

AG/RES.2803 (XLIII-O/13)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION,  
PUNISHMENT, AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,  
“CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ”

(Approved at the second plenary session, held on June 5, 2013)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Resolutions AG/RES. 2162 (XXXVI-O/06), AG/RES. 2330 (XXXVII-O/07), AG/RES. 2371 (XXXVIII-O/08), AG/RES. 2451 (XXXIX-O/09), AG/RES. 2544 (XL-O/10), AG/RES. 2692 (XLI-O/11) and AG/RES. 2711 (XLII-O/12), Mechanism to Follow Up on Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará”; and

The report on the follow-up mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2711 (XLII-O/12) to the forty-third regular session of the General Assembly (CP/doc.4830/13) and the progress made by the mechanism;

RECALLING that the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará,” is the first binding international legal instrument that specifically addresses violence against women, whereby the states parties undertake to act with due diligence to prevent, investigate, and punish violence against women;

CONSIDERING that the country and hemispheric reports prepared during multilateral evaluation rounds are an important reference point for tracking progress in the prevention, punishment, and eradication of violence against women and identify the challenges for future action;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the assistance rendered by the MESECVI in the adoption and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and its monitoring mechanism; and

CONSIDERING that 2014 will mark twenty years since the adoption of the Convention of Belém do Pará by the OAS General Assembly and that this historical moment warrants broad reflection on the impact of the Convention for states parties and on the work of the states parties in implementing it,

RESOLVES:

1. To urge member states that have not already done so to give prompt consideration to ratifying or, as appropriate, acceding to the Convention of Belém do Pará, or participating in the

Mechanism as observers, in accordance with Article 4(1) of the MESECVI Statute, and to undertake actions to prevent, punish, and eradicate violence against women.

2. In preparation for the 2014 celebrations to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Convention of Belém do Pará and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of its follow-up mechanism (MESECVI, 2004):

- a. To call on the States Parties to the Convention to organize, in 2014, national and subregional forums or meetings for progress reports on implementation of the Convention of Belém do Pará, within the available financial and human resources.
  - b. The CIM Executive Secretariat to prepare the proposal for a Hemispheric Forum on “Progress Report on the Convention of Belém do Pará: 20 years of Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women,” as decided at the First Regular Meeting of the CIM Executive Committee 2013-2015.
  - c. To instruct the Technical Secretariat of MESECVI to prepare a review of 20 years of the Convention of Belém do Pará for states parties – at the subregional and hemispheric level– that centers on the significance and influence of the Convention with respect to laws and policies on prevention and assistance, in order to identify corrective and preventive measures and measures for effective enforcement.
3. To urge the States Parties to the Convention to:
- a. Implement the recommendations of the MESECVI to encourage full compliance with the Convention of Belém do Pará;
  - b. Foster coordination between bodies responsible for implementing public policy on prevention, punishment, and assistance in cases of violence against women, and civil society organizations involved in the issue at the national, regional, and international level;
  - c. Make voluntary contributions to the MESECVI Specific Fund in order to furnish the Mechanism with the necessary human and financial resources to ensure its full, stable, and effective operation;
  - d. Establish or support mechanisms that facilitate technical assistance and cooperation at the national, regional, and international level for the exchange of information, experience, and best practices in implementing the Convention, in keeping with Articles 1.1.c and 10.4 of the MESECVI Statute;
  - e. Appoint their Competent National Authorities and Experts to the Mechanism if they have not already done so; and

- f. Support the participation of their expert in the MESECVI process, in keeping with Article 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts.
4. To recognize with satisfaction the Committee of Experts for its initiative in preparing the Draft Strategic Plan of the MESECVI 2013-2017, which will be considered by the next Conference of States Parties.
  5. To request the Secretary General, within the available resources, to give priority to allocating the necessary human, technical, and financial resources for the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) to optimize its work as Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI.
  6. To request the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI to:
    - a. Identify new and emerging areas to be included in the questionnaire proposal for the Evaluation Rounds of the MESECVI, in accordance with Article 7.b of the Rules of Procedure of the CEVI and within the available financial resources.
    - b. Provide advice to the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States and its respective organs on specific and relevant aspects of the situation of violence against women in the states parties.
    - c. Encourage awareness and use of the results of the work of the MESECVI, particularly its hemispheric reports, at the national and international level in order to strengthen the MESECVI's role as a global authority on eradication of violence against women.<sup>1/</sup>
  7. To ask the Secretary General to report, through the Permanent Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session on the implementation of this resolution.
  8. To thank the Governments of Argentina, Mexico, and Suriname for their contributions to the Specific Fund of MESECVI in 2012.
  9. Execution of the activities envisaged in this resolution will be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

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1. The State of Guatemala declares that, pursuant to its national legislation, it recognizes the right to life from the moment of conception.