



**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**SEVENTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION
December 11-14, 2023
Washington D.C.**

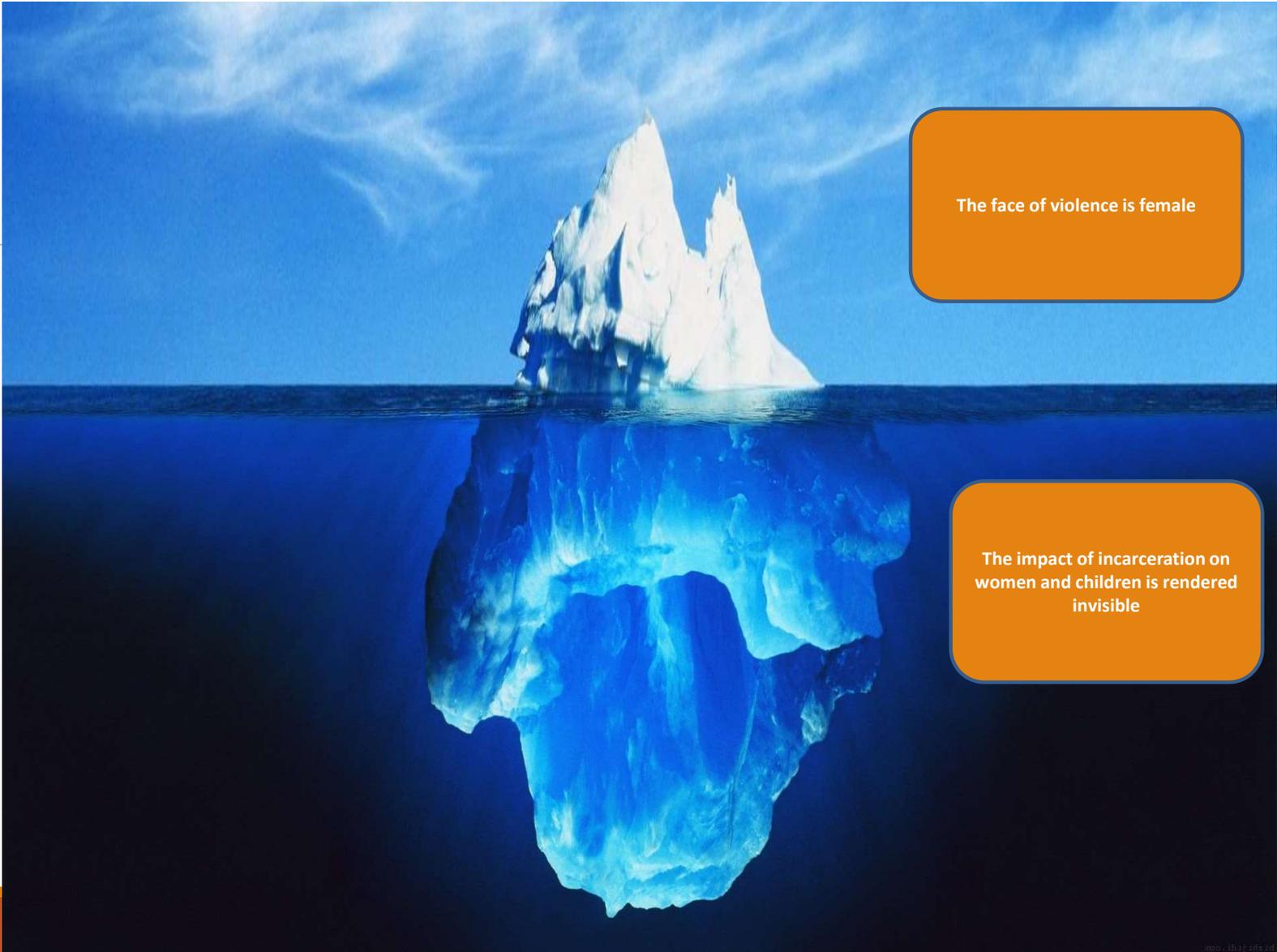
**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.
CICAD/doc.2829/23
December 12, 2023
Original: Spanish**

**ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR ADDRESSING
DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES WITH A GENDER PERSPECTIVE**

ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR ADDRESSING DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES WITH A GENDER PERSPECTIVE



**MAGISTRATE KENYA ROMERO
DECEMBER 2023**



The face of violence is female

The impact of incarceration on women and children is rendered invisible

MOVING FROM WHY TO HOW...

- Analyze the obligations related to EFFECTIVE JUDICIAL PROTECTION in light of the law
- Emphasize the importance of prosecution as a preventive strategy
- Examine the impact of incarceration on the context
- Place the needs of women involved in drug-related offenses at the center of the circle of comprehensive care
- Rethink impartiality (not paternalism)

INITIATIVES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- Alternatives to incarceration for addressing drug-related offenses with a gender perspective
- Guide to decent treatment
- Protocol for attending to vulnerable victims and witnesses
- Program for Treatment under Judicial Supervision
- Timely justice program for personal dignity
- Early opinion and referral program
- Project to analyze contempt of court and study causes of non-adherence to the process

HOW?

- Rethinking the operational framework and improving responsiveness to the protection of fundamental rights
- Minimizing the impact of any operational disruptions that arise
- Understanding the factors behind low prosecution and conviction rates
- Understanding the challenges in providing an effective criminal justice response
- Identifying the patriarchal approach of certain legal provisions
- Understanding the roles of certain stakeholders in the criminal justice system
- Understanding core vulnerabilities
- Understanding the particularities of gender in criminal proceedings

HOW?

- Rethinking the operational framework and improving responsiveness to the protection of fundamental rights
- User-friendly language in decisions and early referrals
- Deciding questions of law and resolving issues that mitigate the risk factors affecting women in the judicial system

