi, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Brazil
Viviane Rios Balbino, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Brazil
Dawn Nicholson-O'Brian, Deputy Coordinator, Status of Women Canada and Alternate Delegate of Canada to the CIM
Swathi Kappagatula, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada
Maricel Sauterel, Chief, Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Women's Affairs Office of Chile

Patricio Reinoso, Chief of Staff of the Minister of Chile
Pedro Oyarce, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Chile
Pamela Alborno, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Chile
Luis Petit-Laurent, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Chile
Sandra Mikan, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Colombia
Karen Leiva, Head of International Relations and International Cooperation of INAMU
Maritza Chan Valverde, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica
Margarita Riva-Geoghegan, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of the United States
Melissa Kopodow, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of the United States
Gianni Paz, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of the United States
Elsa Samayoa de González, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Guatemala
Patricia Wohlers Erchiga, Assistant Director General for International Affairs of INMUJERES of Mexico
Héctor Ortega, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Mexico
Carlos Roberto Vargas Cisneros, Director of Promotion and Image of INMUJERES
Julieta Blandón, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Nicaragua
Resires Vargas, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Panamá
Milton Ruiz, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Panamá
Rafael Donado, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Panamá
Giancarlo Galvez, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Perú
Alejandrina Germán, Secretaria de Estado de la Mujer, República Dominicana
Jacqueline Lora, Director of International Cooperation, Secretariat for Women's Affairs of Dominican Republic
Dayana Ureña, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Dominican Republic
Paul Byam, Counsel, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago
María del Luján Flores, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Uruguay
Graziella Reyes de Prieto, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Uruguay
Tereza Arreaza, Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of Venezuela

Permanent Observers

Marie-France Pognier, Ambassador, Permanent Observer, Permanent Observer Mission of France

Invited Speakers

David Morris, Director of the Summit Secretariat (OAS)
Alfonso Quiñonez, Executive Secretary for Integral Development (OAS)
Francisco Pilotti, Director, Department of Social Development and Employment (OAS)
Hilda Morales, Alternate Coordinator of the CEVI
Santiago Canton, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (OAS)
Jaqueline Mazza, Expert, Inter-American Development Bank (IAB)
Claudia Piras, Expert, Inter-American Development Bank (IAB)

CIM Permanent Secretariat

Mercedes L. Kremenetzky, Executive Secretary, a.i.

Opening session

The opening session was held on March 30, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. The Executive Secretary, a.i., welcomed those in attendance. The Chair of the Permanent Council and Permanent Representative of Brazil to the OAS, Ambassador Osmar V. Chohfi, and the President of the CIM, Ms. Laura Albornoz Pollmann, both took the floor. Their speeches are published in documents CIM/CD/INF. 1/09 and CIM/CD/INF. 2/09, respectively.

Sessions

The President placed before the Executive Committee for its consideration the Draft Agenda (CIM/CD/doc.2/09) and the Draft Calendar (CIM/CD/doc.3/09). The former was adopted with the following changes: placement of the topic “Labor market and financial crisis” under “other business” and elimination of item 3.b, “Inter-American Program for the Promotion and Protection of the Human Rights of Migrants, Including Migrant Workers and Their Families.” The Draft Calendar was adopted with the addition, proposed by the Delegate of Mexico, of the topic of the procedure for designation of the Executive Secretary of the CIM.

1. Report on the activities of the President and the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM

The Executive Secretary, a.i., presented a summary of the activities of the Permanent Secretariat detailed in document CIM/CD/doc.4/09. She spoke on the progress of negotiations on the Draft Declaration of Commitment of the Fifth Summit of the Americas and on the inclusion of the recommendations of the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States (REMIM-III) on incorporating the gender perspective in that Declaration. She noted that the CIM Secretariat had prepared four reports for the thirty-ninth regular session of the OAS General Assembly, to be held in Honduras: the Annual Report of the CIM; the Report of the General Secretariat on the Implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP); the Report on 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); and the Report of the Secretary General on fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2374 (XXXVIII-O/08), “Support for the Inter-American Commission of Women.”

She referred to ongoing projects; to the third phase of the gender analysis training program for OAS staff, which would be carried out between 2009 and 2011 with funds from the Canadian Government; and to the preparations for the Special Forum on Migration Issues, organized by the Special Committee on Migration Issues and set for April 1, 2009, at the OAS.

Participants were told of the death of former President of Guyana Janet Jagan, and in consequence adopted **Agreement No.1**, in which they requested the President to send a note of condolences to the Government of that country. A report on upcoming work with the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs, concerning information-sharing on violence for purposes of the Gender Equality Observatory, led to the adoption of **Agreement No. 2**, on strengthening dialogue and information-sharing on matters of shared interest and cooperation with the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC. (*All the agreements are presented at the end of this document*).

The President reported on her activities since the regular Assembly of Delegates, in November 2008. She said they reflected efforts to politically reposition the CIM in response to mandates issued by that Assembly on strengthening the Commission. She referred to the meeting held on December 5, 2008, in Santiago, Chile, with the Vice President of the CIM, the Executive Secretary of the CIM, and the Principal Specialist, to consider how to implement the mandates received. She reported on her official visit to OAS headquarters, from January 26 to 29, 2009. She pointed to the results of the informal meeting of the Executive Committee and to the meetings she had held with high OAS officials. A detailed account of these meetings is published in document CIM/CD/doc.4/09.

2. Designation of the Executive Secretary of the CIM

The President of the CIM reported that, on March 10, 2009, she had received a note from the OAS Secretary General indicating that the Executive Secretary of the CIM, Ms. Carmen Lomellin, had been assigned to another OAS body, and that the Principal Specialist, Ms. Mercedes Kremenetzky, would be in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM until the appointment of a new Executive Secretary. The Secretariat prepared document CIM/CD/doc.5/09, "Designation of the Executive Secretary of the CIM," containing the appropriate information.

The President offered the floor to the delegates, who decided to deliberate in closed session with only the delegations participating.

3. Implementation of mandates received from the Thirty-fourth Assembly of Delegates:

a) Summits of the Americas: Follow-up to the Summit process

The Director of the Summits Secretariat, David Morris, gave a progress report on the negotiation of the Draft Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain, including the incorporation of the recommendations of REMIM-III (November 2008, Chile), which were conveyed to the member states through their national coordinators assigned to the Summits Implementation Review Group (SIRG).

He referred to the outcome of the virtual forum (CIM/CD/doc.7/09) on gender, carried out jointly by the CIM and the Summits Secretariat, from February 18 to 27, 2009, in the context of preparations for the Fifth Summit of the Americas. This presentation and the ideas discussed by the delegates led to the adoption of **Agreement 3, on actions to ensure integration of the gender perspective into the decisions of the Fifth Summit.**

b) Draft Biennial Work Plan of the CIM for 2008-2010

The Secretariat presented document CIM/CD/doc.6/09, "Guidelines for the Biennial Work Plan for 2008-2010." The President invited the delegates to comment. The Vice President said that, despite progress in women's political participation, there remained very marked gaps in the economic arena. The Delegate of Canada stressed the importance of private-sector support and the need to seek sponsors. The Delegate of Chile suggested making a results-based plan and identifying the necessary resources on that basis. The Delegate of Mexico expressed the importance of pursuing legislative harmonization in the region through comparative analysis. In that regard, **Agreements 4 through 7** were adopted.

c. OAS General Assembly

The President referred to the OAS General Assembly session, the theme of which was nonviolence, and where the Declaration of San Pedro Sula: Toward a Culture of Nonviolence would be presented. She asked that delegates present recommendations for consideration by the member states in the context of their deliberations on that Draft Declaration. **Agreement 9** was adopted in that regard.

4. Elimination of violence against women

The President referred to the Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI) as the principal international instrument addressing violence against women. She then recognized Ms. Hilda Morales, Alternate Coordinator of the CEVI, for a discussion of views on the indicators adopted by the CEVI.

a) Strengthening of the MESECVI. Participation of Hilda Morales, Alternate Coordinator of CEVI

Ms. Morales referred to the First Multilateral Evaluation Round, the questionnaire prepared, and the need to assess every aspect of the questionnaire. She reported that not all states parties had replied to the questionnaire and that the Committee of Experts (CEVI), at its next meeting, would prepare a new questionnaire to begin the second round, taking into account the findings of the evaluation of the first one. She referred to the questionnaire's follow-up indicators and suggested appealing to each country to send a representative to the meetings of experts. She also said it was necessary to join efforts to publicize the Mechanism, including among civil society.

The delegates recognized the work of the Committee of Experts. The Delegate of Mexico referred to her country's economic contributions to funding the Mechanism. She gave the President a document with comments on the indicators, requesting that it be circulated among the delegates for their comments; those comments would apprise the Committee of Experts of their views as to the relevance of the indicators and the possibility of responding to them. The Vice President stressed the importance of making the results of the hemispheric report known to each of the subregional bodies. On this point, the Delegate of Chile reported that her country had prepared a summary of the hemispheric report as an input for subregional workshops. **Agreement 10** and **Agreement 11** were adopted.

b) Report of the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI on the Biennial Work Program, September 2008-December 2010

The Executive Secretary, a.i., reported on the request to the Secretary General for staff to support the MESECVI; and on the contribution by Trinidad and Tobago to the regional seminar for the Caribbean on the Mechanism, which, it was hoped, would enlist the various actors involved, and even others, in publicizing the Mechanism and the hemispheric report. **Agreement 12** was adopted. **Agreement 13**, which thanks the Government of Chile for organizing the hemispheric report of the MESECVI and requests the Technical Secretariat to evaluate it prior to its dissemination, also was adopted.

On the matter of resources for the Mechanism, the Delegate of Panama spoke briefly on the present situation of the OAS budget, indicating that all funds for 2009 were already committed and that the situation for 2010 was similar. He suggested that the Executive Committee, in the conversation it was to have with the Secretary General, approach the topic of resources in a realistic light, exploring possibilities for 2010. He suggested that the CIM, through its delegates, speak with the representatives on the CAAP on the priority of budgeting for the gender issue. The Delegate of the United States, which country serves as Vice Chair of the CAAP, referred to legal constraints on the OAS budget, and to the fact that the CIM, through the Permanent Secretariat, had been receiving more resources from the General Secretariat than other inter-American commissions. She suggested that the topic of violence had to do with more than the Convention, and that orienting these seminars toward the discussion of experiences might elicit greater interest from donors.

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

The Executive Secretary, a.i., reported that a large number of organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS General Secretariat had sent the Permanent Secretariat their reports in follow-up to the PIA, which had served as the basis for the annual report of the Secretary General on the implementation of that Program for the period from March 2008 to February 2009. This report was presented to the General Committee and submitted to the OAS General Assembly at its thirty-ninth regular session.

On this topic, the Committee adopted **Agreement 16**, which requests that the various areas of the OAS, in 2010, in their reports, include progress over the past decade on the gender issue, as well as resources used to that end.

6. Presentation and dialogue with OAS staff

a) Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)

Presentations were given by the Executive Secretary of the SEDI/OAS, Alfonso Quiñónez, and by the Director of the Department of Social Development and Employment (DDSE), Francisco Pilotti. The Executive Secretary began by stressing the importance of potential synergies between the CIM and the SEDI. He referred to his Secretariat's support to political processes in the strategic areas of the CIDI's Strategic Plan for Partnership for Integral Development 2006-2009, including policy dialogue at the highest level, as well as its support to member states in the design, implementation, execution, and evaluation of cooperation activities. He stressed that gender equity and equality was a cross-cutting element of the Strategic Plan, and that collaboration with the CIM could be very effective in supporting integration of the gender perspective in two basic facets of the Plan: training and institution building. He also pointed to the Special Fund, FEMCIDI, which benefits projects in priority areas of the Plan.

Dr. Pilotti reported on the DDSE's progress in the area of gender and decent work. He summarized the evolution of these efforts and the importance equity and equality had taken on in the Hemisphere's labor arena. He referred to a study on institutionalization of the gender perspective at labor ministries, now being prepared by the DDSE, in cooperation with the CIM and the ILO, in follow-up to the Strategic Guidelines for Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming and the Promotion of Equality among Women and Men at Labor Ministries, adopted at the XV IACML, in 2007. He also noted that those strategic guidelines had been taken from the document "Embedding Gender into the

Labour Process” presented at the XV IACML, in pursuance of mandates issued by the XIV IACML, in 2005, and coordinated by the DDSE in collaboration with the CIM and the ILO.

As for the study on institutionalization, he said it was intended to provide an overview of progress in this area over the past decade, including training needs at the labor ministries. He called upon those national women’s agencies that had not yet replied to the questionnaire to do so in the context of this study. He said that in July, in connection with the gender workshop, the initial study findings would be presented, and that these would be addressed in their entirety at the XVI IACML, to be held in Buenos Aires in September 2009.

Ambassador Quiñónez said that the progress made on gender issues in the labor arena reflected the commitment of the ministers of labor and that other areas where impact could be achieved should be identified, especially in a time of scarce resources. As for resolution AG/RES. 2322 (XXXVII-O/07), declaring 2010 the Inter-American Year of Women, he said that, as a Secretariat, the SEDI would take action in pursuance of that commitment, to which end it would conduct consultations both internally and with the CIM.

Once the presentations had concluded, the floor was offered to the delegates, who asked questions and made observations. The Executive Committee adopted **Agreement 8**.

b) Secretariat for External Relations

The President recognized the Director of the Department of International Affairs of the Secretariat for External Relations, Ms. Irene Klinger, who emphasized the relevance of the gender issue to all OAS bodies, as well as gender mainstreaming. She referred to the meeting with donors in January 2009, at which the CIM, through its President, had conveyed its concerns. On the mobilization of resources, she said they were distributed according to the priority of topics; she referred in general to the OAS gender projects, which were financed with outside resources, including CIM projects. She said she awaited gender-area proposals with funding requests.

The delegates emphasized that, regardless of any funding proposals that might be submitted, funding for the MESECVI should be found. On this item, the Committee adopted **Agreement 14**, which requests the Secretariat for External Relations to report on areas of interest to donor countries, and **Agreement 15**, concerning the new institutional image of the CIM presented by the Department of Communications and Institutional Image.

c) Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

The President offered the floor to the Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) of the OAS, Dr. Santiago Cantón, who reported that around 4% of the Commission’s budget was from OAS funds, so that a large proportion of its operating resources were external. He said over 50% of its staff depended on outside funding. As for cases related to women’s issues, he said at least 100 cases were now being processed and several of them could serve to influence important changes in national law. He referred to a number of projects and efforts now under way.

The delegates noted their interest in using the subregional bodies to learn of progress in those projects and efforts, in particular, to publicize progress made in the 100 cases mentioned, and to strengthen legal instruments on the advancement of women's rights. The Executive Secretary said the IACHR web page provided information on the work of the Commission. In relation to the cases, he said that interested third parties could present their opinions to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. He said the CIM could participate in this process and suggested it contact attorneys' associations. In concluding, he said that civil society contributions had been the major driver of the IACHR's operations.

d) Secretary General and Assistant Secretary General of the OAS

The President began the session by welcoming the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General. She mentioned a policy document provided by Dr. Dante Caputo and referred to the CIM's efforts to carry forward its Biennial Plan. She also reported on work carried out in preparation for the Fifth Summit of the Americas and for the OAS General Assembly session, aimed at mainstreaming gender considerations in the documents that would result from those meetings and at repositioning the CIM politically. She reiterated her request, issued at the January meeting, on the CIM's being a direct dependency of the Office of the Secretary General, and on the need for increased resources, particularly to support MESECVI operations. She pointed as well to the increasing priority placed on gender issues in other key organizations, such as the ILO in the context of its upcoming International Labour Conference.

The delegates raised the issue of resources. The Delegate of Mexico reaffirmed the importance of the MESECVI and of its operational dependence on the OAS Regular Fund rather than on external resources; to this end, she asked the Secretary General to make the Mechanism a priority topic. The Delegate of Canada appealed for the inclusion of the CIM among priority funding areas, considering global concerns related to the financial crisis and that women make up over 50% of the workforce, and taking into account that celebration of the Inter-American Year of Women would require specific activities. She reiterated that the matter of the economic crisis was very relevant to the CIM and, therefore, efforts to promote women's economic independence had taken on added importance.

The Secretary General began by stressing the importance now placed on gender issues at the OAS, citing the resolution adopted each year by the General Assembly on achieving gender equality at the Organization. He also said that, since 2008, the Permanent Council had been instructed to take budgetary measures to facilitate this commitment.

On funding in support of the MESECVI, he expressed the importance of supplementing it with external funds, instead of funds from the OAS Regular Fund, given the present budgetary situation of the Organization, where member states did not agree on increasing the budget and there were requests for budget cuts for 2010. In that light, he appealed to the CIM to focus on seeking fresh funding sources and, for his part, pledged to seek resources. He also said the Organization's financial situation was not directly associated with the present economic crisis.

The Secretary General added that the OAS now supported the CIM with Regular Fund resources and funded staffing for its Permanent Secretariat. He called upon the CIM to submit proposals which the General Secretariat could present to donors. He stressed that, in addition to the

topics of violence, the CIM should also address women's participation in policy management, in business, and, most of all, in economic management.

The President stressed that the CIM was working in other areas in addition to violence. The delegates pointed to efforts to promote a cross-cutting gender perspective. The Delegate of Colombia asked whether it was possible to implement a gender mainstreaming policy in the OAS budgets. The Secretary General replied that this sort of decision was up to the General Assembly and the Permanent Council.

The Secretary General took the opportunity to mention the CIDA/OAS gender perspective mainstreaming project, which included a training component, noting that the funds were already available. The Assistant Secretary General took the floor to reaffirm that work on gender issues was proceeding very positively at the OAS. As for funding, he stressed that each member state was responsible in that regard and that the topic could receive considerably more attention at the OAS if each country would intensify its promotion. He also noted that, in addition to the gender issue, the OAS also dealt with other cross-cutting topics, such as youth. He concluded by saying it was important to call greater attention to the impact of the CIM and the broad margin that remained for advancing its efforts.

The President took the floor to stress that the CIM sought to move forward both in the policy area and in the power arena, in follow-up to the mandates issued at the most recent Assembly of Delegates, in 2008. The Delegate of Canada reaffirmed the marked impact of the financial crisis on women and the efforts under way at other organizations to reallocate funds to topics related to women, such as in the context of the Group of 20. The Vice President (Costa Rica) stressed the important role the CIM and the OAS had played in defending women's rights and that the present economic crisis represented an opportunity to revitalize that role. She said the celebration of the Inter-American Year of Women in 2010 could be an opportunity for the OAS to issue specific guidelines for countering the crisis. The Delegate of Honduras said the gender issue should not be addressed in a piecemeal fashion, since it was a topic that involved everyone. She stressed that the point was to politicize the gender issue in the Hemisphere; this was a long-term task that would require continual support at the highest level within the OAS.

The President thanked the Secretary General and the Assistant Secretary General for their participation and any support they could continue to lend the CIM.

The President summarized the agreements reached at the meeting. She referred as well to the spending plan that was to have been taken up on the first day of the meeting and invited the delegates to comment. The Delegate of Colombia said a more weighty strategy needed to be proposed within the OAS to better clarify the role of the CIM and its importance and thereby elicit greater support. The delegates agreed that an ongoing awareness campaign must be conducted by the Permanent Secretariat.

7. Other business – Labor market and financial crisis

The President invited the experts from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Ms. Jaqueline Mazza and Ms. Claudia Piras, to speak on the global financial crisis and labor markets in Latin America and the Caribbean. Their interesting presentation dealt with preliminary ideas and conclusions on the economic crisis and its impact on Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the

link between this problem and gender issues. The presentation was based on a study concluded a number of months before the economic crisis escalated; hence not all the data reflected the magnitude of its impact on the region.

The delegates discussed possible measures in response to the crisis, concerns about how to secure priority international cooperation for women's projects, and how to ensure corporate social responsibility in a time of crisis. They stressed the pressing need to strengthen women's productive capacity and their economic autonomy.

As for the compilation of best practices, the Delegate of the United States said the OAS Department of Social Development and Employment had a web page and forums devoted to this topic. She also pointed to IICA's youth-oriented rural crisis programs, which could benefit young women.

The speakers emphasized the importance of giving priority attention to women's enterprise within any structure. They said the IDB was interested in exchanges associated with policies and results, as well as good practices. They said it was important that the region have an observatory on good practices in the medium or long term.

The President spoke about exploring, with the IDB, a possible joint contribution on gender and employment to the international meeting the ILO, which would devote a major time slot to this issue.

The President formally closed the first regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the CIM, thanking the delegates for their contributions and cooperation.

The following agreements were adopted:

AGREEMENTS

- Agreement 1.** To request the President to forward a note expressing condolences to the people and Government of Guyana for the loss of their former President Janet Jagan.
- Agreement 2.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to strengthen dialogue, information exchange on matters of common interest, and cooperation with the Gender Unit of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- Agreement 3.** To request the President to:
- a. Request the Chair of the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), Ambassador Luis Alberto Rodríguez, to move the gender-related paragraphs of the Draft Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain as indicated: Article 56 should be moved to Article 4 of the preamble, and Article 56bis to the chapter “Promoting Human Prosperity.”
 - b. Forward to the delegates a copy of the above-mentioned communication so that they can inform their national coordinators to the SIRG, and urge that they support this CIM proposal as part of their pending negotiations in order to ensure that these paragraphs are relocated within the Draft Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain.
 - c. Urge the governments to include, as part of their delegation to the Fifth Summit of the Americas, the ministers and/or national authorities responsible for gender policy in their respective countries.
 - d. Send a note to the Delegate of Trinidad and Tobago to the CIM expressing its Executive Committee’s interest in, during the activities of the Fifth Summit of the Americas, promoting participation by women leaders.
 - e. Request the Chair of the Style Committee to review the Draft Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain to ensure, in carrying out its work, the inclusion of gender-specific language.
- Agreement 4.** To accept the offer of the delegate of Canada to identify sources of external financing, including private companies, especially to sponsor the celebration in 2010 of the Inter-American Year of Women.
- Agreement 5.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to prepare, for review by the Executive Committee, a draft biennial operational work program, taking account of strategic actions to be carried out, so that impact is achieved in the biennium (objectives fulfilled).
- Agreement 6.** To request the President to forward to the Principal Delegates a note urging them to include in their national campaigns activities to celebrate the Inter-American Year of Women in 2010.

- Agreement 7.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i., in order to avoid duplication of effort, to gather information on best practices compiled and work areas and programs being developed at subregional meetings of Ministers in the areas of the biennial work plan of the CIM.
- Agreement 8.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to forward a note to the delegates requesting that within one week they complete the questionnaire previously forwarded as part of a study of the institutionalization of the gender perspective in ministries of labor.
- Agreement 9.** To request the President to forward to:
- a. the Working Group to Negotiate the Draft Declaration of San Pedro Sula the proposals agreed by the Executive Committee, especially with regard to the Convention of Belém do Pará and its follow-up mechanism.
 - b. the Delegates to the CIM a note requesting them to urge their relevant authorities to advocate for the inclusion of the above-mentioned recommendations in the negotiations of the draft Declaration.
- Agreement 10.** To request the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI to forward a note to the Competent National Authorities (CNAs) requesting that within one week they forward to it their replies to the indicators of implementation of the recommendations made by the CEVI to their governments.
- Agreement 11.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to forward to all delegates the comments on the indicators of implementation of the recommendations of the CEVI presented by the Delegate of Mexico, so that they may forward their comments to the Secretariat for forwarding to the CEVI Coordinator as input for the work process being carried out by the MESECVI.
- Agreement 12.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to prepare a proposal and seminar schedule for dissemination of the Hemispheric Report of the MESECVI, in coordination with the Chairs *pro tempore* of the subregions.
- Agreement 13.** To thank the Government of Chile for undertaking the organization of the Hemispheric Report of the MESECVI and to request the Technical Secretariat to evaluate it prior to its dissemination.
- Agreement 14.** To request the Secretariat for External Relations to report on the areas of interest to the donor countries so that the Vice President, in accordance with her offer, may prepare project profiles for presentation to them.
- Agreement 15.** To request the Executive Secretary a.i. to request the Department of Communications and Institutional Image and the Department of Press to provide the results of the proposal to create a new institutional logo for the CIM, submitted by its President at the informal meeting held in January 2009.

Agreement 16. To request the different areas of the OAS to report, in 2010, as part of the process of preparing the annual report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, on progress made in the past decade in the gender area, as well as the resources utilized to that end.

Agreement 17. To request the President to forward to former Executive Secretary Carmen Lomellin a letter of recognition for her work in the Permanent Secretariat of the CIM.

Agreement 18. To thank the Government of Chile for its offer to prepare the logo for the Inter-American Year of Women.

Agreement 19. To approve the budgetary execution as of February 27, 2009.