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Fifty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers of
the Regional Conference on Women in Latin
America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 17-19 November 2014

AGREEMENTS

At their fifty-first meeting, the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed to:

1. *Support* the statement made at the Caribbean technical meeting, held in Santiago on 14-15 November 2014, recognizing the specific challenges faced by the Caribbean countries;
2. *Adopt* the Declaration of the special session on Beijing+20 in Latin America and the Caribbean;
3. *Adopt also*, for discussion at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the theme of gender equality, women's autonomies and sustainable development: progress towards implementation;
4. *Request* the secretariat to propose a calendar of activities for the preparatory process leading to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Montevideo in 2016;
5. *Recognize* the proposal put forth by the Commission on compacts as a political instrument for advancing an equality agenda, requesting that this theme be explored in greater depth from the perspective of women's empowerment, as well as its links with gender mainstreaming and other strategies for approaching public policies for gender equality;
6. *Reaffirm* the importance of acknowledging and addressing the diverse situations and needs of women in all their diversity and throughout the life cycle, including Afro-descendent, indigenous, rural, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual women, women with disabilities and older women, in the implementation of public policies in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, in order to secure all of their rights, with particular emphasis on their health and sexual and reproductive rights, their autonomies and their right to equality in the public and private spheres;

7. *Strengthen* measures, policies and programmes to prevent and address all forms of violence against women, the perverse effects of organized crime on the lives of women and girls, enforced disappearances, trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, femicide, violence by armed groups and violence against women human rights defenders and women journalists;
8. *Promote* regional cooperation on gender issues with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, establishing joint lines of work with the Community's open-ended working group in order to comprehensively and inclusively identify and foster strategies to tackle and meet the needs and demands of women, adolescents and girls in the region, as set forth in the Santo Domingo Consensus, the Quito Consensus and the Brasilia Consensus;
9. *Endorse* agreement 19 adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean at their first meeting, with a view to providing coordinated follow-up among the subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
10. *Commit* to reporting regularly and comprehensibly on the implementation and outcomes of national budgets;
11. *Ratify* prior commitments by the Governments of the region regarding the need to ensure the sustainability of women's and feminist organizations and movements and, in this connection, emphasize the importance of moving forward with the possible creation of a regional fund for gender equality, further to the provisions of paragraphs 28, 103 and 120 of the Santo Domingo Consensus;
12. *Redouble* efforts and intensify the commitment of the countries to the establishment of a regional fund for gender equality and request the Commission, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Women, to promote the establishment of a working group to take action at different levels to this end, in consultation with feminist and women's organizations in the region;
13. *Welcome* the strategy proposed by the Presiding Officers for the implementation of the Santo Domingo Consensus;
14. *Hail* the fifteenth anniversary of the international meetings on gender statistics and the sustained efforts of the working group on gender statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, coordinated by Mexico;
15. *Recognize* the strategic and fundamental work carried out by the Division for Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, under the leadership of its chief, to the benefit of Latin American and Caribbean women.