



Organization of
American States



INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

OEA/Ser.L
CIM/doc.123/14
February 5th 2014
Original: Spanish

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN (CIM)
TO THE FORTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

Contents

Introduction.....	i
Executive Summary.....	iii
I. Origin, legal bases, structure and objectives.....	1
II. Activities of the officers of the CIM.....	1
III. Fulfillment of the mandates issued by the OAS General Assembly at its 43 rd Regular Session.....	3
IV. Fulfillment of the agreements adopted at the regular sessions of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015.....	4
V. Activities of the CIM Secretariat: Implementation of the CIM Triennial Program of Work 2013-2015	
a. Women's Substantive Political Citizenship for Democracy and Governance.....	8
b. Women's Human Rights and Gender Violence.....	11
c. Citizen security from a gender perspective.....	15
d. Institutionalization of the Human Rights and Gender Equality Approach in the Work the OAS.....	16
VI. Celebration of the 85 th Anniversary of the CIM.....	18
Annex: Execution of the CIM Regular Budget through 31 December 2013.....	20

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the provisions contained in Articles 91.f and 126 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) hereby presents its Annual Report to the General Committee of the Permanent Council for subsequent submission to the General Assembly at its forty-third regular session with the observations and recommendations the Council may deem appropriate.

This report provides a summary of activities carried out by the CIM between March 2012 and February 2013. To better coordinate its work with its existing mandates, in particular that of the *Inter-American Program on the Promotion of the Human Rights of Women and Gender Equity and Equality* (IAP), the CIM formulated its Strategic Plan 2011-2016. This Plan, adopted by the CIM Executive Committee for 2011-2012 at its first regular meeting (April 7 and 8, 2011), seeks to strengthen the CIM's core role as the Hemisphere's political forum for women's human rights and gender equality, as well as its coordination with the other the organs and agencies of the OAS, international organizations, civil society, and other key sectors.

The CIM Strategic Plan 2011-2016, adopted by the CIM Executive Committee 2011-2012 during its First Regular Session (April 7th and 8th 2011), seeks to strengthen the pivotal role of the CIM as a hemispheric policy forum for women's rights and gender equality, as well as its coordination with other OAS entities and agencies, international organizations, civil society and other key sectors.

During the period covered by this report, the CIM worked to promote women's full political citizenship as a prerequisite for democratic governance and eliminating gender violence--both essential to the exercise of human rights and public security. It continued to support the incorporation of the gender perspective as a precondition for sustainable and inclusive human development, and strengthened the image of the OAS as an organization responsive to the demands of the women in the Hemisphere.

From July to September 2013, the CIM published two studies on the substantive exercise of women's political rights in the democratic systems of the Americas. "Banking on parity: Democratizing the political system in Latin America (Ecuador, Bolivia and Costa Rica)," prepared in collaboration with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) documents and analyzes, from a critical and systematic perspective, the processes that led to the adoption of parity in several countries of the region. "Women's citizenship in the democracies of the Americas," prepared in collaboration with International IDEA and UN Women, presents a critical reflection on democracy from the perspectives, visions, concerns and proposals of women in Latin America, the Caribbean and Canada.

With the support of the Government of Canada, the CIM organized an international meeting on "Women's human rights: Good practices in gender justice," from September 25th to 27th in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in collaboration and with the support of the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina. The aim of the meetings was to analyze the current situation of gender justice, identifying both persistent obstacles and good practices that exist in the countries of the region. The meeting identified 17 good practices in gender justice and the response to violence against women, including experiences from diverse sectors (police, prosecutors, supreme courts, the executive branch, civil society and the international community), as well as specific areas of hemispheric cooperation to foster and promote gender justice as a powerful tool to fight discrimination and violence.

As a follow-up to the agreements adopted by the First Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015 (February 28th to March 1st 2013) and in the framework of the 43rd regular session of the General Assembly of the OAS and with the aim of raising awareness among OAS Delegates and other stakeholders, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and the Inter-American Drug

Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) organized a round-table discussion on women and drugs in the Americas. The event brought together representatives from government, academia, civil society and the international community in order to share existing knowledge on how women participate in the drug problem and identify areas where research, public policy and specific programs are needed.

The CIM will continue to work to fulfill the mandates it has received and strengthen its ability to meet the demands of women and to make respect for human rights and gender equality a reality throughout the hemisphere.

María Isabel Chamorro
President, 2013-2015
Inter-American Commission of Women

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the activities carried out by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) in compliance with its mandates between March 2013 and February 2014 stemming from the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of the Human Rights of Women and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), the CIM's Strategic Plan 2011-2016, specific OAS General Assembly resolutions, decisions by the CIM Executive Committee for 2011-2012 at its third regular meeting (April 17 and 18, 2012, Washington, D.C.), and the declaration and resolutions adopted by the Thirty-sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM (October 29 and 30, 2012, San José, Costa Rica).

In compliance with the different mandates entrusted by the OAS General Assembly to the General Secretariat in terms of strengthening the CIM,^{1/} during this period the Secretary General lent important political support to the CIM through his participation, and that of the Assistant Secretary General, in various events organized by the Commission. The CIM also received support in seeking resources for existing or new projects.

Fulfillment of the mandate to strengthen the CIM involves improving internal coordination with all the areas of the Organization and ongoing participation in their activities to ensure inclusion of the rights and gender equality perspective. It also includes implementation of a Gender Program for the OAS General Secretariat, as well as technical support to the different Secretariats and member countries of the Organization.^{2/}

The CIM made progress in coordinating and collaborating with the principal areas of the OAS, improving understanding of the negative impact of gender inequalities in each of the thematic areas, to ensure that government policies and action strategies will help eliminate inequalities between women and men in the countries of the Americas.

In this period, the CIM received three mandates from the General Assembly and 11 specific mandates from its Executive Committee. Of these, the three General Assembly mandates are permanent, that is, their execution is ongoing. Of the Executive Committee decisions, nine have been fulfilled totally and two are in progress.

A series of activities were conducted under those mandates. They are presented in the report in accordance with the areas identified as “pillars” of the Organization of American States: (i) democracy and governance, (ii) human rights, (iii) multidimensional security, and (iv) integral development.

1. AG/RES. 1451 (XXVII-O/97), AG/RES. 1592 (XXVIII-O/98), AG/RES. 1625 (XXIX-O/99), AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2021 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2161 (XXXVI-O/06), AG/RES. 2323 (XXXVII-O/07), AG/RES. 2441 (XXXIX-O/09), AG/RES. 2560 (XL-O/10), AG/RES. 2685 (XLI-O/11), AG/RES. 2710 (XLII-O/12) and AG/RES. 2770 (XLIII-O/13)

2. For more information on progress at the OAS General Secretariat in mainstreaming the rights and gender equality perspective, see the “Report by the Secretary General on the Implementation of the “Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality” Pursuant to Resolution AG/RES. 2770 (XLIII-O/13),” document CIM/doc.124/14.

I. ORIGIN, LEGAL BASES, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECTIVES

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

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

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

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

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

As the principal hemispheric forum for women’s rights and gender equality, the CIM links the commitments undertaken at the international level on women’s human rights with effective public policies at the national level, in order to support the full political, economic, and social citizenship of women. The CIM addresses the rights and demands of women in five key areas: (i) democracy and governance; (ii) human rights; (iii) multidimensional security; (iv) integral development; and (v) mainstreaming the rights and gender equality perspective at the OAS and in its member states. In these areas, the CIM provides technical support at the legal, political, and programming levels, manages specific regional projects, and uses participatory knowledge management to ensure that political and programming discussions and decisions are evidence-based.

The CIM pursues its objectives through the following organs: the Assembly of Delegates; the Executive Committee, composed of the president, three vice presidents, and five representatives of member countries, all elected by the Assembly; and the Permanent Secretariat, which performs the Commission’s administrative, technical, and executive functions. The Assembly of Delegates is the supreme authority of the CIM, and its resolutions, together with those of the OAS General Assembly, establish the guidelines for the CIM’s work.

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

II. ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICERS OF THE CIM

In compliance with resolution CIM/RES. 257 (XXXV-O/10), adopted by the Thirty-Fifth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM (November 3rd to 5th 2010, Mexico City), from October 29th to 30th 2012, the Thirty-Sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM was held in San José, Costa Rica.

During this Assembly, the CIM Executive Committee was elected for the 2013-2015 period:

President:	Costa Rica (María Isabel Chamorro)
Vice-Presidents:	Haiti (Marie Yanick Mézile) Panama (Markelda Montenegro de Herrera) Uruguay (Beatriz Ramírez Abella)
Miembros:	Barbados, Estados Unidos, Guatemala, México y Perú

During this period, the President of the CIM, Maureen Clarke Clarke (Costa Rica), resigned from the office President (July 31st 2013). In accordance with article 19 of the Statute of the CIM, the member of the Executive Committee (Barbados, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, the United States and Uruguay), elected by acclamation the Vice-President of the CIM, Markelda Montenegro de Herrera (Panama) to serve as Interim President, an office that she occupied from August 1st to September 26th 2013. On September 27th, the Presidency of the CIM was assumed by the new Principal Delegate of Costa Rica, María Isabel Chamorro. The Vice-Presidencies of the CIM were occupied by Haiti, Panama and Uruguay.

The President of the CIM

The President of the CIM, Maureen Clarke Clarke, participated in the following events:

- The First Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015 (February 28th to March 1st 2013, Washington, D.C., USA);
- The policy round-table “Women’s rights: From law to practice” that launched the 85th anniversary of the Inter-American Commission of Women, during which the panelists shared information, good practices and other reflections on opportunities and challenges to the implementation of the national and international legal framework on women’s rights, and identified concrete public policies to advance the real exercise of these rights by women in the hemisphere.
- The 57th Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW, March 4th to 15th 2013, New York). During her participation in this meeting, which focused on the priority theme “Prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women,” the President emphasized the importance of regional tools to fight violence against women, such as the Belém do Pará Convention. As a result, for the first time, mention was made in the CSW Agreed Conclusions of these regional legal instruments and the results of their monitoring mechanisms.
- The side-event to the 43rd regular session of the OAS General Assembly (June 3rd, La Antigua) on “Women and drugs in the Americas: A working assessment,” during which panelists exchanged knowledge on how women participate in the world of drugs and identified specific areas in which more research, public policy and programs with a human rights and gender equality approach are needed.
- The 43rd regular session of the OAS General Assembly (June 3rd to 5th 2013, La Antigua), during which she presented the CIM annual reports.
- The launch of the CIM/IDEA International study “Banking on parity: Democratizing the political system in Latin America (Ecuador, Bolivia and Costa Rica)” (June 19th 2013, San José)

The President of the CIM, María Isabel Chamorro, participated in the following events:

- The 12th Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (October 15th to 18th 2013, Santo Domingo), whose priority theme was “Gender equality, women’s empowerment and information and communication technologies.” The conference concluded with the adoption of the Consensus of Santo Domingo, a series of ambitious agreements to advance women’s rights and gender equality in the areas of: i) information and communications technologies; ii) women’s economic empowerment; iii) sexual and reproductive health of women; iv) elimination of violence against women; v) women’s empowerment for political participation and decision-making; and vi) mechanisms for the empowerment of women.
- The Fifth Conference of States Party to the Belém do Pará Convention (November 18th and 19th 2013, Washington, D.C.), during which States debated the issue of strengthening the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention (MESECVI) and adopted a series of agreements to that effect, as well as on the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention in 2014.³
- The Second Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015 (November 20th 2013, Washington, D.C.)

During the period under review, the CIM Presidents issued the following commemorative messages:

- Day of Women of the Americas (February 18th 2013), the President of the CIM Maureen Clarke Clarke issued a message launching the celebration of the 85th anniversary of the CIM and emphasized the progress of the CIM in terms of consolidating the promotion of an international legal framework on women’s rights and gender equality. She also emphasized the persistent challenges to women’s full citizenship and set out her priorities as President of the CIM over the coming years: i) violence against women as a matter of citizen security; ii) policies and systems of care as a necessary condition of economic autonomy; and iii) women’s political participation.

III. FULFILLMENT OF THE MANDATES ISSUED BY THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS 43RD REGULAR SESSION

Mandate	State of implementation	Comments
AG/RES. 2770 (XLIII-O/13) “Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality and Strengthening of the Inter-American Commission of Women”	Permanent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CIM continues with the implementation of the IAP.⁴ - Continued implementation of the CIM Strategic Plan 2011-2016 - Begun implementation of the Triennial Program of Work 2013-2015 - Initiated agreements and activities in collaboration with international

3. For more information on the work of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) and the results of the Fifth Conference of States Party, see the Report on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, ‘Convention of Belém do Pará’ in fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.125/14)

4. For more information on progress in gender mainstreaming at the level of the OAS General Secretariat, see: Report by the Secretary General on the Implementation of the “Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality” in Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.124/14)

Mandate	State of implementation	Comments
		organizations, civil society groups, and academic and research institutions - Strengthened the profile of the CIM in the region through communications and dissemination initiatives
AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) “Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará”	Permanent	- The CIM serves in a permanent capacity as Secretariat of the MESECVI. ⁵ - Continued with the Second Round of Follow-up on the Recommendations, including the adoption and dissemination of a <i>System of progress indicators for measuring the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention</i> - Organization of the 5th Conference of States Party (November 18th and 19th 2013, Washington, D.C.) - Organization of the 10 th Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI (September 11 th and 12 th 2013, Washington, D.C.)
AG/RES. 2802 (XLIII-O/13) “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of People Vulnerable to, Living With, or Affected by HIV/AIDS in the Americas”	Permanent	- The OAS signed a collaboration agreement with UNAIDS (January 2014), which contemplates strengthened collaboration with the CIM (among other entities of the GS) - The CIM Secretariat is collaborating with UNAIDS in the preparation of materials to promote the human rights of women living with HIV - The CIM signed a collaboration agreement with the More Peace, Less AIDS Foundation

IV. FULFILLMENT OF THE AGREEMENTS ADOPTED AT THE REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE CIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2013-2015

La Primera Sesión Ordinaria del Comité Directivo de la CIM 2011-2012 (abril de 2011) adoptó el *Plan Estratégico de la CIM 2011-2016*,⁶ que tiene como estrategias principales:

- i) la articulación y armonización de las acciones de la CIM con las de la OEA; y
- ii) la institucionalización del enfoque de derechos y de igualdad de género en los principales foros, programas y en la planeación institucional de la organización. El Plan está estructurado con base en cuatro áreas programáticas, para armonizar y articular las acciones de la CIM con los cuatro pilares temáticos de la OEA, sus programas, foros y estrategias:

5. For more information on the work of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI), see the Report on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará” in fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.125/14)

6. Disponible en: <http://www.oas.org/es/cim/plan.asp>

- Ciudadanía política sustantiva de las mujeres para la democracia y la gobernabilidad
- Seguridad y ciudadanía económica de las mujeres
- Derechos humanos de las mujeres y violencia de género, y
- Seguridad ciudadana desde un enfoque de género.

First regular session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015

(February 28th to March 1st 2013, Washington, D.C.)

	Agreement	State of implementation
1	<p>In the context of the Report on the Activities of the President and Executive Secretariat of the CIM, contained in document CIM/CD/doc.4/13, as well as the importance of the humans rights and gender equality perspective in the work of the OAS, to request the Secretary General of the OAS to elevate this issue for the consideration of the Permanent Council of the OAS with the aim of instrumentalizing a gender perspective throughout the work of the Organization</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming is an ongoing aspect of the work of the CIM. More information is available in the Report by the Secretary General on the Implementation of the “Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality” in Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.12414)</p>
2	<p>In light of the draft “Work Plan of the CIM Presidency 2013-2015,” contained in document CIM/CD/doc.7/13 and in preparation for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Belém do Pará Convention) and the 10th anniversary of the creation of its Follow-up Mechanism (MESECVI) during 2014, to request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Executive Secretariat of the CIM and the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI prepare a hemispheric and sub-regional overview of 20 years of the Belém do Pará Convention, focused on the significance and influence of the Convention on legislation and public policy for prevention and care, as well as the issue of trafficking, to be presented and considered during the Second Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015, to be held during the last trimester of 2013. 2. That the Executive Committee, the CIM Delegates and the Executive Secretariat of the CIM, throughout 2014, organize National and Sub-regional Forums and Meetings on the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention, using the document prepared by the Executive Secretariat as a basis, within available human and financial resources; 3. That the Executive Committee and the Executive Secretariat of the CIM prepare a proposal for a Hemispheric Forum “Overview of the Belém do Pará Convention: 20 years of prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women,” including a draft agenda and a plan for mobilizing the resources necessary for the organization of the Forum; and 4. That the Permanent Council of the OAS incorporate the 	<p>In progress</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The draft overview document is being prepared and will be circulated to the CIM Delegates in a timely manner for comments and observations 2. The Secretariat has received expressions of interest from several States to host hemispheric and sub-regional forums throughout 2014. The CIM Delegates will be informed in a timely manner as these offers are solidified. 3. The Secretariat has reached an agreement with the Government of Brazil for the celebration of a Belém do Pará Hemispheric Forum from November 19th to 21st 2014, in Brasilia 4. The celebration of the 20th

	Agreement	State of implementation
	celebration of the 20 th anniversary of the Belem do Para Convention and the 10 th anniversary of the MESECVI in the work and final conclusions of the 43 rd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly.	anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention was included in Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) of the 43 rd General Assembly of the OAS
3	<p>On the basis of the draft Strategy for strengthening relations between the CIM and civil society, contained in document CIM/CD.doc.6/13, to request that the Executive Secretariat of the CIM:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporate the comments made by the Delegates during this session and circulate a revised draft strategy for comments by the Delegates; 2. On the basis of the comments received, prepare a revised draft of the Strategy, to be considered during the Second Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A list of the organizations registered with the OAS that work on gender, women's rights and human rights; and b. An analysis of their participation in the ongoing activities of the OAS. 	<p>Fulfilled</p> <p>The revised version of the strategy (CIM/doc.6/13 rev.1) was circulated to Delegates on 07/11/13.</p> <p>It incorporated the comments received from Delegates to-date.</p>
4	<p>In light of the preliminary findings of the study on women and drugs in the Americas: to request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Executive Secretariat of the CIM requests information and, in the event that it is available, statistical data, from the Delegates on the specific situation in their countries; 2. That the Executive Secretariat of the CIM completes the study using the information provided by the Delegates and circulates it widely throughout the region in order to increase the visibility of the gender dimensions of this issue in the Americas; and 1. That the President of the CIM participates in the forty-third session of the OAS General Assembly, to be held in La Antigua, Guatemala, from June 3rd to 6th 2013, in order to ensure that the work and final conclusions of the Assembly take into account these gender dimensions. 	<p>Fulfilled</p> <p>A questionnaire on the gender dimensions of the issue of drugs was circulated to OAS Member States on 14/05/13.</p> <p>The responses received were incorporated into the draft report, which was then revised by an Expert Group prior to its publication.</p> <p>The President of the CIM, Maureen Clarke Clake, participated in the OAS General Assembly and in a side-event organized by the CIM "Women and drugs in the Americas: A working assessment"</p>
5	<p>In follow-up to resolution CIM/RES. 260 (XXXVI-O/12), adopted by the Thirty-Sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM, to request that the Executive Secretariat of the CIM finalize the proposal "Capacity-development for the integration on a rights and gender equality approach in integrated disaster risk management in the Americas," contained in document CIM/CD/doc.33/12 and circulated it to the Executive Committee with a resource mobilization plan, in order that the Committee might support these efforts.</p>	<p>Fulfilled</p> <p>The proposal was finalized and approved by the OAS' Project Evaluation Committee.</p> <p>It is currently without funding and the Secretariat is attempting to identify potential donors.</p>
6	In preparation for the Twelfth Regional Conference on Women in	Fulfilled

Agreement		State of implementation
	<p>Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Santo Domingo from October 14th to 18th 2013, to request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Executive Secretariat of the CIM continues to disseminate to the Delegates information on the gender dimensions of and the participation of women and girls in information and communication technologies in the Americas; and 1. That the President of the CIM participates in this conference, on behalf of the CIM, in order to consolidate collaboration between the CIM and ECLAC. 	<p>The CIM President participated in the Conference and the Secretariat participated in the XXI Meeting of Specialized agencies and other organization of the UN on the promotion of women (October 14th)</p>
7	<p>In follow-up to resolution CIM/RES. 264 (XXXVI-O/12, adopted by the Thirty-Sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIM and to the Report on the Activities of the President and Executive Secretariat of the CIM, contained in document CIM/CD/doc.4/13, to request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the CIM Executive Committee support the celebration of the 85th anniversary of the CIM; and 2. That the Executive Secretariat of the CIM organize, in the context of the Second Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015, an event to highlight the progress of the CIM in promoting and protecting women's rights and identify the main challenges to their full citizenship, for which the Executive Committee offers its support in the identification of possible panelists and the mobilization of resources; and 1. That the Executive Committee and the Executive Secretariat of the CIM strengthen the collaboration between the CIM and the CITEI in order to ensure that a gender perspective is incorporated into the work of the OAS on ICTs. 	<p>Partially fulfilled</p> <p>The CIM Secretariat pursued the celebration of the 85th anniversary of the CIM (see section VI for more details).</p> <p>A lack of financial resources meant that it was not possible to organize an event to highlight the progress of the CIM over its 85 years.</p>

Second regular session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015
(November 20th 2013, Washington, D.C.)

Agreement		State of implementation
1	<p>In view of the current debates on the Strategic Vision of the OAS, the Executive Committee agrees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To transmit, through the President, a communication to the Chair of the Working Group on the Strategic Vision of the OAS in order to highlight the importance of the work of the CIM, as well as the need to assign regular human and financial resources; 2. Request that the Secretariat keep the Delegates informed of the results of the work of this Group 3. Request that this issue be included in the agenda of the next session of the Executive Committee of the CIM 2013-2015. 	<p>In progress</p>
2	<p>In view of the advances of the CIM in the area of women's political citizenship in the Americas, the Executive Committee agrees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To disseminate and promote the CIM studies on women's 	<p>In progress</p> <p>The CIM Secretariat has widely circulated the Studies</p>

Agreement		State of implementation
	<p>political citizenship at the national level, including, as appropriate, through launch events; and</p> <p>2. Transmit to the Secretariat of the CIM concrete proposals for events to support the political participation, representation and leadership of women so that it may establish a calendar.</p>	<p>in print and electronic formats.</p> <p>Several launch events are planned for 2014, as well as other follow-up activities in these areas of work.</p> <p>In addition to the studies themselves, the Secretariat is preparing other information materials in order to transmit the results of these studies to a wider audience.</p>
3	<p>In view of the draft Strategy for strengthening coordination between the CIM and civil society, contained in document CIM/CD/doc.6./13 rev.1, the Executive Committee agrees:</p> <p>1. To request that the Secretariat of the CIM incorporate the comments suggested by the Delegates and circulate a revised draft of the document for consideration during the next session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <p>The revised version of the strategy (CIM/doc.6/13 rev.1) was circulated to Delegates on 07/11/13</p> <p>It incorporated the comments received from the Delegates to-date.</p> <p>The document will be re-considered during the Third Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee (to be scheduled)</p>

V. ACTIVITIES OF THE CIM SECRETARIAT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRIENNIAL PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE CIM 2013-2015

a. Women's substantive political citizenship for democracy and governability

Capacity-Building for Leadership and Impact on Public Policies for Gender Equality

Over the past five years, the Organization of American States and the United Nations Development Programme have been promoting consensus-building on the main challenges the countries encounter in seeking to strengthen democracy and governance in Latin America and the Caribbean, through national dialogues and consultations. This process is intended to help build a shared perspective on democracy to which the region's citizens aspire, as well as fresh thinking on the democratic system and new forms of political participation.

In this process, the visions, rights, and aspirations of women and the gender perspective need to be addressed in greater depth. The present framework should be broadened to encompass women's exercise of their human rights and fulfillment of the binding commitments assumed by the countries in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará).

In this context, the CIM has been implementing a project entitled “Development of Capacities for Leadership and Incidence in Public Policies for Gender Equality,” financed by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, UN Women, and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA). Because of the change in cooperation priorities at the AECID, this project, originally planned to last three years, ended in July 2012, at the conclusion of the second year.

In spite of this situation, the CIM Secretariat has been able to maintain a level of support to some of the activities initiated by this project, with the following concrete results:

- The publication, in July 2013 of the study “Banking on parity: Democratizing the political system in Latin America (Ecuador, Bolivia and Costa Rica)”⁷ in collaboration with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA). This study documents and analyzes, from a critical and systematic perspective, the processes that led to the adoption of parity, identifying the relevant factors and stakeholders that influenced these processes and evaluating their implementation.
- The publication, in September 2013, of the study Women’s citizenship in the democracies of the Americas,⁸ in collaboration with International IDEA and UN Women. This study is the result of the Regional Working Group: Women's Full Citizenship for Democracy, begun in September 2011, and was presented during the Second Hemispheric Forum, “Women's Full Citizenship for Democracy,” was held from July 18 to 21, 2012, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The study presents a critical reflection on democracy from diverse perspectives, visions, concerns and proposals. This work contributes to the analysis of democratic systems beyond the dimension of representation and institutions, addressing other spheres of life that are not included in the classical notion of citizenship – including gender, inter-culturalism, pluri-ethnicity, sexual and reproductive citizenship and global citizenship, among others.

These two studies were formally launched at an international seminar organized by the CIM Secretariat on September 19th 2013 in Washington, D.C. in order to deepen the debate on parity and other measures designed to guarantee women’s electoral rights and political representation. The seminar was organized in two panels, the first, which looked at the experiences of various countries with parity measures, included Beatriz Llanos of IDEA Internacional; Marlene Choque of the Representación Presidencial Agenda Patriótica 2025 of Bolivia; and Roxana Silva, National Counsellor of the National Electoral Council of Ecuador. The second panel, which looked at regional perspectives on the political representation of women, included María del Carmen Alanís, Magistrate of the Federal Electoral Tribunal of Mexico; María José Lubertino, a Legislator for the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Lisa M. Shoman, Opposition Senator from Belize; Gly Líder política del Frente Nacional Unida de Grenada; and Susan Markham, Director of Women’s Political Participation at the National Democratic Institute (NDI).

With the support of the Government of the United States of American, the chapter on Women’s Citizenship in the Democracies of the English-speaking Caribbean⁹ was published and circulated in English as a separate document. The CIM is organizing a series of activities in order to promote the participation, representation and leadership of Caribbean women in the democratic processes and

7. CIM. *La apuesta por la paridad: democratizando el sistema político en América Latina (los casos de Ecuador, Bolivia y Costa Rica)*. Washington, D.C.: Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, 2013. Available in Spanish at: <http://www.oas.org/es/cim/democracia.asp>

8. CIM. *Women’s citizenship in the democracies of the Americas*. Washington, D.C.: Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, 2013. Full publication available in Spanish at: <http://www.oas.org/es/cim/democracia.asp>. The reports on Canada and the English-speaking Caribbean are available in English at: <http://www.oas.org/en/cim/democracy.asp>

9. CIM. *Women’s citizenship in the democracies of the Americas: the English-speaking Caribbean*. Washington, D.C.: Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres, Organización de los Estados Americanos, 2013. <http://www.oas.org/en/CIM/democracy.asp>

institutions of their countries.

The objective of these studies, and of the follow-up work that will be carried out by the CIM Secretariat, is to strengthen analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of current democratic systems in terms of their role as guarantors of the full exercise of women's rights. This hemispheric dialogue has allowed for the participation of a broad and diverse group of women from the region, including ministers, members of parliament, ambassadors, local government officials, human rights organizations, women's organizations and networks, activists, academics, and intergovernmental organizations.

The event was also part of the CIM's activities in pursuit of the commitments assumed by the OAS member states in the Declaration of the Inter-American Year of Women, "Women and Power: For a World of Equality," (CIM/DEC. 10 (XXXV-O/10), and the mandates received in terms of strengthening the CIM as the hemispheric policy forum for promoting women's full rights and citizenship in the Americas.

Second consultation with parliamentarians of the Americas

Concurrently with the Second Hemispheric Forum, the first consultation of female members of parliament of the Americas was held on June 18, 2012, in Santo Domingo, in collaboration with the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) and the Committee on Gender Equity of the Chamber of Deputies of the Dominican Republic. The consultation brought together the chairs of the gender equity committees of the legislative and parliamentary bodies of the American nations with the aim of identifying the main problems, priorities, and strategies for promoting equality between men and women on the legislative agenda, in fulfillment of the binding international treaties on the matter ratified by the States.

As a follow-up to this meeting, the Second consultation with parliamentarians of the Americas on October 14th in Brasilia, again in collaboration with the Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas and in the framework of the annual meetings of the COPA.

The objective of this second Consultation was to advance the legislative agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean within the framework of the international commitments acquired by these countries, in particular CEDAW and the Belém do Pará Convention. The discussions prioritized three issues that are of particular concern to the women of the hemisphere: gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive rights, and economic rights.

The meeting began with the formalization of the collaboration between CIM and the Network of Women Parliamentarians through an agreement that focuses on joint activities through 2014. It continued with a technical panel on the legislative recommendations issued by the CEDAW Committee and the MESECVI Committee of Experts. A second panel presented some of the existing initiatives to strengthen legislative agendas for women's rights, including experiences from the Secretariat for Policies on Women and the Federal Legislature of Brazil, the Council of Europe and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

During the afternoon session, discussion groups were held on the three priority themes of the consultation, with the following concrete results:

- The debate on gender-based violence highlighted the importance of incorporating law enforcement dispositions into legislation, and sufficient funding to effectively combat violence. A gap in legislation on violence against women was identified in the political field. The panelists agreed on the need for the executive and the judiciary to join the efforts made by legislative officials to implement approved norms.

- The discussion on sexual and reproductive rights focused on the need to develop protocols to implement existing regulations in countries that allow the practice of therapeutic abortion. Other issues were discussed, such as access to contraception, obstetric violence, sexual education, access for women to reproductive health, teenage pregnancies, and LGBTI rights. The influence of factual powers to impair progress in this area was also noted several times during the discussion. It was concluded that the consequences arising from not ensuring women's access to sexual and reproductive health through laws discriminates to a greater extent against the poorest women in the region.
- During the discussion on economic rights, the panelists pointed out several issues such as the urgent need to close the wage gap, provide jobs, promote entrepreneurship, advance legislation to ensure maternity leave and care services.

The Network of Women Parliamentarians and the CIM agreed to hold a Third Consultation of Men and Women Parliamentarians of the Americas, focused this time on innovative and good practices in legislative action on women's rights.

Democratization of the political system in Guatemala

The affirmative actions – such as gender quotas – and other measures such as parity, adopted by the majority of Latin American countries over the last two decades, have acted as catalysts for the inclusion of women in representational institutions.¹⁰ To-date, 17 countries have implemented quota systems for their electoral candidacies. Four of these countries have also adopted parity measures; Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Nicaragua. The results of the implementation of these measures have thus far been favourable from the perspective of compliance with rights. With approximately 40% women in national parliaments, these four countries are among the top 15 in the world in terms of women's political representation.

In this context and in the framework of the collaboration between CIM, the OAS' Department for Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO), UN Women, UNDP, NDI and International IDEA to eliminate discrimination against women in political-electoral participation, an international event was organized on October 30th in Guatemala City, with the aim of addressing the opportunities presented by the reform of the Political Party Law in Guatemala to guarantee women's political rights and the adoption of gender parity. The round-table brought together noted women from the political sphere – including Silvia Hernández, former federal congresswoman and senador from Mexico; Minou Tavarez Mirabal, Member of the Congress of the Dominican Republic; Francisca Morejón of the Network of Women Politicians of Ecuador; Catalina Soberanis, former President of the Congress of Guatemala; Magda Cholotío of the Moloj Association of Mayan Political Women; and María Eugenia Villagrán de León, President of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Guatemala – for a debate on the importance of specific measures – including quotas and parity – to guarantee the electoral rights and political representation of women.

b. Women's Human Rights and Gender Violence¹¹

Evaluating National Initiatives to Produce Comparative Data on Violence against Women for the OECS States

10. Quota laws and/or parity have been adopted in: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Panama, Peru and Uruguay.

11. For more information on the work of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI), see the Report on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará' in fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.125/14)

With the support of the Governments of Chile, Trinidad and Tobago; and Suriname, this year-long project will produce an up-to-date evaluation of the national strategies of the 6 countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS - Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, and St. Vincent & the Grenadines), as well as as a comparative study.

The research phase of the project will review the initiatives of government agencies and civil society over the last 10 years (2002-2012) and the status of implementation of national policies and plans on violence against women. This sub-regional assessment will enable OECS policy-makers to better identify and address gaps in their response to violence against women at both the national and sub-regional levels, in accordance with their acquired commitments under the Belém do Pará Convention.

This project will provide a baseline study for the OECS as a strategic resource to address violence against women, and the results used to highlight the need for more and better data, which would form the basis for a second phase of the project that, if funded, would include national surveys in all 6 OECS countries.

To-date, the project has completed an information-gathering exercise in each of the OECS countries, as well as on-site visits to all six project countries in order to complement the desk review and virtual information-gathering with first-hand information from stakeholder interviews. Focus group sessions for domestic violence service users were also held in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; and Antigua and Barbuda. As a result of these on-site visits, national reports are being prepared and reviewed by relevant stakeholders in each of the participating countries. Three of these reports have been completed: Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. In August 2014, a validation activity will be held in Saint Lucia.

Incorporation of policies and programs on HIV and violence against women from a human rights perspective in Central America and the Caribbean

In pursuance of the Declaration of San Salvador, adopted by the CIM in November 2007, the CIM implemented this project from September 2008 through January 2012, with funding from AECID. Although the project has formally ended, in response to requests from the project partners, particularly the community of women living with HIV, the CIM has continued working in this area, with the following concrete results:

- Adoption by the OAS General Assembly of resolution AG/RES. 2802 (XLIII-O/13) “Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of People Vulnerable to, Living With, or Affected by HIV/AIDS in the Americas,” which seeks to foster action in various areas:
 - Analysis, by the CIM and the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights (IACHR) of the legal and regulatory framework governing HIV/AIDS in the region, in the context of the international and inter-American commitments acquired by the member states – in order to identify obstacles faced by people living with or affected by HIV to the full exercise of their rights;
 - The work of the OAS, in collaboration with its strategic Partners, including groups of women living with HIV, to support States in the formulation and application of laws and public policies that protect the human right of people living with HIV;
 - Access of people living with HIV, in particular pregnant and lactating women, to anti-retrovirals; and
 - The participation of people living with HIV, including young women, in the decision-making and dialogues spaces of the OAS.
- The signing of a collaboration agreement between the CIM and the More Peace Less AIDS Foundation, which seeks to join and complement their efforts to promote and defend the rights of people vulnerable to, living with, or affected by HIV/AIDS in the Americas;

- The development, in coordination with the LAC offices of UNAIDS, of a Toolkit to strengthen the exercise of the human rights of young women living with HIV in the region, which will be published in early 2014; and
- The development of a collaboration agreement between the OAS and UNAIDS in order to strengthen the guarantee and protection of the human rights of people vulnerable to, living with, or affected by HIV/AIDS in the Americas.

Women's rights: From law to practice

On March 1st 2013, in the framework of the First Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015, a round-table discussion was organized on the gap between women's rights in the law and in practice, with a view to highlighting the fact that the international and national legal framework on women's rights is not yet a reality for the majority of women of the hemisphere. The round-table included Marie Yanick Mézile, CIM Vice-president and Minister for the Status of Women and Women's Rights of Haiti; Tracy Robinson, Commissioner and Rapporteur for Women's Rights of the IACHR; Teresa Incháustegui of the Institute for Juridical Research, National University of Mexico (UNAM); and Katherine Romero, a Senior Lawyer at Women's Link.

Subsequently, the CIM received a request from the Supreme Court of Justice of Costa Rica to replicate this round-table in the framework of the International Congress on Gender and the Administration of Justice (San José, August 20th to 22nd 2013), Tracy Robinson was not available on those dates, so the round-table was replicated with the participation of Luz Patricia Mejía, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI and Alda Facio of ILANUD. The round-table was moderated by Zarela Villanueva, Magistrate and President of the Supreme Court of Costa Rica.

Gender justice for women's rights

In continuation of this line of work and with the support of the Government of Canada, the CIM organized an international meeting on "Women's human rights: Good practices in gender justice," from September 25th to 27th in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in collaboration and with the support of the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina. The aim of the meetings was to analyze the current situation of gender justice, identifying both persistent obstacles and good practices that exist in the countries of the region. On the basis of this analysis, the seminar concluded with the identification of specific areas of hemispheric cooperation that will foster and maximize the potential of gender justice as a powerful tool in the struggle against gender-based violence and discrimination.

The meeting identified 17 good practices in gender justice and the response to violence against women, including experiences from such diverse sectors as the police, the attorney general's office, supreme courts, the executive branch, civil society and the international community. These practices will be systematized in publication and virtual compendium and will serve as the basis for the future work of the CIM in the area of gender justice.

During the meeting, the CIM signed a collaboration agreement with Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina, which seeks to join and complement their efforts to promote and implement gender justice. On the basis of this agreement, the CIM has also developed agreements with the Supreme Courts of Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and Venezuela.

Throughout 2014, these and other practices will for the basis of a virtual platform on gender justice, with the aim of facilitating the access of justice officials to concrete tools to help them in their obligation to protect women's rights and apply due diligence. In addition to systematizing the work carried out to-date, the platform will also serve as a permanent space for technical support and the

exchange of information and experiences, including good practices, from Supreme Courts and other justice bodies in the region, and between these and the inter-American and international human rights protection systems.

The participants in the meeting identified a series of gaps in the capacity of the justice sector to effectively respond to women's rights, most notably an absence of sensitivity to these rights and awareness of the existing domestic, inter-American and international instruments that protect them, as well as a lack of capacity to effectively and consistently apply the existing legal framework free from discrimination, prejudice and stereotypes.

Specifically, the recommendations that came out of the meeting, included (among others):

- Integrating a gender perspective in the investigation and consideration of crimes at the highest levels of justice in the region;
- Request that training in the gender dimensions of investigation and judgment be part of the core curriculum of judicial training;
- Coordinate the work of access to justice for women victims of violence with prosecutors and public defenders, medico-forensic specialists, police and other actors that accompany victims of violence;
- Conduct sensitization and awareness-raising activities with justice sector personnel and include them in these processes;
- Compile precedent and jurisprudence in gender justice of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and publicize this information in each country of the region, in addition to conducting national-level training on these standards;
- Highlight the different manifestations of violence against women; and
- Identify dissemination strategies for approved protocols in this area, as well as the Belém do Pará Convention, among the Supreme Courts and judicial schools of the region, through training workshops.

In this context, the CIM, in collaboration with the Supreme Courts of Argentina and Mexico and with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Latin American Social Sciences Council (CLACSO) will collaborate on the development of a virtual training course on women's human rights, oriented towards justice sector personnel (judges, prosecutors, police, public defenders, medico-forensic specialists, etc.).

Indicators of the exercise of women's human rights

As a follow-up to the *System of progress indicators for measuring the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention*¹² and with the support of the Government of Canada, the CIM has made progress in the implementation of the project "Bringing women's rights and gender equality instruments to public policy formulation in the Americas." The objectives of this project are to: i) strengthen the capacity of participating OAS Member States to identify and analyze women's rights and gender equality concerns and integrate them in public policies; and ii) evaluate and support the role of the national machineries for the advancement of women in their capacity as the main bodies responsible for monitoring and evaluation of public policies on gender equality and women's rights.

In this context, during 2013 assessments were conducted in Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Ecuador and Trinidad and Tobago in order to identify: i) to what extent national plans and reports on women's rights and gender equality take into consideration the commitments

12. For more information on the work of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI), see the Report on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, 'Convention of Belém do Pará' in fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.125/14) and <http://www.oas.org/en/meseuvi/docs/CEVI10-Indicators-EN.doc>

acquired at the inter-American and international levels; and ii) existing sex-disaggregated data that could support monitoring of the exercise of women's rights. On the basis of these assessments, a Regional Expert Group on Indicators of the Exercise of Women Rights was established in order to develop a proposal of indicators that could be used by States to more effectively monitor the exercise of women's rights.

The Expert Group held its first meeting in November 2013 and a second meeting in February 2014 and is currently finalizing the proposal of indicators. During 2014, this system of indicators will serve as the basis for a series of capacity-building workshops with national machineries for the advancement of women, statistics institutes and other relevant actors in the countries participating in the project.

c. Citizen security from a gender perspective

Women's participation in the world of illicit drugs

Claims by the media, paired with the scarce data available suggest that in recent years, the participation of women in the international drug problem has increased significantly. Nevertheless, while this participation is visible in the news, it has been largely absent from the research and other activities of most governmental and inter-governmental bodies in the Americas.

As a follow-up to the agreements adopted by the First Regular Session of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015 (February 28th to March 1st 2013) and in the framework of the 43rd regular session of the General Assembly of the OAS and with the aim of raising awareness among OAS Delegates and other stakeholders, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) organized a round-table discussion on women and drugs in the Americas. The event brought together representatives from government, academia, civil society and the international community in order to share existing knowledge on how women participate in the drug problem and identify areas where research, public policy and specific programs are needed.¹³

The round-table discussion brought together a panel of authorities and experts, including: Roxana Baldetti, Constitutional Vice-President of the Republic of Guatemala; José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the OAS; Maureen Clarke Clarke, President of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); Elizabeth Quiroa Cuellar, Principle Delegate of Guatemala to the CIM; Corina Giacomello, Autonomous University of Chiapas (UNACH), Mexico; Eka Iakobishvili, Harm Reduction International; Marie Nougier, International Drug Policy Consortium; Diana Esther Guzmán, Center for the Study of Law, Justice, and Society (DeJusticia); and Carlos Zamudio, Collective for an Integral Drug Policy in Mexico (Cupihd), in order to highlight the effects of drug policy and legislation on women as producers, suppliers and consumers of drugs. During the round-table discussion, panelists stressed importance of incorporating differentiating criteria in the analysis of the situation of women and men within the issue of drugs.

As a follow-up to this round-table and with the aim of beginning to fill the information gap on women's participation in the world of drugs, the CIM has prepared a working assessment, on the basis of existing data from various case studies, as well as information provided by OAS Member States. This assessment has been sent to the group of expert panelists from the round-table for technical validation and the comments of the experts have been incorporated. The document is currently being translated and printed and will be launched during a policy round-table on March 31st 2014 in Washington, D.C., organized by the CIM in collaboration with the International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) and the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), and with the support of the Governments of Mexico and

13. The final report of this round-table is available at : <http://www.oas.org/en/cim/womenanddrugs.asp>

Uruguay.

d. Institutionalization of the Human Rights and Gender Equality Approach in the Work the OAS¹⁴

To conclude the project “Incorporation of Gender Analysis and Gender Equity and Equality as Crosscutting Topics and Objectives in OAS Programs,” executed as part of the OAS/CIDA 2008-2011 Program, an online course “Gender Equality and Rights-based approach to Policies, Programs and Projects,” was held from January 10th to March 29th 2013. This first edition of the course targeted OAS staff, and built on previous on-site gender training offered by the OAS to its staff, and in response to the Organization's need to make more systematic and meaningful progress in mainstreaming the gender and rights perspective into its work and into the inter-American system.

The online course, which also includes a community of practice, has brought together professionals from the five Secretariats of the OAS. During the first edition of the course (January 10th to March 13th 2013), 23 professionals (staff and consultants) from the GS/OAS graduated, including the Coordinator and managers of the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators. During the second edition of the course (October 9th to December 10th 2013), 88 people graduated, including 14 professionals from various secretariats of the GS/OAS and the Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP/OAS) and 74 professionals from diverse sectors and countries of the region. The participation of OAS staff was funded by the CIM, and professionals from other institutions also received some financial support. During 2014, the third (February 26th to April 29th) and fourth (May 7th to July 9th) editions of the course will be complemented by full scholarships offered to participants from the region, in collaboration with the OAS' Scholarships Program (Department of Human Development, Education and Employment)

During the period covered by this report, the CIM continued its theoretical and technical advisory services to the other secretariats and departments of the OAS, including other bodies of the inter-American system, to support the mainstreaming of a human rights and gender equality perspective in the work of the Organization. Its activities included:

- With the **Secretariat of Administration and Finance (SAF)**, ongoing cooperation with the Department of Planning and Evaluation (DPE) through active CIM participation in the OAS Project Evaluation Committee and its working group to ensure that the human rights and gender equality perspective is mainstreamed into the Organization's projects and their evaluation, as well as into the classification of, and accountability for, OAS mandates. There is a growing tendency in the various areas to integrate the gender perspective into project formulation and to design projects specifically to empower women and increase their participation in various sectors
- With the **Secretariat for Legal Affairs (SLA)**, the CIM participated in a workshop on “Protection Mechanisms for the Rights of Indigenous People,” on October 9th 2013 in Washington, D.C., with a presentation on existing mechanisms to protection the Rights of indigenous women, including the recommendations of the MESECVI Committee of Experts and the matrix of progress indicators to measure the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention, which includes a series of indicators on the exercise of indigenous women's rights. Similarly, the Inter-American Program of Judicial Facilitators (PIFJ) registered a number of national managers and coordinators in the CIM online course.

14. For more information on progress in gender mainstreaming at the level of the OAS General Secretariat, see: Report by the Secretary General on the Implementation of the “Inter-American Program for the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality” in Fulfillment of Resolution AG/RES.2803/13 (XLIII-O/13) (CIM/doc.12414)

- With the **Executive Secretariat for Integral Development** (SEDI), the CIM continues its cooperation with, and technical assistance to, several departments:
 - (i) In the area of labour, with the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (formerly the Department of Social Development and Employment/DSDE), permanent coordination is maintained pursuant to the “Strategic guidelines of the XV IACML for advancing gender equality and non-discrimination within a decent work framework ” (2007),¹⁵ the conclusions of the First Inter-Ministerial Meeting between Ministers of Labour and National Machineries for the Advancement of Women (2011), and the results of the CIM project “Advancing Gender Equality in the Context of Decent Work” (2009-2011).¹⁶ In this sense, the CIM Secretariat has participated in several meetings of the Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labour (IACML), including the preparatory meeting of the XVIII IACML, held in the Bahamas from April 16th to 19th 2013. During this preparatory meeting the CIM provided technical assistance and facilitated a workshop “Towards just conditions of work: Promoting the labour inclusion with equity” (April 16th). The collaboration between CIM and the IACML is evident in the consolidation of the gender and women’s rights perspective in the technical and policy agenda of the Conference.
 - (ii) Also with the former DSDE and with the International Labour Organization, the first three gender audits were carried out the Ministries of Labour of Barbados, El Salvador and Peru, through a team of OAS and ILO experts and with the support of the Government of Canada.
 - (iii) Also with the former DSDE, the CIM participated in a technical visit on labour migration information systems from a gender perspective in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and Panama from June 22nd to 26th 2013. The technical visit included meetings and interviews with government officials from the National Machinery for the Advancement of Women, the Office of Migration, the National Statistics Institute, the Ministry of Labour, and representatives from UNFPA, the ILO, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM);
 - (iv) With the Department of Economic and Social Development, the CIM has implemented a project on participatory assessments in the Ministries of Social Development, in the context of the Inter-American Network on Social Protection and with the support of the Government of the United States. To-date, progress has been made in the preparation of the methodology for the assessments and the identification of the participating countries. The project will begin with training for the personnel of the selected Ministries and the corresponding National Machinery.
 - (v) Together with the Department of Sustainable Development (DSD), the CIM has prepared the project “Capacity-development for integrated risk management from a gender perspective in the Americas,” whose implementation depends on additional funds. Similarly, at the request of DSD and in the framework of the project “Sustainable communities in Central America and the Caribbean,” implemented with funding from the Government of the United States, the CIM evaluated circa 60 project proposals that were submitted for consideration for funding.
 - (vi) With the Inter-American Commission of Ports (IACP), the CIM collaborated in the organization of, and participated in, the hemispheric seminar “Public policies and visibility of women in the port sector of the Americas,” held from March 14th to 15th 2013 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, with the aim of promoting the design of public policies and private initiatives for women’s participation in the ports sector and designing the Observatory of Women in Ports. Similarly, as a product of this seminar, which was co-organized with the Ministry of Women of the DR, the IACP now has a series of guidelines for advancing the gender perspective in its agenda of work. This has been an opportunity for the CIM to begin

15. Available at: http://www.oas.org/en/sedi/ddse/pages/cpo_trab_15minist.asp

16. The results of this project are available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/cim/labour.asp>

- collaboration with a sector that processes more than 85% of international trade in goods and in which only 3% of the workforce is female.
- With the Inter-American Telecommunications Commission (CITEL), the CIM has continued participating and advising through the meetings of its Consultative Committee on Gender in the Americas (CCPI), including during the XXII Meeting of the CCPI (Buenos Aires, May 22nd 2013). Similarly, for the first time the CITEL participated in a session of the Executive Committee of the CIM and, as a follow-up, the CIM is coordinating a study with the CITEL on women, girls and ICTs, using inputs from the National Machineryes for the Advancement of Women.
 - With the **Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)**:
 - (i) Support to the integration of gender issues in projects and reports of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE), and of the Department of Public Security
 - (ii) With the Department of Public Security, technical support has been provided to a project on strengthen community relationships and coordination in the context of an integrated response to violence against women, which is currently being implemented as a pilot project in the region of Limón, Costa Rica. The support has included a preparatory field visit (May 2013) and an in-person workshop with representatives of the police, the judiciary, the national machinery for women and the community.
 - (iii) Information meetings with the officials responsible for the Inter-American Drugs Observatory and the Inter-American Security Observatory to discuss the incorporation of specific data and indicators on women's rights and gender equality, including the Progress indicators to measure the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI/CEVI/doc.188 /13 rev.1).
 - With the **Secretariat for Political Affairs (SPA)**, the CIM has continued its ongoing collaboration with the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) in implementing its electoral observation methodology with a gender perspective and analyzing the outcome.
 - With the **Secretariat for External Relations (SER)**, with the Department of International Affairs, the CIM works with the OAS Model Assembly program, providing a technical assistance professional upon request; and in organizing specialized meetings and roundtables.
 - With the autonomous specialized organizations, the CIM has continued its cooperation and advisory services at the request of those bodies, including the **Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN)** and the **Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP)**, among others. With PAHO, through participation in the meeting of the technical advisory group on gender equality in health (TAG/GEH). These and other autonomous specialized organizations provide yearly inputs to the CIM in the preparation of the Annual Report of the OAS Secretary General in pursuance of the IAP

VI. CELEBRATION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIM

The Thirty-Sixth Assembly of Delegates of the CIN adopted resolution CIM/RES. 264 (XXXVI-O/12) on the celebration of the 85th anniversary of the CIM, in which the Delegates committed to:

- Launching activities and initiatives to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the CIM, particularly during the celebration of the Day of Women of the Americas (February 18th) and International Women's Day (March 8th).

- Encouraging their governments to contribute specific funds to facilitate the celebration of related activities, including the publication of a document that shows the advances and challenges to women's rights in the hemisphere.
- Urging the Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) to highlight this commemoration among the Organizations' main activities for the year in order to give it visibility and political priority.

In this context, the Secretariat launched this celebration on February 18th with the following activities:

- A message from the CIM President, which is available on the CIM Webpage and was circulated to Delegates on February 15th;
- Publication of a note on the 85th anniversary on the home page of the OAS Website (<http://www.oas.org/en/default.asp>), from February 18th to the present
- A Twitter campaign (<https://twitter.com/CIMOEA> and <https://twitter.com/CIMOAS>), "85 Tweets," with the aim of distributing information and statistics, good practices and other initiatives on topics of interest to the women of the region, and which concluded on August 12th;
- Posting of messages on the CIM's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ComisionInteramericanaDeMujeres>);
- The creation of a Webpage for the 85th anniversary (<http://www.oas.org/en/cim/85>);
- The creation of a virtual monthly newsletter, in July 2013, to support dissemination of the concrete results of the work of the CIM;
- The creation of Blog "Diálogo CIM" (<http://dialogocim.org/>), with the aim of broadening the debate on issues of concern to the women of the hemisphere.

The concrete result of these efforts has been increased visibility for the work of the Commission, as well as for the persistent gap between women's rights on paper and in practice. The CIM's twitter accounts have almost 500 followers, the Facebook page has more than 700 followers, and the virtual newsletter has over 1,000 subscribers. The CIM has worked closely with the OAS' Communication and Press Department in order to ensure greater visibility of the work of the CIM on the OAS main page.

ANNEX I

Execution of the CIM Regular Budget through December 31st 2013 (US\$)

	Funds allocated	Obligations	Expenditures	Available balance
23010 – Executive Secretariat	1,097,248	930	1,096,318	-
23011 - President / Executive Committee	35,175	11,277	23,898	-
23014 – Horizontal cooperation	24,994	2,285	22,709	-
23016 – Gender mainstreaming	30,332	634	29,698	-
23017 – Prevention of violence against women	30,426	6,530	23,896	-
Total:	1,218,175	21,656	1,196,519	-