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**REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE
ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Montevideo, 25-28 October 2016

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A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of meeting

1. The thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was convened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in compliance with ECLAC resolution 699(XXXVI), and was held in Montevideo, from 25 to 28 October 2016.

Attendance¹

2. Representatives of the following States members of the Commission participated in the meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname and Uruguay.

3. Representatives of the following associate members of the Commission also participated: Puerto Rico and Turks and Caicos Islands.

4. Attending from the United Nations Secretariat were representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

5. Also present were representatives of the following United Nations funds, programmes and bodies: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and World Food Programme (WFP).

6. The following United Nations specialized agencies were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Bank and World Health Organization (WHO)-Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

7. Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations were also present: CAF-Development Bank of Latin America, Central American Integration System (SICA), European Union, Ibero-American Secretariat (SEGIB), Ibero-American Social Security Organization (OISS), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO), Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organization of American States (OAS), Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI), Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and Union of South American Nations (UNASUR).

¹ See annex 4.

8. Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and other non-governmental organizations, universities and academic centres attended the session.

9. The session was also attended by, Tabaré Vázquez, President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, as guest of honour, and other special guests.

Election of Presiding Officers

10. The Conference elected the following Presiding Officers:

<u>Chair:</u>	Uruguay
<u>Vice-Chairs:</u>	Antigua and Barbuda
	Argentina
	Brazil
	Chile
	Costa Rica
	Cuba
	Dominican Republic
	Ecuador
	El Salvador
	Honduras
	Jamaica
	Mexico
	Panama
	Puerto Rico
	Saint Kitts and Nevis
	Saint Lucia
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
	Suriname

B. AGENDA

11. At its first plenary meeting, the Conference adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Presentation of the position paper *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*.
4. High-level panel: Gender equality at the centre of sustainable development.
5. Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference.
6. Other matters.

C. PROCEEDINGS²

Opening session

12. At the opening session, attended by Tabaré Vázquez, President of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, statements were made by Marina Arismendi, Minister of Social Development of Uruguay; Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); Rodolfo Nin Novoa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay; and Michelle Bachelet, President of Chile, who addressed those present by videolink.

13. The Minister of Social Development of Uruguay, on behalf of the Government of Uruguay, welcomed the participants of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, a forum that, over the course of its 40-year history, had provided countries with the opportunity to reach consensus and agreements. She said that the seminal work carried out by social movements and feminist associations, together with institutions and governments, had allowed headway to be made in discussions on the prospects and solutions for achieving gender equality, and the adoption of laws and public policies on the matter. Gender equality was at the centre of sustainable development, since it was impossible to conceive of development without it. Care was a matter of great importance for the Government of Uruguay and was a right directly linked to the sexual division of labour; equally important were sexual and reproductive health care and the eradication of violence against women. The enjoyment of those rights by all people was fundamental to the quality of democracy and was vital to deepening that democracy with a rights-based gender perspective.

14. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC noted Uruguay's efforts to host successfully the Conference, the most important political forum on women's equality in Latin America and the Caribbean, a space where public policy proposals had been developed, shared, strengthened and then applied in many countries to meet the challenge of achieving women's autonomy on three levels: economic, political and physical. She said that it was the main forum for negotiating a broad and extensive regional agenda for gender equality in which women's rights were central. The presence of ministers for women and senior officials from other ministries proved that gender equality was a task for all and that gender policies were part of countries' institutional framework. She thanked, in particular, the representatives from the broader movement of women's, feminist, academic, specialist, indigenous women's, Afro-descendent women's and sexual diversity organizations, for their forceful ideas and tireless efforts, which had made it possible to go beyond the limits of what was considered feasible.

15. She said that the consensus reached at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women systematically defended the indivisibility and integrity of women's political, social and cultural rights, the importance of the State, and the search for a new State-society-market-family equation. The reality revealed by the detailed follow-up by ECLAC on the situation of women required political will and efforts to be redoubled; as a contribution to that discussion, ECLAC had produced the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*,³ which would be presented at the Conference. The Regional Gender Agenda recognized women's rights and equality as central and

² The statements and presentations are available on the website of the Conference [online] <http://conferenciamujer.cepal.org/13/en/programme>.

³ LC/G.2686(CRM.13/3).

cross-cutting elements of any State action to strengthen democracy and promote inclusive and sustainable development. Without gender equality, sustainable development would be neither development nor sustainable. Gender equality was another name for liberty and democracy, and no decision that affected women should be made without women's input.

16. The region was at a critical crossroads. The international context was less favourable and adversely affected the region's economy and trade; there was also a significant economic slowdown that had limited the space for active social and economic policies. Critical thinking on the orthodox economics analytical framework was vital, focused on the market as the best allocator of resources, and that would disregard the role of the State as regulator and guarantor of rights. Equality must continue to be the goal, it was more urgent than ever to implement structural change and transform the region's production matrix; politics was the fundamental tool for bringing that about. Poverty levels among women in the region had worsened and women's participation in decision-making was still very low. Gender-based violence must be eliminated once and for all, something that women continued to call for, as could be seen by the mass demonstrations in the region as part of the "Ni una menos" (Not one woman more) movement. She called for a generational and gender pact to be concluded and for the draft Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030 to be adopted,⁴ a road map looking ahead to 2030 that would guide each country when carrying out their own analysis, reflecting on their experiences, defining priorities and developing innovative public policies. The culture of privilege must be replaced by one of equality. Lastly, she recalled that the work ahead was not technical or bureaucratic, it was political and about building rights, and for that reason would require passion, sensitivity, imagination and commitment.

17. The Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) said that implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, in conjunction with the Sustainable Development Goals, represented an important platform for advancing gender equality and sexual and reproductive rights in the region and had come to be seen as a gold standard worldwide. He gave examples of the ways in which the Government of Uruguay had taken a progressive approach and led the way in the region with respect to women's rights in the areas of education, health and employment, but further efforts were needed with respect to violence against women. All countries in the region had ratified both the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women and must be held accountable for meeting their commitments under those instruments. With respect to fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, he said that girls aged 10 to 14 years formed a key age bracket that was often overlooked in statistics. Not only was it right to ensure that every girl in that age group was healthy and educated, but it was also the linchpin for achieving all goals, both regional and global.

18. The Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) said that Latin America and the Caribbean had been a force for progress in global efforts to create new norms with regard to gender equality legislation. Uruguay had led the way and become a reference point in the region for its significant advances in institutionalizing gender equality policies in areas such as paternity and maternity leave, voluntary interruption of pregnancy and legal recognition of gender identity. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was gender-centric agenda and had set out clear targets, not only on promoting gender equality, but also on achieving it. UN-Women had outlined 10 vectors of action to carry forward the full, accelerated, gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which included, for example,

⁴ See annex 2.

innovation, institutions and investment. She called on countries not to wait until 2030 to measure the progress made on the 2030 Agenda, but to take stock in 2020 in order to reinvigorate the political commitment and then accelerate forward.

19. The President of Chile, after greeting those present, referred to the trade agreement signed recently between Chile and Uruguay, which, for the first time, included a gender perspective. She said that the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was a key space for reflection and decision-making on the type of region that member States wanted to build, putting at the heart of the debate an agenda of rights that promoted women's autonomy. At that meeting of governments, international organizations and civil society it was possible to discuss how to make further, continued progress in women's physical and economic autonomy and their presence in political participation and decision-making spaces. It was an opportunity to create a synergy between political commitments and proposals that would allow progress to be made in improving the living conditions of women and position the region among the best in the world. Although much progress had been made, there were still major challenges ahead. She stressed the importance of the "Ni una menos" movement in the countries of the region, which had led people to take to the streets, calling for an end to violence against women and girls. Efforts must be continued to eradicate the violence that was a daily threat to millions of women around the world. She called for the Sustainable Development Goals to be linked to the Regional Gender Agenda built up over nearly 40 years, strengthening alliances, by sharing lessons learned and experiences and creating new links. The whole world was being called upon to change the development model in the light of the progress on the gender agenda. She noted the analytical and proactive efforts of ECLAC reflected in the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*, which had fed into the processes and alliances needed to mainstream the gender equality approach within the State and to come up with a new development model in which no one would be left behind. Lastly, she called on the Conference to adopt an instrument that would guide efforts to improve the quality of public policies and have a positive effect on women's living conditions and the full enjoyment of their rights.

Presentation of the position paper *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda* (agenda item 3)

20. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC presented the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*, in which the situation of women after almost 40 years of building the Regional Gender Agenda was analysed and that Agenda was linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She began by referring to women's rights—right to a life free from violence and discrimination, sexual and reproductive rights, collective and environmental rights, civil and political rights, and economic, social and cultural rights—and to the 10 implementation pillars of the Regional Gender Agenda included in the draft Montevideo Strategy. The Executive Secretary stressed that in order to uphold those rights it was essential that women could exercise not only their physical autonomy but also their economic autonomy and political autonomy. In that connection, she put forward proposals to improve each of these autonomies.

21. Turning to distributive equality and economic autonomy, she said that the wage gap must be closed, a universal, guaranteed basic income must be established, the minimum wage must be increased, employment rights must be guaranteed, policies related to the care economy must be established, and access to credit must be ensured. On the matter of physical autonomy, she noted the importance of guaranteeing access to sexual and reproductive health, allocating public investment to combat violence against women, establishing public policies with funding to close the gap between legislative advances and daily reality, and shedding light on the link between the economy and violence against women. In the

area of power-sharing and autonomy in decision-making process, there should be a move from quotas to parity democracy, public financing for political campaigns should be made available, and women's collective action in peace processes, democracy and development should be boosted. Lastly, an inclusive State must establish innovative and effective gender equality policies.

22. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay thanked ECLAC for producing the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*, from which specific proposals had been drawn aimed at substantive gender equality and guaranteeing women's rights and economic and physical autonomy. He said that the gender perspective and human rights-based approach had been mainstreamed into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, based on the key principle of ensuring that no one was left behind, which meant that the Conference had a unique opportunity to make the commitments already undertaken in the Regional Gender Agenda a reality and to intensify the necessary cross-cutting actions in each country of the region to achieve a truly inclusive and participatory sustainable development. The Montevideo Strategy, which was expected to be adopted at the end of the session of the Regional Conference, would contribute to the process of creating synergies among the global, regional and national agendas. It drew on other regional instruments, such as the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development and its operational guide, and the conclusions of the Global LGBTI Human Rights Conference, held in Montevideo from 13 to 15 July 2016. A cultural change would have to be fostered to reverse the persistent inequalities, eradicate discrimination and violence, and reassign and redistribute roles, both within the family and in society, resources and power in order to strengthen democracies in the region. The adoption of the Montevideo Strategy would not mark the end of that responsibility; it would have to be adapted to the different national realities with the active participation of civil society, academia, trade unions, human rights defenders, the private sector and women's movements, because gender equality and equity could only be achieved through a transformative and sustainable change that addressed the structural causes of inequality.

Reading of the civil society declaration

23. The representative of civil society read a statement which said that feminist women from Latin America and the Caribbean, women from various indigenous peoples, Afro-descendent women, women from rural and urban areas, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, women with disabilities, sex workers and women of all ages from different backgrounds had made significant progress in citizenship-building, but the challenges they currently faced were becoming more acute in a context of inequality and cruelty. The region was facing democratic reversals as a result of setbacks that had undermined citizens' will, the election of governments that had entrenched and expanded extractivist economic models, causing poverty, destroying the likelihood of food sovereignty and serving to exclude women further. The fundamentalist onslaught that had tried to disseminate the so-called "gender ideology" sought to frustrate the feminist struggle for equality. As had been reaffirmed at previous sessions of the Regional Conference on Women, the gender perspective was a scientific, analytical and political approach and was an indispensable conceptual tool for ending the patriarchy and ensuring equality.

24. She said that most women in Latin America and the Caribbean lived in cities and should be at the heart of decisions on urban matters, and that parity enriched representative democracy and was vital to making progress towards equality. People with disabilities continued to be ignored, women human rights defenders attacked and threatened because of the work they carried out and there was a shamefully permissive culture that normalized, engendered, covered up and overlooked violence against women. She read out the demands of the Forum of Feminist Organizations made to the governments of the region, in particular, that they should honour the commitments made at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women. Lastly, she reiterated one of the feminist movement's repeated demands: "Never again, nothing for us, without us!"

High-level panel: Gender equality at the centre of sustainable development (agenda item 4)

25. The high-level panel was moderated by María Nieves Rico, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, and involved the following participants: Álvaro García, Director of the Office for Planning and Budget of Uruguay; Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); María Cristina Perceval, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); and Elizabeth Odio Benito, Judge of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

26. The Director of the Office for Planning and Budget of Uruguay said that his country's Government had long been pursuing a policy of inclusive growth and was deeply committed to the Sustainable Development Goals. Turning to the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*, he said that he shared the views set out therein and agreed with the need to move towards innovative and effective gender equality policies, to strengthen mechanisms for women's empowerment and to establish gender-responsive budgets. In that connection, Uruguay had prioritized the development of projects related to gender policies in each of the public ministries and, for the first time, the country was carrying out future-oriented analysis of gender issues. The diagnostic phase of that analysis had confirmed that the population was ageing, the composition of households had changed and the rate of female participation in the workforce had increased. Lastly, he called for the Sustainable Development Goals to be mainstreamed into the different areas of government.

27. The Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reiterated that development was not possible without rights and drew attention to the importance of embracing a life-cycle approach to investing in development. He cautioned of the need for inclusive policies to target vulnerable situations hidden in national averages, which required data disaggregation. With regard to physical autonomy, beyond the need to strengthen sexual education to prevent and reduce adolescent pregnancy, it was about girls understanding who they were and who they wanted to be. Access to sexual and reproductive health care for adolescents remained a contentious issue in much of the region, however, and needed further progress. The Executive Director referred to sexual violence as one of the greatest humanitarian catastrophes in the world today and stressed that special measures for protecting girls from gender violence were part of the package of gender equality. He emphasized that UNFPA was committed to working with the region and the Conference to advance the agenda of sexual and reproductive rights as a key part of women's autonomy with the potential to enhance the lives of generations to come.

28. The Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) said the 2030 Agenda recognized that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls would be instrumental in making progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and targets. Goal 5 and the other gender-sensitive targets in 11 other Goals constituted a gender equality compact that embraced the Beijing Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as a foundational framework for sustainable development. With regard to the call made in the Montevideo Consensus for parity democracy, the model of democracy should include substantive equality and parity in all decision-making mechanisms in all areas of life. Civil society had a critical role to play in implementing, ensuring accountability of, monitoring and financing the gender agenda and she reiterated that the 2030 Agenda represented an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate progress towards achieving Planet 50-50 by 2030. In this regard, she called on the region to support holding a Fifth World Conference on Women in 2020 in order to quicken the pace of change.

29. The Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said that gender equality must be at the centre of sustainable development and that it was time to make the personal collective and the collective political. Inequality was not inevitable; it would be necessary to fight to eliminate it and guarantee the three areas of women's autonomy: economic, political and physical. It would also be necessary to break the statistical silence surrounding gender equality because what was not measured, did not exist, and what one did not want to see, was declared invisible. In an uncertain economic, political, social and environmental context that was less favourable than that of previous years, stakeholders must be vigilant to ensure that women's hard-won rights were not ripped away again. After describing the reality of girls and adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean and the equality gaps they faced, she reiterated that inequality excluded, humiliated and killed people in the region. Lastly, she expressed her wish that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should not be a conformist utopia, but rather that it would enable women to make progress, transform, dream and fight.

30. The Judge of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights said that the session was an opportunity to renew the fight against discrimination and inequality. While the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stated that all human beings were born free and equal in dignity and rights, social, economic and political power structures meant that bore little relation to reality. She argued that discrimination, which was not inevitable but political, was structural and feminine. The inter-American human rights system—with its two pillars, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights—were core legal instruments. She also noted the importance of two documents: the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention of Belém do Pará. The international legal system established States' international responsibility to uphold those rights and the role of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights was clear in the event that they failed to do so; its judgments were binding on States, which not only had to remedy but also prevent future violations of women's human rights, and it monitored compliance with the judgments. While the International Criminal Court had still not codified a gender approach, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights had.

31. The representative of Spain said that ECLAC was an appropriate setting for finding joint solutions to problems affecting all Ibero-American countries and that public policies to implement the provisions of the laws must be enacted. The representative of Cuba echoed the high-level panel's statements and said that her country would carry out an equality survey and was working on a national follow-up plan for the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing. A representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) referred to the Institute's work on rural women's development and stressed the importance of accessible and disaggregated statistical information and credit mechanisms, and of promoting entrepreneurship in rural areas.

Panel 1. Mainstreaming and affirmative action: tools for gender equality

32. The first panel, entitled "Mainstreaming and affirmative action: tools for gender equality", was moderated by Ana María Baiardi, Minister of Women's Affairs of Paraguay and involved the following participants: Lorena Cruz, President of the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES) of Mexico; Luis Figueroa, Intendant for Regulation of the Superintendency of Banks and Financial Institutions (SBIF) of Chile; Mary Alison McLean, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport of Jamaica; and Line Bareiro, expert and representative of civil society, Paraguay.

33. The President of the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES) of Mexico addressed the inclusion of the gender perspective as a cross-cutting strategy in her country's National Development Plan. She also referred to the Programme for Equality between Women and Men 2013-2018 (PROIGUALDAD), which sought to consolidate the national equality policy in coordination with local governments and

legislative and judicial authorities. She said that it was important to have sufficient financial resources to implement the Programme, to that end it was now obligatory to earmark non-transferable, irreducible resources for equality in planning and budget laws. She ended by pointing out that inclusive development was only possible if women achieved economic, physical and political autonomy.

34. The Intendant for Regulation of the Superintendency of Banks and Financial Institutions (SBIF) of Chile said that SBIF had helped to raise awareness of gender inequalities in the Chilean financial system by producing an annual report on the matter for the past 15 years. He highlighted the role of financial institutions in achieving sustainable development and spoke about some of the gender gaps in the Chilean banking system, including the major barriers women faced in accessing loans. He said that studies should be undertaken to obtain empirical evidence to inform the design and results of public policies that would ensure women's equal access to financial services.

35. The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport of Jamaica referred to the gender mainstreaming programme, which sought to achieve substantive equality between men and women through affirmative action that influenced the design of sectoral policies and programmes, organizational practices, and attitudes and behaviours. After referring to the various instruments adopted by the Government of Jamaica and the role of the National Policy for Gender Equality and the national development plan, Vision 2030 Jamaica, in achieving that objective, she enumerated some of the factors that had intensified the mainstreaming of the gender perspective in the country, including political will, multisectoral collaboration and the use of gender specific indicators to monitor and evaluate progress.

36. Lastly, the expert representing Paraguayan civil society reflected on the need to address, in an innovative manner, strategies for mainstreaming the gender perspective in the region, with the active participation of all sectors of the State and civil society. She said that the progress achieved must not be reversed and new issues must be examined in depth. When planning the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, States should take into account the mandates established by all existing human rights instruments.

37. In the ensuing debate, the representatives of the Governments of Norway and Uruguay highlighted the role of affirmative action legislation and measures to increase the number of women in management positions in the private sector and other sectors, and shared experiences of and challenges to specific initiatives for gender mainstreaming in various areas.

Panel 2. Giving and receiving care under equal conditions: bringing the sexual division of labour into question

38. The second panel, entitled "Giving and receiving care under equal conditions: bringing the sexual division of labour into question", was moderated by Janet Camilo, Minister for Women's Affairs of the Dominican Republic and involved the following participants: Yanira Argueta, Executive Director of the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) of El Salvador; Mauricio Perfetti, Director of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia; Patricia Cossani, Advisor to the Director of the National Care Secretariat of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay; and Nathalie Lamaute-Brisson, expert and representative of civil society, Haiti.

39. The Executive Director of the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) referred to the role of care policies in achieving substantive equality between men and women and the opportunity for raising awareness afforded by the debate on social protection systems. After identifying the normative and policy framework that had facilitated the discussion on care in El Salvador, she stressed the importance of intergovernmental coordination and coordination with civil society for the

political and institutional positioning of that issue, and noted the steps taken to formulate a national care policy, including the creation of inter-institutional policy design mechanisms.

40. The Director of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia talked about the Department's experience of implementing Law No. 1,413 of 2010 on including the care economy into the system of national accounts in order to measure women's contribution to the country's economic and social development, which was a fundamental tool for defining and implementing public policies. The Law had led to the creation and implementation of national time-use surveys, the development of a care economy satellite account, and the establishment of the Intersectoral Care Economy Commission. In addition to highlighting how those and other actions carried out by DANE had helped to recognize unpaid work, he said that the foundations of a national care system were being laid in Colombia.

41. The Advisor to the Director of the National Care Secretariat of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay said that a national care system had been set up, regulated through Law No. 19,353 of 2015, which established care as a right and a social function. The system was one of the most important gender policies implemented by the Government, promoting efforts to change the culture of the sexual division of labour, joint responsibility, raising the profile of carers and the professionalization of caregiving work through training strategies. Lastly, she described the five components of the National Care Plan 2016-2020, which included creating and expanding services, labour regulations, and information and knowledge services, training, communication and management.

42. The expert representing Haitian civil society said that a transformative care agenda, in line with countries' challenges and the commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, should be promoted. Care was not yet an important issue on the political and gender equality agendas in Haiti, a country marked by poverty, inequality and the unequal distribution of care tasks. Lastly, civil society should have more influence on efforts to develop evidence-based public policies that linked interventions in the field of care and women's economic autonomy.

43. In the ensuing debate, some participants said that instruments such as collective bargaining, distance working modalities and flexible working hours, were important, as was the role of tripartism, in promoting care policies that protected female workers and safeguarded the right to care in different situations, including informal work. The representative of Uruguay highlighted the role played by civil society in encouraging the establishment of the national care system and the future investiture of the advisory committee for the system.

Panel 3. Physical autonomy and sexual and reproductive rights

44. The third panel, on physical autonomy and sexual and reproductive rights, was moderated by Arelys Santana Bello, Deputy of the National Assembly of the People's Power of Cuba and member of the Federation of Cuban Women, and involved the following participants: Kerryann Ifill, President of the Senate of Barbados; Marcela Eternod, Executive Secretary of the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Mexico; Maria Betânia Ávila, researcher at the Feminist Institute for Democracy (SOS Corpo) of Brazil; and Ana Cristina González of Articulación Feminista Marcosur, Colombia.

45. The President of the Senate of Barbados referred to the rights of women with disabilities in the framework of international treaties, in particular, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She said that, often, the rights of women with disabilities to sexual and reproductive health were not respected and awareness of their rights was one of the challenges to their ability to exercise their physical autonomy. She highlighted the efforts undertaken in Barbados to educate young women and adults with

disabilities about their rights and enforcement mechanisms. Lastly, she said that any initiative for gender equality should include and empower all women, with or without disabilities.

46. The Executive Secretary of the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Mexico shared the experience of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy (ENAPEA), which was implemented in a multisectoral manner and recognized that it was the responsibility of the State to create conditions that allowed adolescents to take decisions that promoted their development and well-being. She said that the strategy aimed to reduce the number of adolescent pregnancies by 50% by 2030 and to prevent pregnancies among girls under the age of 15.

47. The researcher at the Feminist Institute for Democracy (SOS Corpo) of Brazil said that sexual and reproductive rights had been a politically controversial field dominated by the feminist movement, whose results had depended on the balance of power at specific moments in time. Women faced serious daily limitations, such as long working days and a lack of time, to their ability to exercise freely their sexuality and reproductive rights. The existence of secular States that fully respected social, economic, political and environmental rights and questioned unequal power relations was a precondition for the enjoyment of sexual and reproductive rights.

48. The representative of Articulaci3n Feminista Marcosur, Colombia, pointed out the importance of having regionally agreed language, based on 40 years of consensus and human rights, including health and sexual and reproductive rights. Noting the profound challenges the region faced on issues such as punishments imposed on women for abortion, she called for the agreed language to be upheld and for further debate on issues that had long been considered taboo.

49. In the ensuing debate, the representatives of Cuba and Uruguay said that the progress made with regard to sexual and reproductive rights and the agreed language must be maintained. The representative of Cuba said that in her country, women's sexual and reproductive rights were guaranteed from birth and that all Cuban women had the right to abortion, and that it was not seen as a form of contraception. The panellists said that sexual and reproductive rights were central to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. They expressed concern about the number of adolescent pregnancies in the region and identified barriers faced by women when accessing sexual and reproductive health services and comprehensive sexual education, particularly the youngest girls, women with disabilities and those living in poverty.

Panel 4. Work: rights and autonomy

50. The fourth panel, entitled "Work: rights and autonomy", was moderated by Liriola Leoteau, General-Director of the National Women's Institute (INAMU) of Panama, and involved the following participants: Ernesto Murro, Minister of Labour and Social Security of Uruguay; Julia Muriel Escobar of the Ministry of Agriculture of Cuba; Ruth Olate, President of the Union of Private Household Workers (SINTRACAP) of Chile; and Laura Pautassi, researcher at the Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) of Argentina.

51. The Minister of Labour and Social Security of Uruguay said that his country had made progress in narrowing the gender gaps in the labour market thanks to the reforms and policies implemented in the last decade. That progress was reflected in the improvement in employment, underemployment and unemployment, economic activity, informality, and access to retirement benefits and pensions indicators. He highlighted some policies, such as social security reform, the law on paternity and maternity leave and part-time work, national minimum wage collective bargaining policies, and the National Care System. However, he also noted that gender gaps still existed in the areas of wages and management and executive positions.

52. The representative of the Ministry of Agriculture of Cuba talked about the gender strategy in the agricultural sector, which had been designed jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Federation of Cuban Women and had a management system for its implementation at the municipal level. The strategy sought to boost women's empowerment and participation in the agricultural sector, create equal working conditions, and increase the growing number of women in executive positions.

53. The President of the Union of Private Household Workers (SINTRACAP) of Chile outlined the progress made prior to the enactment of Law No. 20.786 of 2015, which regulated working conditions and hours for domestic workers in the country. Major steps forward had been the establishment of a coordinating body at the national level to raise awareness of the situation of those workers and Chile's ratification of the International Labour Organization Convention No. 189. She also noted the ongoing difficulties with regard to ensuring oversight for compliance with that law.

54. The researcher at the Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) of Argentina drew attention to the advances and challenges in the areas of labour and gender equality after 40 years of sessions of the Regional Conference on Women. She noted the enactment of laws regulating paid domestic work and the lack of reforms to promote full equality in the labour market and to address the sexual division of labour. She also identified the progress made with regard to care policies through the regulation of childcare time and the gaps in leave entitlements to care for other family members and in the infrastructure of care services. Lastly, she said that employment and income transfer programmes lacked a gender perspective, and that the links between equal rights employment measures, care and the gender equality agenda must be strengthened.

55. In the ensuing debate, the participants from Costa Rica, Ecuador, Norway and Uruguay noted the progress made by the countries of the region in enacting laws that recognized paid domestic work and unpaid work, and the need to continue promoting policies and taking on commitments in that area.

Panel 5. The quality of democracy and women's participation in decision-making

56. The fifth panel, on the quality of democracy and women's participation in decision-making, was moderated by Martha Ordoñez, Presidential Adviser in the Office of the Advisory Council for Women's Equity of Colombia, and involved the following participants: Claudia Pascual, Minister of Women's Affairs and Gender Equality of Chile; Alejandra Mora, Minister for the Status of Women and Executive President of the National Women's Institute (INAMU) of Costa Rica; Tania Pariona, Congresswoman for the Department of Ayacucho of Peru; and Sergia Galván, expert and representative of civil society, Dominican Republic.

57. The Minister of Women's Affairs and Gender Equality of Chile reported on her country's institutional progress on and structural reforms for gender equality. She highlighted the decision to create the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Gender Equality, and the tax, education and labour reforms, which provided that at least 30% of the executive board of trade unions should be women. Noting that women's participation rates in Chile's parliament and municipalities were below the regional average, she said that electoral system reform would make gender equity obligatory for political groups' candidate lists and included economic incentives to achieve that. Gender parity in political parties' governing bodies was another criterion of the reform of the law on political parties, which would ensure that at least 40% of their members would be women.

58. The Minister for the Status of Women and Executive President of the National Women's Institute (INAMU) of Costa Rica said that power relations were at the heart of discussion on women's political participation and citizenship, and highlighted the advances and challenges on that matter in the history of feminism in her country. Parity and mechanisms were needed to ensure compliance. She referred to the results of the 2014 parliamentary elections and the 2016 municipal elections, in which the number of female candidates was lower and said that the most important mechanism for ensuring inclusive democracy through parity was to put women at the top of electoral lists. Women's negotiating skills must be strengthened and the quality of women's participation and leadership must be improved as a matter of priority.

59. The Congresswoman for the Department of Ayacucho of Peru referred to the difficulties that indigenous women faced with regard to political participation. She described some of the developments in the political systems in the region to improve indigenous peoples' participation through gender quotas and quotas for indigenous women, the creation of indigenous electoral districts, the definition of congressional seats reserved for persons belonging to indigenous peoples, and electoral reforms that allowed indigenous parties to be formed and indigenous people to participate as independent candidates. She said that those changes had not been enough to overcome the discrimination that indigenous women suffer in a patriarchal, monocultural and colonial system, and further reforms would be needed to consolidate a participative and parity democracy that valued the diversity of peoples and cultures. Women's organizations and movements had an important role to play in the struggle for the rights of all women and the equality of indigenous peoples would be vital to achieving the Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

60. The expert representing civil society in the Dominican Republic said that ideological barriers and gender stereotypes persisted in the field of politics that gave men the control and relegated women to support and assistance tasks. The family responsibilities borne by women hindered their political participation and access to leadership positions. Political reforms must be pursued in the region to achieve gender equality and move towards policies for parity in elected positions and in other private and public institutions. Lastly, she warned of the risks of growing religious fundamentalism in Latin America and the Caribbean and its rejection of women's reproductive autonomy. She recommended strengthening the alliance between national mechanisms for the advancement of women and women in political parties and the feminist movement.

61. In the ensuing debate, the representatives of Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, Honduras, Peru and Uruguay provided information on the initiatives being undertaken in their countries to achieve full parity in their respective political systems and to combat political harassment and violence and discrimination against women on the list of candidates put forward by political parties. The representative of Cuba said that her country was close to achieving parity and that 49% of parliamentarians were women. She also took the opportunity to thank the governments for once again supporting the submission of the report to the United Nations General Assembly on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States against Cuba.

Panel 6. The right to live free from violence

62. The sixth panel, on the right to live free from violence, was moderated by Luiza Carvalho, Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean of UN-Women, and involved the following participants: Fabiana Tuñez, President of the National Women's Council of Argentina; Yassmín Barrios, Judge of the High-Risk Tribunal of Guatemala; Juan Huambachano, Manager of the Criminality Observatory of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Peru; and Ana Falú, President of the Women and Habitat Network (CISCSA) of Argentina.

63. The President of the National Women's Council of Argentina referred to the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate Violence against Women in force in her country, which reflected the political will of the Argentine State on that matter and was in line with its obligations under international treaties, and Law No. 26,485 on comprehensive protection to prevent, punish and eradicate violence against women in their interpersonal relationships. She said that the Plan was based on an integrated perspective of equality between men and women and promoted inter-institutional links between the branches of government and civil society organizations. Lastly, she elaborated on the Plan's cross-cutting areas of action and on some activities undertaken in the field of education, communication and direct care for victims.

64. The Judge of the High-Risk Tribunal of Guatemala recalled the Sepur Zarco case and the sentence handed down in 2016, as an example of women's right to live free from violence. She outlined the conclusions of the experts' reports by the High-Risk Tribunal of Guatemala on the systematic rape, sexual and domestic slavery, and humiliating and degrading treatment suffered by the women at that military outpost at the hands of soldiers during the armed conflict. Rape and domestic slavery had been war practices and had resulted in the physical, psychological and cultural destruction of those women and their community. She detailed the penalties imposed on the perpetrators, tried on the charge of crimes against humanity, as well as the individual and collective reparations mechanisms that were mandated on the State of Guatemala. She also expressed the conviction that recognition of the truth and judicial independence would help to strengthen the rule of law in Guatemala.

65. The Manager of the Criminology Observatory of the Public Prosecutor's Office of Peru talked about the experience of the Observatory and the Femicide Registry with regard to gathering and analysing information on feminicides and attempted feminicides in the country. He said that the work of the Observatory, based on the Registry, had allowed predictive models of the risk of femicide to be generated, which had led to the creation of a warning and follow-up system for women at high-risk of being victims of an attempted femicide, in order to adopt measures for their protection by the Central Victims and Witness Protection and Care Unit of the Office of the Public Prosecutor. That work and ongoing efforts had allowed a preventative approach, rather than a reactive one, to be adopted in response to that problem.

66. The President of the Women and Habitat Network (CISCSA) of Argentina, referring to the rights of women in cities, noted the pioneering experience of the Safe Cities Free of Violence Against Women, Safe Cities for All programme, promoted and implemented jointly by local and national governments of Latin America, and said that the increasing inequality in the region had led to greater spatial fragmentation of cities, which affected women in particular. To ensure their rights, it was essential to raise awareness of urban women and to recognize their diversity and the persistently asymmetrical relations between men and women, as evidenced by the uneven sexual division of labour and the fact that women had less free time. Different types of violence affected how women used public spaces and she pointed out that women's right to live a life free from violence in both the private and public spheres was still not on the international agenda and was ignored by national anti-violence legislation.

67. In the ensuing debate, participants stressed the importance of raising awareness of expressions of violence against women and the specific challenges that migrant and refugee women faced. The representatives of Ecuador, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Spain and Uruguay shared their countries' experiences of preventing and punishing violence against women and highlighted the regulatory advances made in criminalizing femicide and establishing sentences, as well as the challenges to consolidating prevention and access to justice mechanisms at the subnational level.

Round table. Equality and sustainable development: the future agenda for women's rights

68. The round table, entitled “Equality and sustainable development: the future agenda for women's rights”, was moderated by María Nieves Rico, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, and involved the following participants: Carolina Cosse, Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay; José Molinas, Minister of the Technical Secretariat of Planning for Economic and Social Development of Paraguay; María Ángeles Durán, researcher at the Centre for Human and Social Sciences of the Higher Scientific Research Council of Spain; Diane Quarless, Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean; Rosana Alvarado, Vice-President of the National Assembly of Ecuador; Virginia Vargas, co-founder of the Flora Tristán Women's Centre, Peru; and Luis Fidel Yáñez, Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission of ECLAC.

69. The Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay said that the sexual division of labour was becoming more pronounced and that industry faced increasing challenges regarding the need for new capabilities and greater environmental protection. Uruguay had been able to develop some aspects of the industry of the future thanks to its social, telecommunications and education policies. She also said that work was essential to achieving women's full economic, physical and decision-making autonomy.

70. The Minister of the Technical Secretariat of Planning for Economic and Social Development of Paraguay said that to overcome the equality gap between men and women in his country, transformative national agendas were needed that were linked to global agendas, and efforts should be focused on the most persistent gaps. The main goal of the national development plan, Paraguay 2030, formulated with a participatory vision, was inclusive competitiveness with equal opportunities. It was linked to local plans and the budget, which would allow effective monitoring mechanisms to be established.

71. The researcher at the Centre for Human and Social Sciences of the Higher Scientific Research Council of Spain noted the challenges of thinking globally and mainstreaming women's perspective into the economy, and that science had not been gender-neutral. The traditional economy had focused exclusively on the market, excluding unpaid work undertaken in homes, mainly by women. She said that the existing 19 time-use surveys should be used in Latin America and changes made to the national system of accounts to place a value on unpaid care work and its contribution to national economies.

72. The Chief of the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean said that participation and inclusion must be fostered in the subregion to achieve the Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in line with the Regional Gender Agenda. She noted the progress made with regard to gender equality in the Caribbean, although there were still labour and political participation gaps, and a series of challenges, including the high level of indebtedness and the resulting limitations on public investment; the impact of climate change and natural disasters; and the particular vulnerability of women to climate-related vector-borne diseases and, more recently, the Zika virus. It was important to have national gender policies and disaggregated statistical information, and to strengthen mechanisms for the advancement of women and inter-institutional coordination. Lastly, she said that the Montevideo Strategy that would be adopted at the session would act as a road map to guide implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda.

73. The Vice-President of the National Assembly of Ecuador said that while Latin America and the Caribbean was not the poorest region in the world, it was the most unequal. Inequalities were based on a philosophy of market concentration and women faced obstacles in the labour market, such as wage discrimination that made households poorer and had ethical implications. She also referred to the gender bias in households, where most of the unpaid workload was borne by women and said that such work was

recognized by her country's constitution. Transformative models that would not reproduce inequalities should be developed, with economic policies aimed at reducing poverty and inequality.

74. The co-founder of the Flora Tristán Women's Centre in Peru said that the region was experiencing a civilization paradigm crisis and that the Regional Gender Agenda and the Montevideo Strategy were instruments that would facilitate efforts to address the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Some obstacles that could affect the future of that Agenda in the region were capital accumulation, an extractivist approach, the weight of the corporate sector, a corrupt and discredited political class, the arbitrary disruption of elected officials' mandates, resistance to peace processes, threats to the secular State, and greater efforts to criminalize feminist protests and sexual diversity. Civil society played an important role in the defence of democracy and an autonomous regional fund must be established to enhance the impact of civil society. Lastly, she highlighted the role of the Montevideo Strategy in guiding implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda.

75. The Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission of ECLAC reflected on the opportunity that the 2030 Agenda offered at the regional level. He said that ECLAC would work with governments of the region to measure progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, the first meeting of which would be held in April 2017. He noted the contribution of the Montevideo Consensus, adopted at the first session of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America, the indicators that would emerge from the Statistical Conference of the Americas for the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda, and the participation of mechanisms for the advancement of women and of civil society in the meetings of those bodies, which had resulted in a consistent interpretation of those instruments and the Montevideo Strategy that was before the Conference for approval. He also said that the regional approach to implementing the 2030 Agenda would initiate an evolving and participatory process.

76. In the ensuing debate, participants noted the need to strengthen measurement and information systems in order to produce indicators and evidence that revealed the inequalities and violence that affected women, recognizing their diverse identities, in political and decision-making spaces, and in the areas of education, child and teenage pregnancy, child and forced marriage, and climate change and natural disasters, among others. They also highlighted the need to strengthen the mechanisms for the advancement of women in that process. The representative of Peru recognized the work of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and its contribution to the production and dissemination of data on those inequalities. She said that such information would help to mobilize the political will to carry out actions aimed at achieving women's autonomy, which should be reflected in sufficient and specific budgets.

Consideration and adoption of agreements by the Conference (agenda item 5)

77. The States members of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted resolution 6(XIII), the text of which is presented in annex 1 of this report, and adopted the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, the text of which is presented in annex 2 of this report.

Closing session

78. At the closing session, statements were made by Marina Arismendi, Minister of Social Development of Uruguay; José Luis Cancela Gómez, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay; María Nieves Rico, Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC; Mariella Mazzotti, Director of the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Uruguay; María Noel Vaeza, Director of the Programme Division of UN-Women; and Luis Fidel Yáñez, Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission of ECLAC.

79. The Minister of Social Development of Uruguay thanked ECLAC and its Division for Gender Affairs for organizing the Conference. She said that, at a time when there was a risk of backsliding, gender equality should be a key issue on the development agenda and not one inch should be given in the gains achieved. The Government of Uruguay had undertaken to continue its efforts to transform mandates into social practices. In that connection a gender perspective must be mainstreamed into all institutional domains and all the capacities that would be needed to comply with the Montevideo Strategy and to honour the commitments undertaken must be developed.

80. The Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay said that his country had been proud to host the Regional Conference, of which it would be the Chair for the next three years, as proof of his country's commitment to sustainable development with gender equality. The region was the only one in the world where, for almost 40 years, States had been meeting regularly to discuss and commit politically to eradicating discrimination against women and gender inequality and to take steps towards guaranteeing the autonomy of women and girls and their full enjoyment of human rights. The Regional Gender Agenda was the result of interrelated efforts by ECLAC and its member States, the active contribution of feminist and women's movements, and the support of the United Nations system and the inter-American human rights system, which had resulted in an improved, ambitious and comprehensive text. The Regional Gender Agenda complemented the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognized the central importance of gender equality and women's empowerment to achieving sustainable development. The Montevideo Strategy was the instrument that the region had agreed upon and recognized as providing redress to situations that violated the principles of equality and non-discrimination, in line with the goal of introducing a cross-cutting aspect to gender issues at the regional and national levels set out in the 2030 Agenda. The Strategy's 10 pillars included citizen participation, financing and budgets with a gender perspective, monitoring and accountability, and generating disaggregated statistical data through appropriate information systems. The Montevideo Strategy would help to renew Uruguay's national efforts, which could be summed up as "a State commitment to more equality".

81. The Chief of the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC said that the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was a new milestone on the road travelled since the first session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America, held in Havana in 1977. The Regional Gender Agenda was ambitious, broad and comprehensive, and had been developed by the governments of the region with the participation of civil society organizations, in particular women's and feminist movements, and international bodies. It was an Agenda of approaches and perspectives: equality, rights-based approaches, parity democracy and secularism, sustainable development, interculturality and intersectionality. It was also a political and ideological commitment to a better region for all. That Agenda included the idea that equality was at the centre of development, equality that did not begin or end with distributive equality. The exercise of women's human rights and their autonomy should be integral to creating a culture of gender equality. With a view to the future, a proposal had been made to strengthen public policies as part of sustainable development, creating a synergy between the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development, as seen from Latin America and the Caribbean. The Montevideo Strategy was the most recent component of the Regional Gender Agenda, which was dynamic, open and fluid and which would be enriched by all inputs. The Strategy was not only made up of 10 implementation pillars and a set of measures, it also addressed equality, rights, freedom, women's autonomy, a strong State, the importance of public policies and civil society's participation. The leap must be taken from the what to the how, from commitments to action. It focused on the ability of all governments of the region to reach agreements and adapt them to their national realities, priorities and resources. The Strategy's implementation pillars and measures sought to deconstruct the critical aspects of the major structural obstacles to gender equality. At the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which would be held in 2019, the progress made would be reviewed. Lastly, ECLAC was committed to helping the governments of the region on the road to gender equality, looking ahead to the future.

82. The Director of the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Uruguay said that institutions must change and that unjust social structures and systems had produced inequality. Institutions were made up of people and the commitment of those people, through individual and collective struggles, to making progress in the enjoyment of rights must be recognized. The feminist movement had postulated that the personal was political and she reiterated that policy was also formulated by groups made up of people.

83. The Director of the Programme Division of UN-Women said that the significant progress made in the past two decades must be protected in the face of adverse conditions. Substantive de facto and de jure equality must be achieved. The gender equality agenda must be multidimensional and indigenous and Afro-descendent women must have a voice. Preparations were underway for an international conference that would address problems faced by indigenous women. She called for the cultural change that had been launched by UN-Women with its "He for She" campaign to be pursued. Feminist organizations had been a bulwark of gender equality in the region. Gender mechanisms must have a budget and donor countries must continue to support Latin America and the Caribbean and finance equality programmes. The idea of an inclusive State and a parity democracy was fundamental and was evidence of a qualitative and quantitative change. She made particular reference to the "Ni una menos" movement and to the need to end gender violence. Lastly, she expressed solidarity with Ecuador, Cuba and Haiti in the aftermath of the natural disasters that they had suffered, and with the women of Colombia in their efforts to bring about peace. UN-Women would continue its work with ECLAC to unite all countries and find paths towards gender equality.

84. The Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Secretary of the Commission of ECLAC said that Latin America and the Caribbean was the only region in the world where, for four decades, States had been meeting regularly to discuss and commit politically to eradicating discrimination against women and girls, and taking steps towards gender inequality, and guaranteeing the autonomy of women and girls and their full enjoyment of human rights. The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean was the main forum for making cumulative and consistent additions to an ambitious, comprehensive and broad Regional Gender Agenda, which included all of the commitments adopted by the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean at past sessions of the Conference. The Regional Gender Agenda was the product of the political will and interrelated efforts of ECLAC States members, the active contribution of feminist and women's movements, the support of the United Nations system and the inter-American human rights system. With regard to the Montevideo Strategy adopted by the Conference, he pointed out that it was a political and technical instrument that would allow countries to make a qualitative leap towards implementing and strengthening multidimensional and comprehensive public policies to ensure women's human rights and autonomy and achieve gender equality in the region. It reasserted the role of the State in equality policies, ensuring that women's human rights and autonomy were cross-cutting

elements of medium- and long-term national sustainable development strategies. The entire State structure was therefore within the scope of the instrument, which also recognized the leadership of mechanisms for the advancement of women. The measures included in the Montevideo Strategy, which recognized the heterogeneity of the region and would benefit all women, would require the commitment and active participation of relevant ministries, planning and budgeting entities, decentralized bodies, parliaments and the judiciary, among other government stakeholders. He reiterated and affirmed the unwavering commitment of ECLAC to gender equality, which was reflected in its work. Lastly, he asked participants to observe a minute's silence in memory of the women of the region who had been killed by their partners.

85. At the end of the session, the representative of Chile officially conveyed her country's offer to host the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. That offer was welcomed by the delegations.

Annex 1

RESOLUTION 6(XIII)

The representatives of the member States of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean participating in the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Montevideo from 25 to 28 October 2016,

Bearing in mind the obligations assumed by States parties upon ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and its Optional Protocol, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and its Optional Protocols, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo, 2000) and two of its Protocols (the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air), the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006), the conventions of the International Labour Organization, in particular Nos. 100, 111, 156, 169, 183 and 189, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará, 1994), the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance (2013), the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons (2015), and other relevant treaties, covenants and conventions, which establish an international legal framework to protect, respect and guarantee all the human rights of women and girls in all their diversity, as well as the principle of non-discrimination, and to achieve gender equality and depatriarchalization,

Reaffirming the commitment of States to the Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001), the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), the International Conferences on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 2001; Doha, 2008; and Addis Ababa, 2015), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and the outcomes of their review processes, as well as resolution 71/1 of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants”,

Confirming the continued relevance of the commitments undertaken by the States members of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (1977), the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (1994), the Santiago Consensus (1997), the Lima Consensus (2000), the Mexico City Consensus (2004), the Quito Consensus (2007), the Brasilia Consensus (2010) and the Santo Domingo Consensus (2013),

Concerned about the dangers that slowing economies, weaknesses in democracies and discriminatory and violent patriarchal practices, discourses and cultural patterns based in the culture of privilege pose to the progress made in the areas of gender equality, the guarantee of women’s rights and the full exercise of their autonomy, and to the sustainable development of the countries of the region,

Bearing in mind that the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, at their fifty-third meeting, held in Santiago from 26 to 28 January 2016, agreed to design a strategy for the implementation of commitments already made by Governments in the Regional Gender Agenda and in keeping with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the seventieth session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015,

Considering that the methodology for devising the draft strategy was shared with and approved by governments at the three subregional meetings held preparatory to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling that the subregional meeting with Mexico and the Central American and Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries was held in Mexico City on 2 and 3 June 2016, that the meeting with South American countries was held in Santiago on 4 and 5 July 2016, and that the meeting with English-speaking and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries was held in Port of Spain on 26 and 27 July 2016,

Bearing in mind the extensive consultation process, during which the contributions of the States members of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and United Nations system bodies were compiled and incorporated into the draft strategy,

Bearing in mind also the contributions of civil society, in particular those of women's and feminist organizations and movements, to the Conference and to the preparation of the draft strategy through their active participation in the three aforementioned subregional meetings, in the meeting of experts preparatory to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santiago on 23 and 24 August 2016, and in the Conference itself,

1. *Welcome* the progress made since the adoption of the Santo Domingo Consensus at the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the progress in relation to the agreements adopted by other subsidiary bodies of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, such as Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. *Establish* that the Regional Gender Agenda of Latin America and the Caribbean is based on the commitments undertaken by the Governments of the region enshrined in the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (1977), the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (1994), the Santiago Consensus (1997), the Lima Consensus (2000), the Mexico City Consensus (2004), the Quito Consensus (2007), the Brasilia Consensus (2010) and the Santo Domingo Consensus (2013), that it is evolving and open to future, intergovernmentally agreed contributions, and that it dovetails with the Montevideo Consensus of Population and Development (2013);

3. *Reaffirm* the commitment to mainstream the perspective of gender and women's full autonomy and rights, as enshrined in all the Sustainable Development Goals, their targets, indicators and means of implementation, and to ensure that the Regional Gender Agenda contributes to fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the region;

4. *Welcome* the document *Equality and women's autonomy in the sustainable development agenda*,¹ and commend the Division for Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean upon its preparation;

5. *Adopt* the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, hereinafter "Montevideo Strategy", as a political and technical instrument designed to guide the full and effective implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and its mainstreaming into sustainable development plans by 2030;

6. *Agree* to adapt the Montevideo Strategy to national priorities, gender equality and rights plans, sustainable development plans and policies, and budgets;

7. *Agree also* to report, on a voluntary basis, at one of the two annual meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, on progress made in the adaptation and application of the Montevideo Strategy and its contribution to the full and effective implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda;

8. *Encourage* countries to step up efforts to promote awareness of the Regional Gender Agenda and the Montevideo Strategy and to take effective, concrete measures, in keeping with national priorities and ensuring consultation and cooperation with civil society;

9. *Recognize* mechanisms for participation and organization of women's and feminist organizations and urge countries to establish or strengthen effective, institutionalized and permanent mechanisms for citizen participation that are representative of the diversity of civil society organizations, in order to ensure their contribution to the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of public policies on gender equality and women's rights, especially macroeconomic, productive and sustainable development policies, at the regional, national, subnational and local levels;

10. *Reaffirm* the will to work, through joint efforts between countries, on the creation of a regional fund in support of women's and feminist organizations and movements, in the framework of the Montevideo Strategy and in coordination with machineries for the advancement of women;

11. *Express appreciation* for the contributions made by women's and feminist movements to the establishment of the regional fund and renew the mandate of the open-ended working group created at the fifth-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference to progress towards the establishment of the fund;

12. *Call upon* developed countries, the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant stakeholders to contribute financial resources, undertake transfers of technology and knowledge, and cooperate in building capacity with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda, taking into account the specific features of landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries, highly indebted and vulnerable Caribbean countries, least developed countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and those affected by unilateral measures contrary to international law;

13. *Urge* countries to strengthen the gender perspective in national planning and budgets and to build their technical skills and capacities for implementing, monitoring and providing accountability in

¹ LC/G.2686(CRM.13/3).

relation to the Regional Gender Agenda, with particular emphasis on designing and carrying out training strategies on the gender equality perspective in public policies, covering the various issues, territorial levels and course modalities;

14. *Reaffirm* the commitment to afford machineries for the advancement of women the highest level in the institutional hierarchy, and to strengthen them by providing sufficient, earmarked technical, human, political, administrative and financial resources to enable them to fulfil their role as the governing and managing bodies of policies on gender equality and women's rights and autonomy and ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed throughout the State structure;

15. *Reiterate* the call to strengthen the link between machineries for the advancement of women and national statistical offices, in the framework of the Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to produce, systematize and use official national disaggregated data in the indicators for follow up to international commitments, especially the Sustainable Development Goals, and to promote and support the creation of national observatories on gender equality;

16. *Recognize* the contributions and call for the strengthening of the Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, and for the required efforts to be made to improve data sources and build national statistical capacity, including through technical assistance;

17. *Agree* to report, through the Chair of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and with the support of the secretariat, to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development regarding progress in the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy from a perspective of gender and women's full autonomy and rights;

18. *Agree also* to report on progress in the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy at all the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women;

19. *Urge* the countries of the region to mobilize domestic and international financial resources to implement the Montevideo Strategy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

20. *Thank* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for organizing the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Division for Gender Affairs for preparing the corresponding documentation;

21. *Thank also* the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay for hosting the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean;

22. *Express particular gratitude* to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for its contributions and support provided to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference;

23. *Thank* the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization and the Inter-American Development Bank for the contributions and support provided to the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference;

24. *Thank also* civil society organizations, in particular women's and feminist organizations and movements, for their participation in the discussions on the Montevideo Strategy, for their attendance at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference and for their commitment to the rights and full autonomy of the women of Latin America and the Caribbean;

25. *Welcome* the offer by the Government of Chile to host the fourteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in 2019.

Annex 2

**MONTEVIDEO STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL
GENDER AGENDA WITHIN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
FRAMEWORK BY 2030**

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INTRODUCTION

Since the twelfth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Santo Domingo, 2013), the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, under the leadership of their ministers of women's affairs and officials from the machineries for the advancement of women, have expressed their determination and the need to establish a regional strategy to implement the Santo Domingo Consensus (paragraph 9 of the agreements adopted by the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women at their fiftieth meeting) and other regional agreements.

At the fifty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santo Domingo from 30 to 31 July 2015, governments discussed the idea of developing a strategy for the effective implementation of the different regional agreements on women. At the fifty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers, held in Santiago from 26 to 28 January 2016, the countries agreed to devise a strategy for the implementation of commitments undertaken by governments as part of the Regional Gender Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean, in keeping with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the seventieth session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.

The Regional Gender Agenda encompasses commitments made by the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean on women's rights and autonomy, and gender equality, at the sessions of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, from the first Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Havana, 1977) to date, on the terms under which the governments of the region adopted them, as reflected in *40 years of the Regional Gender Agenda*,¹ and in accordance with their domestic legislation.

As part of the process of drawing up the Montevideo Strategy, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), as the technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, undertook a systematic review of the language used over the last 40 years in the agreements that comprise the Regional Gender Agenda. That review took into account the socioeconomic context and discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals with the governments of the region and civil society, and led to the identification of the agreements linked to different implementation pillars. In this regard, the measures of the Montevideo Strategy under each implementation pillar build on existing agreements and make progress towards operationalizing and giving full effect to the Regional Gender Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean by 2030.

The methodology for devising the Montevideo Strategy was shared with and approved by governments at the three subregional preparatory meetings for the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: the meeting with Mexico and the Central American and Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries (Mexico City, 2 and 3 June 2016); the meeting with the South American countries (Santiago, 4 and 5 July 2016); and the meeting with the English-speaking and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries (Port of Spain, 26 and 27 July 2016).

Following an extensive consultation process, the different contributions of government officials, representatives of civil society organizations and United Nations system bodies were compiled. ECLAC prepared a first draft of the Montevideo Strategy, which was sent in August 2016 to States members of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean with the request that they submit

¹ LC/G.2682.

new comments in writing. To further strengthen the participatory process of drafting the Montevideo Strategy, a meeting was held at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, on 23 and 24 August 2016, with specialists from the women's movement and academic institutions, at which the first draft of the Montevideo Strategy was shared and discussed, and suggestions and comments were noted.

ECLAC used the contributions received to prepare an updated version of the document, to be considered by the States of the region at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean as the basis for negotiations, with a view to adopting the Montevideo Strategy.

A. THE REGIONAL GENDER AGENDA AND ITS SYNERGY WITH THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Latin America and the Caribbean is the only region in the world where, for the past four decades without fail, countries have been holding regular meetings to discuss and make a political commitment to eradicating discrimination against women and girls and gender inequality, and advancing towards the guarantee of full enjoyment of women's and girls' autonomy and human rights. The Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States, established in Havana in 1928, and the first World Conference of the International Women's Year, held in Mexico City in 1975, are important precedents that helped to create the conditions at the regional level in which an agenda of rights and non-discrimination could be developed and intergovernmental bodies specializing in women's human rights and gender equality could be established.

At the first Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Havana, 1977), the member States gave ECLAC a mandate to convene a Regional Conference on Women at regular intervals of no more than three years. Since then, 12 sessions of the Regional Conference have been held: Havana, 1977; Macuto, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, 1979; Mexico City, 1983; Guatemala City, 1988; Curaçao, 1991; Mar del Plata, Argentina, 1994; Santiago, 1997; Lima, 2000; Mexico City, 2004; Quito, 2007; Brasilia, 2010; and Santo Domingo, 2013.

The Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean has been the main forum for the negotiation of an ambitious, broad and comprehensive Regional Gender Agenda. This agenda comprises the commitments made by Latin American and Caribbean governments on women's rights and autonomy and gender equality that were adopted at sessions of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean. These commitments are reflected in the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development (1977), the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (1994), the Santiago Consensus (1997), the Lima Consensus (2000), the Mexico City Consensus (2004), the Quito Consensus (2007), the Brasilia Consensus (2010) and the Santo Domingo Consensus (2013).

The Regional Gender Agenda is the result of the political will and coordinated efforts of member States and the active contribution of the women's and feminist movements, as well as the support of the United Nations system and the inter-American human rights system. Synergies have been built and the agenda has been strengthened and enhanced by the obligations assumed by States upon ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and its optional protocol, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and its optional protocols, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo, 2000) and two of its protocols (the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air), the Convention on the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities (2006), the conventions of the International Labour Organization, in particular Nos. 100, 111, 156, 169, 183 and 189, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Belém do Pará, 1994), the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Related Forms of Intolerance (2013), the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons (2015) and other relevant treaties, covenants and conventions, which establish an international legal framework to protect, respect and guarantee all the human rights of women and girls in all their diversity, as well as the principle of non-discrimination, and to achieve gender equality.

Similarly, the Regional Gender Agenda reaffirms the commitment of governments to the Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, 2001), the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), the International Conferences on Financing for Development (Monterrey, 2001; Doha, 2008; and Addis Ababa, 2015), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), and the outcomes of the corresponding review processes. The Regional Gender Agenda converged, in 2015, with the commitments of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, then, in 2016, with those of the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and resolution 71/1 of the United Nations General Assembly, entitled “New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants”.

The Regional Gender Agenda also dovetails with agreements made by other subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, in particular the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development adopted by the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean at its first session, and the agreements adopted by the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, the Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies, the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee.

The Regional Gender Agenda is open to the future and to incorporating new commitments in a dynamic manner as they are undertaken by the member States of ECLAC. In addition to being progressive, it is cumulative, as each document recognizes the political and programmatic value of preceding agreements and complements them, taking into account new socioeconomic and political situations at the regional and global levels. On the basis of the analysis of the agreed language, the commitments undertaken over the past 40 years can be grouped into three categories: (a) approaches that guide public policies; (b) critical dimensions for gender equality and women’s autonomy, recognized as rights; (c) and implementation pillars, which are described below.

(a) The five approaches or perspectives that guide public policies and objectives linked to women’s autonomy and rights are: (i) gender equality; (ii) women’s human rights; (iii) intersectionality and interculturality; (iv) parity-based, representative and participatory democracy, and secularism; and (v) sustainable and inclusive development. These interrelated approaches also guide the measures of the Montevideo Strategy.

(b) he Regional Gender Agenda comprises agreements on gender equality and women's autonomy that address multiple issues that can be grouped together under certain critical dimensions that are integral to human rights, thereby recognizing women as rights-holders and States as the guarantors of those rights, while reaffirming that those rights are universal, indivisible, inalienable and interdependent:

- (i) Right to a life free of all forms of violence and discrimination: violence against women in its various manifestations (private, public, symbolic, institutional, cyber, economic, obstetric, political, in armed conflicts, in natural disasters, deprivation of liberty, harassment in the workplace, sexual harassment, sexual abuse and exploitation, migrant smuggling, trafficking in women, forced prostitution, rape, femicide); forced marriage and cohabitation imposed on girls and adolescents; public safety and cities; legislation and access to justice; educational content and the media; stereotypes, sexism, racism, ethnocentrism, homophobia, lesbophobia, transphobia and discrimination.
- (ii) Sexual and reproductive rights with respect to: comprehensive sexual education and information; safe, good-quality abortion services, in those cases where abortion is legal or decriminalized under the relevant national legislation; contraception; integrated social health-care services; maternal mortality; sexual orientation and gender identity; universal and accessible services; disability and old age; eradication of child pregnancy; prevention of adolescent pregnancy and motherhood; sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS; health emergencies; healthy maternity; technological development; different forms of family.
- (iii) Economic, social and cultural rights with respect to: income, employment and integration into the labour force; work and control of resources; land rights; sexual division of labour; unpaid and care work; social protection and security; education, science and communications technologies; transformation of cultural norms; intergenerational transmission of poverty; female heads of household and well-being, time use and allocation; fiscal and macroeconomic policies; social policies; public investment; rural areas; paid domestic work and informality; companies and business ventures; credit; technology and innovation; territory and production models.
- (iv) Civil and political rights with respect to: political participation and leadership; political parties and electoral systems; representation and parity; women's and feminist organizations and movements; migration; conflicts and peace processes; e-government.
- (v) Collective and environmental rights with respect to: land and territory; water and forests; ancestral knowledge; natural disasters and extreme weather events; climate change; rural and urban areas; risk management and mitigation; right to development; international cooperation.

(c) The Regional Gender Agenda includes agreements on the tools and means to advance effective guarantees of women's rights and autonomy under the principles of equality and non-discrimination, which are the foundations for the Montevideo Strategy implementation pillars and measures: (1) normative framework; (2) institutional architecture; (3) participation; (4) capacity-building and -strengthening; (5) financing; (6) communication; (7) technology; (8) cooperation; (9) information systems; and (10) monitoring, evaluation and accountability. These 10 pillars are considered to be interconnected priorities that create the conditions and means for the full and effective implementation of public policies aimed at eliminating inequality and ensuring that women in all their diversity can enjoy all human rights.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is in synergy with the Regional Gender Agenda. The Declaration contained in the 2030 Agenda affirms that it is the responsibility of States to respect, protect and promote human rights (paras. 10, 19, 35), and recognizes that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets, and, to that end, the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial

(para. 20). It also states that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country to achieve sustainable development (para. 59) and that each government will decide how these global targets should be incorporated into national planning processes, policies and strategies (para. 55). Thus, in order to address the structural challenges and priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, the existing commitments in the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda should be seen as complementary and the actions taken to achieve them should be linked to commitments arising from both agendas.

At the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC, held in Mexico City from 23 to 27 May 2016, the governments of the region established the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development. This Forum, which will be the regional mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, will receive annual reports from the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (resolution 700(XXXVI) of ECLAC) on progress made in the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and the Goals, targets and means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda from a gender perspective. In turn, the conclusions and recommendations agreed at the intergovernmental level in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development will inform the global process in the framework of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development.

Against this backdrop, the Montevideo Strategy will serve as a road map for the effective implementation of regional and global commitments on women's human rights and autonomy, and carrying out the actions and measures detailed under its 10 implementation pillars will help to put gender equality at the centre of sustainable development by 2030.

B. THE MONTEVIDEO STRATEGY: A POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN THE REGION BY 2030

The Montevideo Strategy is a regional political commitment that will guide the full implementation of the agreements adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (the Regional Gender Agenda), and make these agreements the road map for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional level from the perspective of gender equality and women's autonomy and human rights. Thus, the Montevideo Strategy is a political and technical instrument that will support a qualitative leap towards the implementation and strengthening of multidimensional and comprehensive public policies that ensure the fulfilment of human rights and women's autonomy and the achievement of gender equality in Latin America and the Caribbean. It draws on the lessons learned and issues outstanding after 20 years of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the 15 years of implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, and proposes measures to overcome the main obstacles to institutionalizing gender equality and women's rights in State structures. These measures will guide sectoral and cross-cutting public policies aimed at eliminating gender inequalities and fostering sustainable development.

The Montevideo Strategy redefines the role of the State in equality policies, by ensuring fulfilment of women's human rights and autonomy as a central pillar of medium- and long-term national sustainable development strategies. It is therefore an instrument whose scope encompasses the entire State structure and that recognizes the leadership of machineries for the advancement of women. The measures set forth in the Strategy require the commitment and active participation of sectoral ministries, planning and budgeting departments, decentralized agencies, parliaments and the judiciary, among other government stakeholders.

The success of the Montevideo Strategy at the regional level, as well as its adaptation at the national and subnational levels, requires active engagement by civil society in all its diversity in public policy monitoring and evaluation and follow-up of commitments, especially by women's and feminist movements and organizations, and those representing young, indigenous, Afro-descendent and rural women, migrant women, older women, women with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons, as well as academia, trade unions and human rights defenders. The private sector must also be involved, especially the business sector, which must act in conformity with women's human rights and with labour, environmental, taxation and transparency standards, and promote gender equality and women's autonomy and empowerment.

The Montevideo Strategy recognizes the region's heterogeneity, the special needs and particular challenges facing landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries, highly indebted and vulnerable Caribbean countries, least developed countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and those affected by unilateral measures contrary to international law. It is directed towards all those who face gender discrimination in Latin America and the Caribbean and its implementation will benefit all women, regardless of age, income, sexual orientation, gender identity, territory of residence, migratory status, race or ethnic origin, or physical or mental capacity.

There are multiple points of intersection between the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the pillars of implementation of the Montevideo Strategy. Sustainable Development Goal 17 of the 2030 Agenda is aimed at strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development the other 16 Goals have specific implementation targets.

The Montevideo Strategy is also consistent with the agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session of Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 14-24 March 2016). At that session, the Commission addressed women's empowerment and its link to sustainable development, by means of commitments to strengthening normative, legal and policy frameworks, financing, women's leadership and participation, information systems and review processes, and national institutional arrangements for gender equality.

1. Overcoming the structural challenges to the achievement of gender equality by 2030

The Montevideo Strategy is aimed at closing the gap between de jure and de facto equality by strengthening public policies to ensure the autonomy and full exercise of the human rights of all women and girls, ending discrimination, prejudice and all forms of resistance. In order to achieve gender equality, it is necessary to overcome certain structural challenges entrenched in the current unequal power relations in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is also necessary to consider the trends and contextual factors now crystallizing into new challenges: slowing economic growth, rising poverty, a resurgence of conservatism, demographic changes and shifts in family structure and composition, and the demise of the prevailing development pattern, which has brought rising inequality and environmental crisis.

The structural challenges to be overcome include: (i) socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty; (ii) discriminatory, violent and patriarchal cultural patterns and the predominance of a culture of privilege; (iii) the sexual division of labour and the unfair social organization of care; and (iv) the concentration of power and hierarchical relations in the public sphere. These challenges exacerbate each other and generate complex socioeconomic, cultural and belief systems that hinder and reduce the scope of policies on gender equality and women's autonomy. The Montevideo Strategy seeks to dismantle these structural challenges, which are described below, in order to make progress towards substantive equality.

(a) Socioeconomic inequality and the persistence of poverty in the framework of exclusionary growth

Latin America and the Caribbean continues to be the world's most unequal region. The reduction in income inequality in recent years, which was driven by steady economic growth and bolder social policies, did not bring a more balanced distribution between capital and labour. At the same time, in several countries, even as income inequality declined, the femininity index of poverty in households rose. This is consistent with the persistence of gender gaps in the labour market, wages, employment quality and access to social protection and security, as well as a social organization that assigns unpaid domestic work and care to women, together with policies and care services that are inadequate to ensure co-responsibility between men and women, the State, the market, families and the community. Barriers also remain with respect to women's access to production resources, such as credit, land, water, training, technologies and time. All this speaks to the structural nature of gender inequality.

The limitations of existing development policies, especially macroeconomic policies, the systemic regressiveness of fiscal policy and the loss of money through tax evasion and avoidance in the region are exacerbated by the low tax burden on the highest-income individuals and corporations, overreliance on indirect taxes with gender biases and the increasing adoption of fiscal austerity measures and cuts in social investment budgets. All these are major obstacles to overcome in order to mobilize sufficient public resources to achieve gender equality and women's and girls' rights.

Although, historically speaking, the Latin America and the Caribbean region has contributed less than other parts of the world to climate change, it is extremely vulnerable to the impacts. Among other reasons, this is because of its geographical location, its biodiversity and its patterns of production specialization, which are mostly intensive in natural resources and fossil fuels, but not in knowledge, technologies and quality employment creation, especially for women.

This situation is compounded by adverse economic conditions. There are worrying projections of increasing income poverty, as a result of slower economic growth, rising unemployment, mounting inflationary pressures and increased tax evasion. In contexts of slowdown and adjustment, it is important to take active measures to prevent macroeconomic policies and fiscal reforms from deepening women's poverty, increasing the unpaid work and care burden and limiting—or reducing outright—financing and budgets for equality policies and machineries for the advancement of women, especially their work to prevent and eliminate gender-based violence.

Given the demise of the prevailing development pattern, it is time to make the transition towards sustainable production and consumption patterns that incorporate policies on the redistribution of wealth, income and time. Overcoming poverty and narrowing equality gaps are essential to achieving substantive equality. It is also necessary to work for an international order conducive to the exercise of full citizenship and all human rights, including the right to development, which will benefit all women and girls and society as a whole.

(b) Discriminatory, violent and patriarchal cultural patterns and the predominance of a culture of privilege

Regional progress in access by girls, female adolescents, young and adult women, in all their diversity, to the education system, and by young and adult women to the labour market and decision-making and their increased participation in these spheres—as well as the involvement of some men in care work—does not belie the persistence of discriminatory, sexist and racist sociocultural patterns that continue to reproduce inequality and violence in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The past few years have seen a resurgence in discriminatory and violent patriarchal practices, discourses and cultural patterns based in the culture of privilege that restrict the full exercise of sexual and reproductive rights, and the recognition of different forms of family, sexual diversity and gender identity. The discrimination and violence that lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons face by reason of their sexual orientation and gender identity are evident in the obstacles they encounter in access to health care, good-quality employment, legal forms of union and family composition, and identity registration. This resurgence is a warning signal of the need for governments to take action to prevent backsliding in the guarantee the rights of all persons and the autonomy of women.

There also persist certain patriarchal cultural patterns that exclude and obscure the identity and knowledge of women —especially rural, indigenous, Afro-descendent and migrant women— thereby denying the pluricultural and multilingual nature of the Latin American and Caribbean region. These patterns, together with neoconservatism, make up systems of discrimination and privilege that are driven, as well, by the intersections of gender and other types of inequality in society linked to socioeconomic status, race or ethnic origin, age, place of residence and physical and mental capacities.

Patriarchal cultural patterns also underlie the wage gap, vocational orientation, the social organization of care and the violence perpetrated against women and girls. With sights set on 2030 and sustainable development, it is time to move from a culture of privilege to one of rights and equality, dismantling the androcentric understanding of the human being and its expression in public policies, and including boys, young men and men as agents and beneficiaries of this change. It is necessary, therefore, to eliminate all types of sex-based distinction, exclusion or restriction aimed at or resulting in the denial of effective enjoyment of human rights in the political, economic, social, cultural and environmental spheres. Substantive equality will be possible only when all people are acknowledged as equals in dignity and treated and recognized as bearers of rights.

(c) Sexual division of labour and unfair social organization of care

A number of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have made advances in conducting time-use surveys in order to account for time spent on unpaid work, and in recognizing care as a need and a right, which has led to the implementation of specific policies. Yet, despite this progress, the region still shows a rigid sexual division of labour based on unequal power relations, which prevents the reduction of this burden on women. This is evident in the fact that women’s increasing participation in the labour market and in the public sphere has not been accompanied by greater participation of men in unpaid domestic and care work, and in the fact that children and adolescents continue to be socialized under these patriarchal patterns. At the same time, market-based care work is performed mainly by women in three sectors of the economy: paid domestic work, health and education.

The social organization of care continues to be unfair and unbalanced, with heavy implications in terms of the equality gap between men and women, between women of different socioeconomic levels and between countries and territories. Many Latin American and Caribbean women form part of global care chains in which, given the lack of engagement by men, care work is transferred from one woman to another, on the basis of power relations structured by sex, class and place of origin. In the coming decade, an accelerating process of population ageing in the region will increase the burden of caring for older persons, the chronically ill and persons with some kind of disability, and the costs of health care and pension systems will rise. At the same time, although fertility rates are expected to fall by 2030, this decline will continue to be stratified by socioeconomic level and by race and ethnic origin.

All these elements will continue to prevent women from exercising economic autonomy unless they are tackled now by means of public policies to address the care demands of persons with some degree of dependence. Such policies must explicitly consider the rights of caregivers, whether paid or unpaid, to ensure that their opportunities to participate in decision-making processes and their labour and production options are not curtailed. Programmes and projects must be designed bearing in mind that the social organization of care is a responsibility that must be shared by men and women and redistributed between the various forms of family, social and community organizations, businesses and the State.

The sexual division of labour and the dominant cultural patterns have an impact on environmental problems and on the consequences of climate change for the day-to-day life of households. Rural, indigenous and campesino women are guardians of biodiversity but, under conditions of significant fragility and exploitation, they have less access to and control over land and production resources, and they shoulder the main responsibility for providing food for their families, collecting water and firewood, and tending vegetable plots and animals. Their responsibilities and disempowerment thus worsen their vulnerability and prevent them from developing adaptation and response capacities. Mitigation of climate change requires taking measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and analysing how the gender order relates to the prevailing cultural patterns of production, consumption, energy use and technology. In this context, it is important to consider women's contribution to mitigation as producers, workers and consumers, as well as researchers in the areas of clean, safe technology and energy, and public policymakers.

The challenges of eliminating poverty and inequality, care needs and demands, and the environmental crisis all demand that the existing sexual division of labour be overcome; this is essential to achieving equality by 2030.

(d) Concentration of power and hierarchical relations in the public sphere

Over the past few decades, despite the steady process of democratization, in Latin America and the Caribbean institutional, social and cultural structures have remained in place that restrict women's access to power and to decision-making processes, as well as to justice and enforceability of rights.

In addition, in some countries of the region, there is a tendency towards the concentration of political and economic power, a resurgence of antidemocratic positions, and cultures of authority and tutelage over women's bodies, which limit both women's autonomy and the development of society overall. It is especially worrying to see that, at the same time as channels are opening up for the participation of civil society in public life, women human rights defenders and social protest are being criminalized in contexts of socioenvironmental conflicts, and in a framework of impunity. In addition, there is insufficient recognition of the contribution made by women's and feminist movements and organizations and those representing Afro-descendent, indigenous and young women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons to democracy, cultural change and peaceful coexistence based on public policies for equality.

In order to achieve gender equality by 2030, it is essential to progress in interrelated processes: the deepening and fine-tuning of democracies and the democratization of political, socioeconomic and cultural regimes. Both are conditional upon achieving parity in the distribution of power. Parity democracy—as a quantitative and qualitative criterion—is thus central to the process of generating the conditions for women's full exercise of human rights and citizenship.

In short, ending inequality and poverty, transforming discriminatory and violent patriarchal cultural patterns and the culture of privilege, dismantling the sexual division of labour, and consolidating parity democracy are four interrelated drivers, four substantive highways towards gender equality and development patterns based on human rights, women's autonomy and sustainability. These four drivers cut across all the measures under the implementation pillars of the Montevideo Strategy and provide the political orientation for public policies aimed at transforming gender relations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

C. THE MONTEVIDEO STRATEGY: PILLARS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL GENDER AGENDA WITHIN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK BY 2030

The Montevideo Strategy is aimed at giving effect to the pillars for the implementation of public policies that will help to eliminate gender inequalities and to guarantee the human rights and autonomy of women in all their diversity. The Strategy's implementation pillars are: (1) normative framework; (2) institutions; (3) participation; (4) capacity-building and -strengthening; (5) financing; (6) communication; (7) technology; (8) cooperation; (9) information systems; and (10) monitoring, evaluation and accountability. These pillars are interrelated and putting them into effect will help to establish sustainable sectoral and cross-cutting policies aimed at eliminating gender inequalities and guaranteeing the effective enjoyment of human rights by all women, without discrimination.

These pillars are closely associated with the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The targets on finance and systemic issues under Sustainable Development Goal 17 are taken up in implementation pillars 5 and 8 of the Montevideo Strategy (financing and cooperation). The technology targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17 and target 5.b (Sustainable Development Goal 5) are covered by implementation pillar 7 (technology). Capacity-building is incorporated in implementation pillars 2 and 4 (institutional architecture, and capacity-building and -strengthening). The targets on data, monitoring and accountability under Sustainable Development Goal 17 are covered by implementation pillars 9 and 10 (information systems, and monitoring, evaluation and accountability). The means of implementation, target 5.c (Sustainable Development Goal 5), to adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels, are considered in implementation pillar 1 (normative framework). In addition, the implementation pillars of the Montevideo Strategy go further in highlighting two fundamental means for the full and effective implementation of public policies on equality in Latin America and the Caribbean in pillars 3 and 6, namely participation and communication.

The Montevideo Strategy sets out 74 measures for the 10 implementation pillars that have been agreed at the regional level by the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean. These measures can be adapted to the priorities and needs of individual countries and included in sustainable development plans for application at different levels (national, subnational, local, regional and international). This multi-scale approach seeks to reduce inequality within and among countries. The level at which measures are implemented will depend on the political and administrative structure of each country, while regional and international measures will be carried out jointly by intergovernmental bodies at those levels.

1. Normative framework: equality and the rule of law

The normative framework comprises the statutory, legal and political basis for women's rights and gender equality. It includes all the laws, policies, equality plans, planning tools, programmes, standards, regulations and intervention protocols, as well as binding and non-binding international instruments that define the scope of public policy. The normative framework is developed by various State actors from the executive, legislative and judicial branches at different territorial levels.

Measures:

- 1.a Incorporate the commitments undertaken by governments in the Regional Gender Agenda of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, into national, subnational and local policies, plans and programmes on equality, women's rights and sustainable development.
- 1.b Ratify and enforce human rights treaties; review laws, policies, plans, programmes and protocols periodically, and modify them if necessary, to bring them into line with international standards on women's human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination; and ensure that all women's rights are respected, protected and guaranteed and prevent setbacks.
- 1.c Modify or adapt the national legal framework by incorporating the principle of equality and prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex as set out in articles 1 and 2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 1.d Adopt comprehensive and specific laws and regulations on gender equality and women's human rights, including legislation on the right to a life free of all forms of gender-based violence, and ensure their full and effective implementation.
- 1.e Design and execute plans on gender equality, depatriarchalization and women's rights with non-transferable, progressive and sufficient budgets and targets engaging different levels of government.
- 1.f Mainstream gender equality and women's rights in national development plans and planning instruments.
- 1.g Establish mandatory periodic reviews of the implementation of gender equality plans and modify policies and programmes by incorporating recommendations to overcome any obstacles.
- 1.h Design and implement comprehensive and intersectoral intervention protocols, with an intersectional, intercultural, gender and human-rights-based approach, that establish quality standards to ensure non-discrimination on the basis of gender and the adaptability of programmes and services, which should have sufficient, non-transferable allocations of financial resources and be applied at different levels of the State.
- 1.i Remove all legal and institutional barriers to women's effective and equal access to justice, without discrimination, by ensuring participation, transparency, independence and high-quality, timely assistance from specialized personnel, and access to comprehensive remedies for damages in the event of rights violations in order to end impunity.

- 1.j Ensure that laws, regulations and protocols include mechanisms and procedures to ensure the enforceability of women's rights.
- 1.k Adopt laws and norms to ensure women's equal access to political power, by fostering gender parity in participation throughout the public sphere.
- 1.l Endeavour to ensure that the position of Latin American and Caribbean countries in international discussions on macroeconomic policy, and trade, investment and financial agreements, incorporates the commitments of the Regional Gender Agenda and their link with Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular that the position on sustainable development be transmitted to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development by the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.
- 1.m Promote measures, policies and programmes for the full engagement of boys, young men and men as strategic allies in achieving gender equality, promoting and guaranteeing women's rights and eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

2. Institutional architecture: multidimensional and comprehensive gender equality policies

Gender institutional architecture is the outcome of political and technical processes and constitutes the organizational structure that oversees public policies on women's rights and gender equality in all branches and at all levels of the State. The design and modalities of national institutions are heterogeneous and comprise machineries for the advancement of women, gender equality entities in sectoral ministries, the legislative branch, the judiciary, decentralized agencies and intersectoral and inter-institutional coordination bodies.

Measures:

- 2.a Afford machineries for the advancement of women the highest level in the institutional hierarchy, supported by the normative framework, so that, in executing their functions, they can fulfil their role as the governing and managing bodies of policies on gender equality and women's rights and autonomy, and ensure that gender equality is mainstreamed throughout the State structure.
- 2.b Strengthen machineries for the advancement of women by providing sufficient technical, human, political, administrative and financial resources and guarantee their sustainability over time, with a particular focus on the subnational and local levels.
- 2.c Promote the establishment and consolidation of gender equality and women's rights bodies in sectoral ministries (including ministries of public administration, where they exist), decentralized agencies, subnational, municipal and local governments, and the legislative and judicial branches, by providing them with human, technical and political resources and a specific budget.
- 2.d Establish permanent government mechanisms, with specific mandates, division of duties, resource allocations and work plans, for intersectoral and inter-institutional coordination, especially between machineries for the advancement of women and central planning and budgeting units, to participate in the preparation and implementation of development plans and public budgets, mainstreaming the gender perspective in planning and budgeting at the national, subnational and local levels.

- 2.e Ensure ongoing coordination, facilitated by the technical secretariat of the Conference, among the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the other subsidiary bodies of ECLAC and the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, in order to ensure coordinated follow-up to the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance with their respective mandates.

3. Popular and citizen participation: democratization of policy and society

Popular and citizen participation, and in particular that of women's and feminist organizations and movements, in the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda refers to their contribution to the design, application and follow-up of policies at the national and international levels. To achieve active and substantive participation, a safe and enabling environment must be created by strengthening organization processes, building capacities, facilitating access to information and justice, and establishing channels for dialogue with the general public, including over the Internet, and parity-based participation mechanisms that are effective, institutionalized, permanent and representative of the diversity in women's and feminist movements and organizations and those representing young, indigenous, Afro-descendent and rural women, older women, migrant women, women from diverse ethnic, religious and linguistic backgrounds, women living with HIV/AIDS, internally displaced women, women living in poverty, women deprived of liberty, women with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons.

Measures:

- 3.a Support women's leadership in social and political organizations, promoting parity-based participation in democracy, institution-building and the advocacy capacities of civil society organizations, women's and feminist movements, and, in particular, leadership among adolescents, young women, indigenous women, Afro-descendent women, rural women, migrant women, women living with HIV/AIDS, women with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex (LGBTI) persons, respecting their organizational expressions.
- 3.b Establish mechanisms that guarantee participation on a parity basis by women in all their diversity in the public sphere, in elected and designated positions encompassing all functions and at all levels of the State.
- 3.c Create and maintain a safe and supportive environment for the full and effective participation of civil society through an enabling policy framework, a human rights protection system that safeguards freedoms and ensures effective access to justice, timely public information and citizen participation channels, including mechanisms for the free, prior and informed consent of rural and campesino communities and different indigenous peoples and ethnic groups.
- 3.d Establish or strengthen effective, institutionalized and permanent citizen participation mechanisms that are representative of the diversity in civil society organizations, to ensure their contribution to the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of public policies on gender equality and women's human rights, especially macroeconomic, production and sustainable development policies and policies on the mitigation of and response to extreme weather events, risk management and resilience-building at the regional, national, subnational and local levels.

- 3.e Foster the development of online participation and consultation platforms to involve all citizens, individuals and groups in decision-making, particularly young people and women of all ages, Afro-descendent women and those who live in rural, ethnic or indigenous communities or far from decision-making structures, ensuring equal access to information and broad-based consultations.
- 3.f Allocate sufficient budgets for the functioning of social oversight and accountability mechanisms, observatories and other instruments, and for the participation of civil society organizations, particularly feminist movements and organizations of women of all ages.
- 3.g Promote spaces for the participation of civil society, especially women's and feminist movements, in the framework of regional integration bodies and regional and global intergovernmental bodies, such as the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and other subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Population and Development, the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up.
- 3.h Work towards the creation of a regional fund in support of women's and feminist movements and organizations, taking into consideration the input of civil society.

4. State capacity-building and -strengthening: public administration based on equality and non-discrimination

Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda will require the development and strengthening of the capacities of institutions and of the human resources involved in designing and executing policies at all levels of State. Institutional capacities are strengthened through policy planning, management and monitoring, ensuring coherence between gender equality policies and development policies. Tools for strengthening human resources include training, the exchange of experiences, knowledge transfers and technical assistance at the national, regional and international levels.

Measures:

- 4.a Design and implement plans for training and ongoing education, in partnership with academic centres, feminist organizations and international organizations, on gender equality, women's rights, intersectionality and interculturality in all public institutions, particularly the justice system, security forces and the health and education sectors, in order to have human resources skilled in the design and implementation of sectoral and cross-cutting gender policies nationwide.
- 4.b Incorporate continuing training on gender equality and women's rights, intersectionality and interculturality into civil service training programmes, and attach importance to this training as part of civil servants' development and career advancement.
- 4.c Design, and implement continuing training, management and evaluation strategies to build an organizational culture open to gender, intersectional and intercultural policies.

- 4.d Design specific training processes to build the leadership capacities of women of all ages in order to achieve parity-based participation in decision-making roles and, in particular, in senior management, executive and technical positions.
- 4.e Implement regional training, capacity-building and experience-exchange programmes (online and in-person) on the Regional Gender Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goal indicators and development planning, with the support of ECLAC.

5. Financing: mobilizing sufficient and sustainable resources for gender equality

Financing the Regional Gender Agenda includes national and international public funding sources. Both available and potential sources are considered in order to mobilize the maximum available resources to guarantee the fulfilment of women's rights and gender equality. Financing refers to the amount, level and composition of resource allocations and revenue sources that increase funding progressively and in line with equality priorities.

Measures:

- 5.a Design, implement and evaluate macroeconomic policies, particularly fiscal policies (income, spending and investment), from a gender equality and human rights perspective to safeguard the progress made and mobilize the maximum available resources.
- 5.b Assess, using costing exercises with a gender perspective, the budgetary needs of various State institutions linked to achieving the Regional Gender Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, and identify available and potential sources of public financing that respond to the economic and social needs of each country.
- 5.c Promote and adopt progressive fiscal policies and allocate budgets with a gender perspective to ensure sufficient, non-transferable, sustainable resources that cover all levels and areas of public policy aimed at reversing gender inequalities and guaranteeing women's rights.
- 5.d Ensure that fiscal adjustment measures or budget cuts aimed at addressing economic slowdowns are in line with the principles of human rights and non-discrimination, bearing in mind that these measures should be temporary and used exceptionally for the duration of the crisis, and should avoid worsening women's poverty rates, increasing their burden of unpaid and care work, and reducing financing and budgets for equality policies and machineries for the advancement of women.
- 5.e Monitor changes in the amount, level, composition and disbursement of budget allocations for policies aimed at reducing gender inequalities and guaranteeing women's rights, and disseminate that information.
- 5.f Ensure that the private sector, particularly the corporate sector, contributes effectively to the financing of women's entrepreneurship, public services and social protection by paying progressive taxes, and that the State avoids the granting of tax privileges.
- 5.g Carry out gender impact assessments of fiscal policies before and after implementation, to ensure that these policies do not have a negative effect, explicit or implicit, on gender equality, women's rights or autonomy, for example, increasing the unpaid and care workload or women's poverty rates.

- 5.h Strengthen regional cooperation to combat tax evasion and avoidance and illicit financial flows, and improve tax collection from the wealthiest and highest-income groups by introducing corporate income, wealth and property taxes, among others, in order to have greater resources for gender equality policies.
- 5.i Urge the agencies of the United Nations and the inter-American system to ensure that their gender machineries have sufficient resources for the full implementation of policies on gender equality and women's rights.
- 5.j Allocate sufficient financial resources for human resource and institutional capacity-building and -strengthening, in particular in small, highly indebted Caribbean countries for the full and effective implementation of women's human rights and gender equality policies.

6. Communication: access to information and cultural change

Communication of the Regional Gender Agenda refers to the plans, campaigns and actions undertaken to raise awareness on gender-related normative frameworks, institutional architecture, statistics and information, as well as campaigns for cultural change towards equality and to fulfil women's and girls' human rights, in particular sexual and reproductive rights.

Measures:

- 6.a Design and implement communications plans, with earmarked resources and impact measurement, aimed at the civil service, civil society, the academic sector, the media and society as a whole, to systematically disseminate the agreements, commitments and obligations of the Latin American and Caribbean States relating to women's and girls' human rights and gender equality, and their linkages with global, national, subnational and local priorities.
- 6.b Establish, using information and communications technologies (ICTs), communication plans for different specific audiences in order to ensure the continuous dissemination of legislation and regulatory policies to eliminate gender inequality and guarantee women's human rights.
- 6.c Conduct continuous communication campaigns based on quantitative and qualitative studies, with the aim of producing cultural change for gender equality in all areas.

7. Technology: towards e-government and innovative and inclusive economies

Technology, as an implementation pillar of the Regional Gender Agenda, involves mechanisms for the development, transfer and dissemination of technology, as well as equal access and use. It entails technology transfer under favourable, concessional and preferential conditions for Latin American and Caribbean countries, including preferential terms, to ensure that technologies are socially appropriate, safe and environmentally sustainable, and help eliminate gender inequality. Emphasis is also placed on information and communications technologies (ICTs) as a means of advancing towards e-government policies taking into consideration women's needs and the exercise of their citizenship and rights.

Measures:

- 7.a Design and carry out periodical ex ante and ex post assessments of the effects of technologies with respect to gender equality in such areas as women's employment, health, the protection of the ancestral knowledge of women of different indigenous, ethnic and racial groups, harassment and violence through technological means, natural resources and production methods.
- 7.b Formulate and implement e-government policies, with a gender equality, intersectional and intercultural perspective, thereby enhancing the efficiency and quality of public services, access to information, transparency, use of open data, public participation and accountability, as well as ensuring data confidentiality and protection of users.
- 7.c Incorporate gender equality, intersectional, intercultural and intergenerational perspectives into the design and application of digital agendas and national strategies for innovation and ICTs.
- 7.d Design and execute specific programmes to close the gender gaps in access, use and skills in science, technology and innovation, and encourage the parity-based participation of women in this area.
- 7.e Encourage, in the framework of the United Nations Technology Facilitation Mechanism, commitments regarding access to and the exchange, transfer and dissemination of technology under favourable, concessional and preferential conditions, and promote multidimensional evaluation to ensure that technology transfers are safe, socially appropriate, environmentally sustainable, and in keeping with commitments relating to women's rights and gender equality.

8. Cooperation: towards democratic multilateral governance

Latin American and Caribbean countries and the international community are called upon to cooperate and provide assistance, according to their capacities and resources, to support efforts to achieve gender equality and guarantee women's rights. Cooperation agreements to fulfil the Regional Gender Agenda may be technical, scientific or financial in nature, or involve the transfer of technology or skills. Regional, South-South and triangular cooperation complement —but do not replace— North-South cooperation, and are based on the principles of horizontality, non-conditionality and mutual benefit.

Measures:

- 8.a Harmonize regional norms consistent with women's human rights, and evaluate the extraterritorial effects of the legislation and policies adopted, with respect to transnational issues such as migration, trafficking of women and girls, smuggling of migrants, international organized crime, drug smuggling, forced displacement and the situation of refugees, global value chains and global care chains, financial volatility, wealth concentration, climate change, portability of pensions and the rights of Afro-descendent women and women of different indigenous and ethnic groups.
- 8.b Implement development cooperation agreements between countries and subregions, particularly to address extreme natural events or other critical situations, in the technical, scientific and financial fields and in relation to labour standards and the social, economic, cultural and environmental rights of women.

- 8.c Increase resources and technical support to build resilience in small island developing and coastal States that are susceptible to the impacts of climate change, disasters and extreme weather events.
- 8.d Strengthen the coordination between the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the gender machineries of the inter-American system and the regional and subregional integration blocs in order to ensure synergies in the implementation and follow-up of the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- 8.e Urge developed countries to meet their official development assistance commitments, particularly by devoting 0.7% of gross national income to this purpose, and contributing 0.15%-0.20% to the least developed countries.
- 8.f Promote cooperation and support for middle-income countries, particularly highly indebted and vulnerable Caribbean countries, by defining comprehensive methodologies for classifying countries based on structural development gaps in order to evaluate levels of development and gender inequality more accurately and comprehensively.
- 8.g Urge developed countries to increase non-conditional official development assistance planned, in a concerted manner, with sufficient resources to fund gender equality policies and mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 8.h Promote the representation of Latin American and Caribbean countries, with delegations composed on the basis of parity, in global economic governance institutions that design and implement international norms on finance, trade and debt, and ensure that these norms are consistent with women's human rights.
- 8.i Explore debt relief options for highly indebted and vulnerable Caribbean countries, promote solutions to address the debt overhang and guarantee the necessary resources for the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and the achievement of sustainable development.

9. Information systems: transforming data into information, information into knowledge and knowledge into political decisions

Gender information systems involve the processes of selecting, compiling, integrating, processing, analysing and disseminating information on gender inequalities, as well as on the progress made and challenges that remain in ensuring fulfilment of women's rights. Qualitative and quantitative gender statistics and indicators may come from various sources, mainly from the data-producing agencies that make up the national statistical system.

Measures:

- 9.a Establish and strengthen national statistical systems with a gender perspective, which requires improving the coverage, quality and periodicity of sociodemographic and economic statistics through surveys, censuses and administrative records, using common classifications that ensure comparability.

- 9.b Ensure the disaggregation and dissemination of data by sex, age, race and ethnic origin, socioeconomic status and area of residence, in order to improve analyses to reflect the diversity of women's situations.
- 9.c Develop and strengthen instruments to measure gender inequalities, such as surveys on time use, violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and use of public spaces, and ensure their funding and periodicity.
- 9.d Design and incorporate into public information systems indicators to measure the level of commitment to and guarantee of women's human rights, differentiating structural, process and outcome indicators, and signs of qualitative progress.
- 9.e Build or strengthen inter-institutional partnerships between bodies that produce and use information, particularly between machineries for the advancement of women, national statistical offices, academic institutions and national human rights institutions.
- 9.f Publish and disseminate, through open-access digital means, good-quality, timely and free information on legislative discussions, approved and executed budgets and judicial decisions.
- 9.g Strengthen the statistical capacities of machineries for the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean to mainstream the gender perspective in all statistical generation or integration projects.
- 9.h Promote the production of information for follow-up on the commitments assumed under the Regional Gender Agenda, seeking complementarity with the indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development.
- 9.i Intensify coordination between the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and encourage cooperation between countries and participation in the sessions of the United Nations Statistical Commission.

10. Monitoring, evaluation and accountability: guaranteeing rights and transparency

The monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and accountability are part of the cycle of planning and implementing policies on gender equality and women's rights, and permit an analysis of the obstacles and advances in the fulfilment of commitments adopted by States. Accountability implies the use of mechanisms to disseminate relevant, sufficient, timely and reliable information, and the provision of forums for dialogue with civil society, which performs a citizen oversight function. Coordination between the different accountability instruments reduces overlap, promotes positive synergies and transparency, and helps to consolidate open governments.

Measures:

- 10.a Create or strengthen monitoring systems, according to agreed criteria, that comprehensively and periodically evaluate the level of implementation of laws, norms, policies, plans and programmes on gender equality and women's rights at the regional, national and subnational levels.
- 10.b Take into consideration the information compiled from monitoring and evaluation to create or strengthen accountability mechanisms relating to advances concerning and fulfilment of the Regional Gender Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, particularly, allocated budgets at all levels of public administration.
- 10.c Promote inter-institutional coordination among machineries for the advancement of women, national human rights institutions and the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI) and the Protocol of San Salvador, to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap in the monitoring and evaluation of policies on gender equality and women's rights.
- 10.d Ensure that the reports presented by countries to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are broader and more detailed, and that they are submitted in accordance with the schedule set out by the United Nations, that civil society is consulted in the follow-up and evaluation of the policies to which the reports refer, and that legislative changes made are consistent with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- 10.e Report to the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development on the fulfilment of the agreements and commitments undertaken under the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- 10.f Report on the regional advances and obstacles concerning the full and effective implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda and its synergies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 10.g Ensure that civil society organizations enjoy effective access to public information so that they can fulfil their role of monitoring policies on equality and women's rights.

**D. FOLLOW-UP TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MONTEVIDEO
STRATEGY BY 2030**

The Montevideo Strategy is a regional agreement that ECLAC member States will adapt to their priorities, plans for gender equality and rights, sustainable development plans and national policies and budgets.

States are responsible for systematically assessing the progress made in the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy through an open and participatory follow-up framework that includes regional accountability mechanisms and the active participation of civil society organizations.

From the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016 until 2030, governments will be able to report voluntarily on their progress in the application and adaptation of the Montevideo Strategy at one of the two annual meetings of the Presiding

Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in accordance with a timetable for reporting on implementation pillars in specific areas of interest to be agreed on by the governments of the region.

Moreover, each year, pursuant to resolution 700(XXXVI) of the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC, the Chair of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, with the support of the secretariat, will report to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development on the progress made in the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy. These reports will contribute to the global process in the framework of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up.

These reports will also be included in the region's contribution to the sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the special regional consultations organized by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as a regional input to the global discussion on gender equality and women's rights, and the follow-up to the Sustainable Development Goals.

ECLAC has a mandate to convene the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at intervals of no more than three years (Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, 1977, paragraph 88.1). Hence, four sessions of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to be held between now and 2030 (2019, 2022, 2025 and 2028), one every three years. At each of these sessions, a progress report will be presented on the execution of the Montevideo Strategy and on fulfilment of the goals on gender equality and women's autonomy included in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Regional Gender Agenda.

The aim of the follow-up to the implementation of the Montevideo Strategy by 2030 is to monitor States' efforts to fully and effectively implement the Regional Gender Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a view to guaranteeing women's human rights and autonomy and moving towards more equal and sustainable development patterns.

Annex 3

EXPLANATION OF POSITION BY THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA

**MINISTERIO
DE
RELACIONES EXTERIORES**

Managua, Nicaragua

MRE/DGOCI/00859-E-2/10/2016

EL MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE LA REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA, tiene el honor de dirigirse A LA HONORABLE COMISION ECONOMICA PARA AMERICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE (CEPAL) Y A LA PRESIDENCIA DE LA XIII CONFERENCIA REGIONAL SOBRE LA MUJER DE AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, en ocasión de presentar la Reserva General de Nicaragua, sobre el documento "Agenda Regional de Género: Estrategia de Montevideo para su implementación en el marco del Desarrollo Sostenible hacia 2030".

EL MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE LA REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA, en nombre del Gobierno de Reconciliación y Unidad Nacional de Nicaragua, desea reiterar su posición de principio en la que nuestro Gobierno, de acuerdo a su Constitución y sus leyes, y como signatario de la Convención Americana de Derechos Humanos, confirma que toda persona tiene derecho a la vida, siendo este derecho fundamental e inalienable y que este derecho comienza desde el momento de la concepción. El aborto o la interrupción del embarazo bajo ningún concepto podrán ser considerados como un medio de regulación de la fecundidad o de control de la natalidad tal como quedó precisado en la Conferencia Internacional sobre la Población y el Desarrollo; toda legislación interna que regula esta materia es soberanía de la nación de Nicaragua. El Gobierno de Nicaragua acepta los conceptos de derechos reproductivos y salud reproductiva y considera que el aborto no es un componente de los mismos.

Por lo tanto, nuestro Gobierno desea reservar toda mención a derechos sexuales y reproductivos en el documento "Agenda Regional de Género: Estrategia de Montevideo para su implementación en el marco del Desarrollo Sostenible hacia 2030", que se adoptará en la XIII Conferencia Regional sobre la Mujer de América Latina y el Caribe, Montevideo, Uruguay, los días 25 al 28 de octubre del 2016.

EL MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES DE LA REPÚBLICA DE NICARAGUA, ruega dejar sin efecto la Nota N°MRE/DGOCI/00859-E/10/2016 enviada anteriormente y aprovecha la oportunidad para reiterar A LA HONORABLE COMISION ECONOMICA PARA AMERICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE (CEPAL) Y A LA PRESIDENCIA DE LA XIII CONFERENCIA REGIONAL SOBRE LA MUJER DE AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE, las seguridades de su más alta y distinguida consideración.

Managua, 27 de octubre del 2016.

A la Honorable
Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)

A la Honorable
Presidencia de la XIII Conferencia Regional sobre la Mujer de América Latina y el Caribe.



[Translation of the Spanish by the secretariat]

**Republic of Nicaragua
Central America**

**MINISTRY
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Managua, Nicaragua

MRE/DGOCI/00859-E-2/10/2016

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua has the honour to write to the esteemed Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and to the Chair of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean in order to submit the general explanation of position of Nicaragua regarding the document “Montevideo Strategy for implementation of the regional gender agenda within the sustainable development framework by 2030”.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, on behalf of the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity of Nicaragua, wishes to reiterate its position of principle, by which our Government, in accordance with its constitution and laws and as a signatory of the American Convention on Human Rights, affirms that every person has a right to life, this being a fundamental and inalienable right, and that this right begins at the moment of conception. Abortion or the termination of a pregnancy can under no circumstances be considered means of regulating fertility or birth control as was stated at the International Conference on Population and Development. All domestic legislation on this issue is a sovereign matter to be decided by the people of Nicaragua.

Therefore, our Government wishes to express its reservation regarding all mention of sexual and reproductive rights in the document “Montevideo Strategy for implementation of the regional gender agenda within the sustainable development framework by 2030”, which will be adopted at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Montevideo, from 25 to 28 October 2016.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua requests the withdrawal of its previous note No. MRE/DGOCI/00859-E/10/2016 and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the esteemed Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and to the Chair of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean the assurances of its highest consideration.

Managua, 27 October 2016

The Honourable Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

H.E. the Chair of the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(Signed)
Department of International Organizations and Conferences
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Nicaragua, Central America

Annex 4

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Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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Programa Mundial de Alimentos (PMA)/World Food Programme (WFP)

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Specialized agencies**

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/International Labour Organization (ILO)

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**Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (FAO)/
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

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**Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO)/
United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

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**Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS)-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)/
World Health Organization (WHO)-Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)**

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Intergovernmental organizations**

Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)/Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

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CAF-Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina/CAF-Development Bank of Latin America

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**Organización Iberoamericana de Seguridad Social (OISS)/Ibero-American Social Security
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Organización de Cooperación y Desarrollo Económicos (OCDE)/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

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Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (OEI)/Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture

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Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

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Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)/International Organization for Migration (IOM)

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