



FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM
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**SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS
COUNTRY REPORT
THIRD ROUND**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this report is to assess the progress made by the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis in implementing the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará) for the period 2014-2017, and identify obstacles.

2. The CEDAW recommendations 19¹ and 35² on gender-based violence against women, the Response to Indicators in the Third Round Evaluation phase³, the National Report on the Evaluation of CEVI Indicators on Saint Kitts and Nevis in the context of the Second Round⁴, the Guide to the Application of the Convention of Belém do Pará of the MESECVI⁵, as well as the legislation and official information of the government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, as well as official documents of international institutions were used in the preparation of this report.

3. The sections in which this Report is divided are related to the structure predefined by the CEVI: Legislation, National Plans, Access to Justice, Information and Statistics and Diversity. Each section will analyze the formal component, the financial and budgetary context and the state capacities built to follow up the rights emanating from the Convention of Belém do Pará.

II. PROGRESS IN THE RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATION - Articles 1, 2, 3 and 7, item c), e) and g) of the Convention of Belém do Pará

i) Formal element

¹ CEDAW. 1992. General recommendation No. 19: Violence against women. Available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1_Global/INT_CEDAW_GEC_37_31_E.pdf.

² CEDAW. 2017. General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19. Available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1_Global/CEDAW_C_GC_35_826_7_E.pdf

³ MESECVI. 2017. S.d. <http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/Questionnaire3-St.KittsNevisResponse.pdf>

⁴ MESECVI. 2012 Saint Kitts and Nevis. Final Report on St. Kitts and Nevis. Fase de Avaliação. Segunda Rodada. MESECVI-IV/doc.88/12. Available at: <http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/FinalReport2012-St.KittsNevis.doc>

⁵ MESECVI. 2015. Guía práctica para el sistema de indicadores de progreso para la medición de la implementación de la Convención de Belém do Pará. Available at: http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/Guia_Indicadores_BDP_ESP.pdf

4. Although St. Kitts and Nevis had ratified the Convention of Belém do Pará on June 12th, 1995, in its response to the questionnaire on evaluation phase indicators under the second round in 2012, the country stated that Belém do Pará Convention did not have legal or constitutional status, since it would need to be ratified by the Executive Branch in order to be incorporated into national legislation. In the third round, in its response to the indicators, The State informed that the Convention had been ratified but it have not been used yet in terms of criminal prosecution. The country does not provide more detailed data on when was and what are the status of such incorporation. This information was searched, but it was not found. Thus, CEVI urges St. Kitts and Nevis to make every effort to ensure that the Convention of Belém do Pará is incorporated into constitutional status, if it has not been already.

5. In the Constitution of St. Kitts and Nevis, 1983, Chapter II (PROTECTION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS), Section 15 (Protection from discrimination on the grounds of race etc), Subsection (3)⁶, there is no mention of discrimination in relation to gender, sexual orientation, or identity. Nor is there any specific mention in the Constitution about women or gender.

6. Despite this, St. Kitts and Nevis has certain local laws - Domestic Violence Act of 2000, amended in 2005⁷, the Offenses Against the Person Act Chapter 4.21⁸ and the Criminal Law Amendment Act 4.05⁹ - which deal with the subject matter and have the objective of punishing, preventing and eradicating violence against women.

7. It is noted that the Domestic Violence Act limits the prohibition at the domestic level¹⁰ for spouses, children, and parents. There is no explicit reference to women, either in gender or in sex. Violence¹¹ concerns physical, sexual and psychological abuse. As alternatives, it is possible

⁶ Chapter II, Section 15, Subsection (3): In this section the expression "discriminatory" means affording different treatment to different persons attributable wholly or mainly to their respective descriptions by race, place or origin, birth out of wedlock, political opinions or affiliations, color, sex or creed whereby persons of one such description are subjected to disabilities or restrictions to which persons of another such description are not made subject or are accorded privileges or advantages that are not accorded to persons of another such descriptions. Available at: <http://www.nia.gov.kn/index.php/download-legislation/constitution/76-the-constitution-of-st-christopher-and-nevis/file>

⁷ Available at: http://oig.cepal.org/sites/default/files/2005_kna_domesticviolenceact.pdf

⁸ Available at: <http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2011/CIM03051-IV.pdf>

⁹ Available at: <http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2011/CIM03051-II.pdf>

¹⁰ Section 2. **Interpretation:** In this Act, (...) "domestic violence offence" means a prescribed offence committed by a person against (a) a spouse of the person; (b) a child or dependant of the person or of a spouse of the person; or (c) a parent;

¹¹ Section 4. **Meaning of domestic violence:** For the purposes of this Act, conduct that constitute domestic violence include (a) violence that results in or is likely to result in (i) physical harm, (ii) sexual suffering, or (iii) psychological suffering; (b) threats of violence; (c) coercion; (d) arbitrary deprivation

to determine protective orders and prohibition (section 6), including in a preventive way (subsection 6.1), so that the aggressor has several types of prohibition (subsection 6.2). There is also the possibility of "occupation order" (subsection 9.1)¹² in cases where the victim must live in the defendant's home. For the person convicted of domestic violence, it is possible for the Court to impose rehabilitation measures¹³ (section 17) instead of the sentence. In the event of failure to comply with the obligations, the Court may, after opening an investigation, terminate the rehabilitation process, and proceed to comply with the judgment. Finally, the "Domestic Violence Act" also provides for a specific chapter on assisting victims of domestic violence¹⁴ and other procedural issues relating to crime.

8. The "Offenses Against the Person Act" has a specific section on "Rape, Abduction, and Defilement of Women" with the following crimes: rape¹⁵ (section 46), indecent assault¹⁶ (section 47), abduction of a woman against her will from motives of lucre¹⁷ (section 48),

of liberty; (e) molestation; (f) conduct of an offensive or harassing nature; (g) conduct equivalent to psychological abuse, intimidation, or persecution; (h) financial abuse.

¹² Section 9. Grant of occupation order, subsection (1): Upon receipt of the application referred to in subsection (1) of section 9 of this Act, the court may make an occupation order granting a prescribed person the right to live in the household residence of the respondent if it is necessary for the protection or is in the best interest of a prescribed person

¹³ Section 17. Rehabilitation orders: (1) Where a person is convicted of an offence under this Act, the court may, instead of imposing a sentence, make a rehabilitation order program or rehabilitation program. (2) A rehabilitation order shall only be made under the following circumstances: (a) where the person is a first-time offender under this Act and has no previous convictions for such offences; (b) where the convicted person has not previously breached any order made under this Act; or (c) where a suitable program of education and training is available for such persons.

¹⁴ Section 35. Assistance to victims of domestic violence: Whenever a police officer intervenes in a case of domestic violence, the police officer shall, as soon as possible, take all reasonable measures within his power to prevent the victim of domestic violence from being subject to violence again and shall also take the following steps.

¹⁵ Section 46. Rape: Any person who is convicted of the crime of rape, shall be guilty of a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable, at the discretion of the court, to life imprisonment, with or without hard labour.

¹⁶ Section 47. Indecent assault: Any person who is convicted of any indecent assault upon any female shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding ten years, with or without hard labour

¹⁷ Section 48. Abduction of a woman against her will for profit purposes: Where any woman of any age has any interest, whether legal or equitable, present or future, absolute, conditional, or contingent, in any real or personal estate, or is a presumptive heiress or co-heiress, or presumptive next-of-kin, to anyone having such interest, any person who, from motives of profit, takes away or detains any such woman against her will, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, and any person who fraudulently allures, takes away, or detains such woman, being under twenty-one years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour; and any person who is convicted of any offence against this section shall be incapable of taking any estate or interest, legal or equitable, in any real or personal property of such woman, or in which she has any such interest, or which shall come to her as such heiress, co-heiress, or next-of-kin as aforesaid; and if any such marriage as aforesaid shall have taken place, such property shall, upon such conviction,

forcible abduction of any woman with intent to marry her¹⁸ (section 49) and abduction of a girl under 16 years¹⁹ (section 50).

9. In addition, there is also the "Criminal Law Amendment Act", whose purpose "is to provide protection for women and girls from those who would wish to cause them sexual harm, or exploit them for sexual purposes; and to provide for related or incidental matters". Entre as previsões citam-se: i) Defilement of girl under fourteen years; ii) Defilement of girl between fourteen and sixteen years of age; iii) Householder etc., permitting defilement of young girl on his or her premises; iv) Abduction of girl under sixteen with intent to have carnal knowledge; v) Cohabitation with unmarried girl under sixteen year; vi) Undue control over unmarried girl under fourteen years; vii) Unlawful detention with intent to have carnal knowledge; viii) Power, on indictment for rape, to convict of certain misdemeanour; ix) Custody of girls under sixteen and x) Children loitering on streets.

10. Regarding human trafficking, especially women and girls, Specific Recommendation No. 1a²⁰ of the Second Round Evaluation Report required more information "about the legislation provisions on the prevention and punishment of domestic and international trafficking in persons, especially women. Besides that, it was necessary to know if those provisions were consistent with the Palermo Protocol and if trafficking in persons regulated differently from forced prostitution. If such a provision exists, kindly provide information about the dates of adoption and entry into force, and the text itself. If not, it was necessary to know which measures have been taken to include such provisions in national law".

11. As ratified in the Convention of Belém do Pará (Article 2), trafficking in persons is a form of gender-based violence and affects women and girls throughout their life cycle. In the context of the Third Evaluation Round, the country did not provide further information on progress in this matter, providing generic information.

be settled in such manner as a Judge shall appoint, upon any information at the suit of the Attorney-General.

¹⁸ Section 49. Forcible abduction of any woman with intent to marry her: Any person who, by force, takes away or detains against her will any woman of any age with intent to marry or carnally know her, or to cause her to be married, or carnally known by any other person, commits a felony, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding five years.

¹⁹ Section 50. Abduction of a girl under 16 years: Any person who unlawfully takes, or causes to be taken, any unmarried girl, being under sixteen years, out of the possession and against the will of her father or mother, or of any other person having the lawful care or charge of her, commits a misdemeanour, and, on conviction, shall be liable to be imprisoned for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour

²⁰ MESECVI, 2012, op. cit. p. 6

12. The Trafficking in Persons Act of 2008²¹ has provisions dealing with the prevention and punishment of domestic and international trafficking in persons, especially women and children. In PART I (PRELIMINARY) the law characterizes as "exploitation" the "prostitution of a person or engaging in any other form of commercial sexual exploitation, including but not limited to pimping, pandering, procuring, profiting from prostitution, maintaining a brothel and child pornography "(section 2). The definition of "sexual exploitation" also includes prostitution in its legal definition. In PART 2 (CRIMINAL OFFENSES AND RELATED PROVISIONS), the term "exploitation" appears in the definition of the crime of "trafficking in persons" (subsection 3.2)²². Therefore, it is noted that the conduct of prostitution is included in "exploitation" and "sexual exploitation" as well as the crime of "trafficking in persons".

13. Specific Recommendation 1b²³ for St. Kitts concerns the mechanisms available in the country to ensure the effectiveness of measures to protect women, relatives, and witnesses in cases of violence. On this, the "Trafficking in Persons Act" has a specific section on this subject (PART III - ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING). It stipulates that there will be protection and assistance to victims and their identities, as well as to children who are victims of such violence. As for witnesses, the law only refers to the obligation of "special programs shall be developed to accommodate child witnesses".

14. In general, it is noted that the protection of women, even without gender specificity, is foreseen in the Domestic Violence Act. There is a forecast for physical, psychological, economic, property and sexual violence. Other forms of violence, such as rape, indecent assault and (forcible) abduction, have specific predictions for women and girls in the Offenses Against the Person Act.

²¹ Available at: <http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2011/CIM03051-III.pdf>

²² Section 3. Trafficking in persons: (1) A person who engages in, conspires to engage in, attempts to engage in, assists another person to engage in, or organises or directs another person to engage in trafficking in persons commits an offence and is liable on indictment to imprisonment for a period of twenty years or to a fine of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars or to both such fine and imprisonment. (2) The recruitment, transportation, harbouring, or receipt of a child, or giving of payment or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having control of a child, for the purpose of exploitation, constitutes trafficking in persons irrespective of whether any of the means described in the definition of "trafficking in persons" have been established.

²³ MESECVI, 2012, op. cit., p. 6: (1) That in order to provide a further and more comprehensive assessment the following be provided (b) The mechanisms as listed in question 20 that are currently in place in the protection for cases involving violence against women.

15. In the context of the Second Round, the Hemispheric Report²⁴ mentioned the following absences from specific criminal legislation: (a) femicide; b) rape of women during marriage or stable union; c) sexual harassment in work environments; d) violence perpetrated by the country's government or its state agents; e) sexual violence against women during armed conflicts; f) use of sexual violence as torture, war crime or as a crime against humanity. g) sexual violence in hospitals and educational institutions; h) obstetric violence; i) decriminalization of therapeutic abortion and abortion resulting from rape.

16. In the third round, it is noted that the indicators answered by the country do not inform changes in the legislative scenario since the National Report of Evaluation of CEVI Indicators in the Second Round²⁵. Since 2009 no legislative change has been portrayed on these issues.

17. The CEVI urges the country to participate more actively in the response to the indicators and to continue to fight violence against women through legislative implementation, especially through specific legislation.

ii. Basic financial context and budgetary commitments

18. There are laws that authorize the government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to develop budget plans and direct them to the public sector for the implementation of laws, programs or plans related to violence prevention. Such laws can also be used to direct funds to the health, education, and gender-sensitive offices.

19. The body responsible for publishing and reallocating the country's budgets is the Ministry of Finance of Saint Kitts and Nevis. In addition, it is also in charge - jointly with the federal government - to perform and disseminate to the public of the country to report the budget allocation.

iii. State Capability

²⁴ MESECVI. 2012. Second Hemispheric Report on the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention. Segunda Rodada. P. 117, 122, 129. Available at: <http://www.oas.org/en/mesecvi/docs/mesecvi-segundoinformehemisferico-en.pdf>

²⁵ In that report, it was stressed that the above mentioned pieces of legislation deal mainly with types of violence (Domestic Violence Act) and the prosecution of acts that generally violate and offend a person (Offences Against a Person Act and Criminal Law Amendment Act). However, none of the existing legislation attempts to define violence against women or attempts to distinguish violence against women from intra family, family or domestic violence (MESECVI, 2012, op. cit., 4).

20. According to the country's responses, under the third round, there are no official government protocols to address the different types of violence against women. Currently this treatment is made based on the customs and practice of the country. The Ministry of Education of Saint Kitts and Nevis is in charged of receiving complaints about non-compliance with obligations relating to the right of citizens to education without discrimination of any kind. In addition, the body is also responsible for assessing the country's educational content so that gender stereotypes are not present.

21. According to the questionnaire, Saint Kitts and Nevis reports that it has infrastructure, equipment and specialized personnel for the provision of health services located in indigenous and rural communities around the country. The Chamber of Industry and Commerce²⁶, Business & Professional Women²⁷ and support groups for victims of domestic and sexual violence are some civil organizations in Saint Kitts and Nevis. These bodies have as their main scope the preparation and monitoring of the protocols implementation related to the prevention of violence against women.

NATIONAL PLANS - Articles 1, 2, 7 and 8, subsections c) and d) of the Belém do Pará Convention

i. Formal element

22. Specific Recommendation No. 1c²⁸ of the National Report in the Second Round requested more information on specialized services provided by the government. Under the Third Round, St. Kitts and Nevis answered questions 16 and 19. There was no significant change in the overview reported since the last Report.

23. It is worth noting that Saint Kitts and Nevis has a Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Social Services, headed by Hon. Wendy Phipps, Minister of State²⁹, whose objective is to “develop and implement culturally sensitive customer service initiatives by using evidence-based data to guide strategic decision making in order to advocate for human and child

²⁶ Available at: <http://sknchamber.com/>

²⁷ Available at: <http://www.bpwskn.com/>

²⁸ MESECVI, 2012, op. cit., p. 6.

²⁹ More information: <https://www.gov.kn/>

rights and integrate gender mainstreaming and family wellness to enhance the development of an inclusive society”. In the structure of this Ministry there is the Gender Affairs Department. Present in the structure of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis since 1986, it states that “although the Department of Gender Affairs has been a small Department since its inception, it has an extremely large mandate of ensuring that women and men and boys and girls share equally in every aspect of national development”. The critical areas of concern for the Department are: i) The Development of a National Gender Policy; ii) Women’s Political Participation; iii) Engaging with Men; iv) Public Awareness of Gender-Based Violence (GBV); v) Empowerment of Women; v) The Girl Child.

24. On the official website of the Ministry and the Department you can check specific actions and initiatives. Although a specific plan on goals and actions to be fulfilled is not available for consultation, there is a positive movement in campaigns and events. In the "Publications" section of the Gender Affairs Department, there is only one "International Men's Day Brochure" for consultation. The CEVI then urges the country to increase the level of publicity and dissemination of the plans and goals, as well as to specify in more detail the actions and initiatives produced in the fight against gender violence and women's rights.

25. About education, the country reports that The Education Act of 1975 stipulates that its citizens have the right to be educated in an environment free from violence and discrimination. In addition, the Minister of Education is responsible for developing an educational curriculum that promotes gender equality, the breakdown of gender stereotypes and the prevention of violence for the citizens of the country. The problem is the new Education Act was approved in 2005, with very specific information on the establishment of ECE services, programs and policies, council on ECE services and regulations. Specifically, about gender equality, goals, objectives and powers of the Minister are to pursue an understanding of the principle of gender equality and other forms of equality as defined in the Constitution³⁰;

26. In this regard, the CEVI welcomes the country's progress in the gender equity education. However, it urges the country to respond more carefully to the indicators questionnaire, given

³⁰ Education Act, 2005. PART 2 (ADMINISTRATION OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM), Title (Goals, objectives and powers of the Minister), Section 3, Subsection (3) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the specific goals and objectives which the Minister shall establish and pursue are: (f) to develop an understanding of the principle of gender equality and other forms of equality as defined in the Constitution.

Available at: <https://www.hslida.org/hs/international/StKittsandNevis/EducationAct2005.pdf>

that the new legislation had already entered into force when the information was provided and answered.

27. Regarding Specific Recommendation No 2³¹, there is no information on its compliance and the elaboration of a national action plan that meets the needs of existing legislation reform, that collects data and analyzes them to deal with the different areas used for the prevention, punishment and eradication of all types of violence against women. Thus, CEVI recommends once again the preparation and approval of this draft of national action.

28. Thus, although some country-wide Recommendations can not be considered, it is understood that progress has been made in the protection of violence against women, reiterating the need for St. Kitts and Nevis to adopt all measures previously recommended to assure the harmonization of the country legislation, as well as its suitability for the fulfillment of the international and national obligations derived from the Convention of Belém de Pará.

ii. Basic financial context and budgetary commitments

29. In the response to the third-round indicators, the only data reported by the country relates to public expenditure per capita for the public health of the population of Saint Kitts and Nevis in the amount of US \$ 1.335,82 in 2016.

ii. State Capabality

30. Saint Kitts and Nevis reported that it has civil organizations involved in the oversight and implementation of public budgets for the prevention of gender-based violence. Such organizations include the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, “Business & Professional Women” and support groups for victims of sexual and domestic violence.

31. Besides, there are no shelters or houses available to victims of domestic violence and their sons and daughters, nor are there any observatories, whether public or private, on discriminatory

³¹ MESECVI, 2012, op. cit. p. 6: Specific Recommendation 2: An urgent approach to the creation of a national action plan and/or strategy comprehensive enough to cater for legislation reform, data collection and analysis to deal with all encompassing areas of prevention, punishment and eradication of all forms of violence against women.

practices. In addition, there is no code of professional ethics for media and advertising professionals who commit attitudes based on gender stereotypes and against women's rights.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE - Article 7, paragraphs d) and f) and article 8, paragraphs c) and d) of the Belém do Pará Convention

i. Formal element

There is no relevant information on the matter.

ii. Basic financial context and budgetary commitments

There is no relevant information on the matter.

iii. State Capability

32. According to the responses to the indicators reported by Saint Kitts and Nevis, there are government agencies that receive complaints involving gender violence. Among these agencies, the Department of Gender Affairs and the Special Victims Unit of the Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force can be mentioned. Besides, the Department of Gender trains civil society, public and private sector employees to have more sensitivity when faced with gender issues.

33. It also reports that there is a legal department specializing in the care of women victims of violence in the country, but it does not indicate which or where to find it. However, there is no free telephone line for this vulnerable population. In addition, there is no one in the country trained in interculturality.

34. The special victim's unit of domestic violence is the body responsible for publishing and accessing information to women victims of violence in the country. However, as will be seen, no quantitative and qualitative information was provided on the care and reception of the victims, as well as on the publication of the actions performed by the unit.

INFORMATION AND STATISTICS - Article 8, paragraph h) of the Convention of Belém do Pará

i. Formal element

35. According to the country, there are no regulations in Saint Kitts and Nevis that oblige the State to conduct investigations related to different manifestations of violence against women. In addition, there are no regulations that guarantee free access to statistical information generated by the country's public institutions. There are also no regulations that address the State's obligation to carry out researches, plans, programs, strategies, and actions to fight violence against women. Besides, there is no legislation guaranteeing free and public access to information obtained by the State.

36. On the special unit of victims of domestic violence, it reports that it is responsible for producing regular statistical reports on cases of domestic violence against women in Saint Kitts and Nevis. The Legal Department of Saint Kitts and Nevis is responsible for ensuring that the country's regulations are mandatory to maintain the administrative records of the various cases of violence against women.

ii. Basic financial context and budgetary commitments

37. According to the Ministry of Finance, it is the body responsible for budgetary allocations in Saint Kitts and Nevis. Besides, it also has the responsibility of publishing an official document on the country's annual budget. There is a civil organization responsible for supervising the government budget. Besides being responsible of supervising the budget, it is also in charge of its implementation. However, the questionnaire does not inform what this civil organization is and the budget allocations available for services to fight gender-based violence and information on women's rights.

ii. State Capability

38. Although there is a Government Department in Saint Kitts and Nevis responsible for the country statistics, there is no information available for consultation answered in the Country Indicators Questionnaire. There is also no information on studies that deal with discourses that contain stereotypes, prejudices, myths, and customs about women victims of domestic violence.

39. In the Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Social Services or in the Gender Affairs Department, there is no access to information, statistics or consultations or statistics on care regarding gender-based violence or women's rights.

40. CEVI regrets the absence of this information in an accessible form and urges the country to publish it and make it available for public consultation.

Specific Recommendations

Legislation

1. Inform, in a more specific way, the legal status of the Convention of Belém do Pará in the national legislation.
2. Integrate into legislation the definition of violence against women independently of domestic violence. Gender violence must be conceptualized in the legislation of Saint Kitts and Nevis.
3. Differentiate the criminal type of trafficking in persons from forced prostitution, including its prevention independently in legislation.
4. Specify how measures to protect people who are victims of domestic violence are being used to ensure this protection.
5. Legislate for the creation of a norm regarding femicide.
6. Legislate for the creation of a standard on sexual harassment at the workplace.
7. Legislate for the creation of a norm that deals with sexual violence occurring in hospitals or in educational institutions in the country.
8. Legislate for the creation of a norm that deals with the use of sexual violence as torture, war crime or as a crime against humanity.
9. Legislate to create a standard that will consider the rape of women occurring during marriage or stable marriage.
10. Legislate for the creation of a standard dealing with obstetric violence.
11. Facilitate the change of identity of victims of violence.
12. Create government protocols to address different kinds of violence against women.

National Plans

13. Respond to indicators with specific information on national plans for fighting gender-based violence and women's rights.
14. Oppose and fight the adoption of laws that forbid the adoption of education policies on gender and sexual orientation.
15. Promote and implement public policies and campaigns to eradicate stereotypes, prejudices, customs, and practices, with a specific designation for inclusion of gender equality in the school curriculum at all levels, both public and private, from early childhood education, as well as in programs with a human rights approach. The focus should be on stereotypes of gender roles and promoting values of gender equality and non-discrimination, including non-violent masculinities, as well as ensuring comprehensive, adequate, and scientifically accurate sex education for girls and boys.
16. Promote specific research on violence against women, as well as strengthen the thematic approach on gender in other researches to develop the study on women's rights in Saint Kitts and Nevis.
17. Introduce ongoing training on women's rights to a life free from violence at all educational and institutional levels, as well as monitoring and evaluation of their effects.
18. Develop training actions on the issue addressed to parliamentarians.
19. Promote the conclusion of cooperation agreements with the media and publicity agencies to disseminate the rights of women and the Convention of Belém do Pará.

Access to Justice

1. Keep up-to-date and encourage the dissemination of data and statistics on violence against women.
2. Create a toll-free hotline for victims of domestic violence.
3. Strengthen the number of care and support services for women.

4. Monitor the quality of free legal services.
5. Improve information regarding the effective application of protection measures in the justice system.
6. Provide specific measures to guarantee access to justice for rural, indigenous, and black women.
7. Promote the use of the Convention of Belém do Pará in judicial decisions and judgments.
8. Elaborate plans for ongoing training for judges, prosecutors, and legislators on violence against women and women's rights under the Convention of Belém do Pará.
9. Ensure free and public access to information obtained by the State on gender-based violence.

Specialized Services

10. Respond to the indicators with specific information on specialized services for women in situations of gender violence, as well as detail which programs are available to the population in case of complaints.
11. Strengthen and ensure adequate geographical distribution of care and shelter services in situations of violence against women.
12. Provide and strengthen sufficient mechanisms and instruments and adequate infrastructure to support and care for victims of violence.
13. Provide shelters and houses for the victims of domestic violence, as well as for their sons and daughters.

Budget

14. Respond to budget indicators with more specific information on the values made available and guaranteed for programs and public policies to combat gender-based violence and women's rights.

15. Know the percentage of public spending allocated to programs that aim to guarantee women's right to a life free of violence and monitor their effective compliance.
16. Give public and accessible knowledge to the budget for campaigns to promote the right of women to a life free of violence.

Investigation and Statistics

1. Respond to information and statistics indicators with more specific data on attendance and actions on gender violence and women's rights.
2. Produce regular statistical reports on gender violence.

Dissemination and public accessibility of research conducted on violence against women, as well as information obtained by the State on cases involving domestic and / or gender violence.