



**VII CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS
DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS
AMÉRICAS**

**REGLAMENTO QUE REGIRÁ LAS
SESIONES PLENARIAS
DE LAS CONFERENCIAS**

PANAMÁ, 2 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 1997.

REGLAMENTO DE LA PLENARIA

CONFERENCIA DE ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS

DISPOSICIONES GENERALES

Artículo 1

Participantes

Las Delegaciones de los países participantes en la Conferencia de Esposas de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno de las Américas estarán integradas por las Jefas de Delegación, las Asesoras y Asesores Técnicos, y las Delegadas y Delegados Invitados.

Artículo 2

Del tipo de participación y precedencia

Se define como Primeras Damas a las esposas de los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno y/o a las hijas de aquellos Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno que así lo manifiesten públicamente.

Se define como Delegadas Gubernamentales a las designadas por las Primeras Damas como sus representantes en la Conferencia y/o las designadas por los gobiernos que no cuentan con una Primera Dama. La Delegada Gubernamental tiene derechos de participación de acuerdo al orden de precedencia.

Se define como Asesora Técnica a la persona que dentro del equipo de trabajo de la Primera Dama o de la delegada gubernamental, tiene la responsabilidad de coordinar los aspectos sustantivos de la Conferencia.

Se define como Delegados Invitados a los representantes de los organismos internacionales y a los representantes de las organizaciones no gubernamentales.

Parágrafo: La Asesora o Asesor Técnico y la Delegada o Delegado invitado son representantes alternos y están sujetos a la precedencia protocolar.

DEL DESARROLLO DE LA CONFERENCIA

Artículo 3

Los idiomas

La Secretaría Pro-Tempore procurará proveer de traducción simultánea y de documentación al menos en dos idiomas: inglés y español.

Artículo 4

Quórum

La mitad más una de las Esposas de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno y de las Delegadas Gubernamentales participantes en la Conferencia constituirán el quórum.

Artículo 5

Uso de la palabra

La Secretaria Pro Tempore concederá la palabra a las oradoras en el orden en que haya sido preestablecido en fecha anterior a la reunión. La Secretaria Pro Tempore podrá llamar al orden a una oradora cuando sus observaciones no sean pertinentes al tema que se esté discutiendo.

Artículo 6

Limitación en el uso de la palabra

- a) La Secretaría Pro Tempore fijará el tiempo máximo de intervención para que cada Jefa de Delegación presente su discurso de país según la

disponibilidad y organización de la Agenda. El orden de presentación se definirá según el tema y respetando el orden de inscripción.

- b) La Secretaría Pro Tempore podrá limitar la duración de las intervenciones de una representante alterna o un representante alterno, en tiempo menor que el dispuesto para la Jefa de Delegación.
- c) En el curso de un debate, la Secretaria Pro Tempore podrá dar lectura a la lista de las oradoras y declarar cerrada la lista. Sin embargo, se podrá otorgar a la Jefa de Delegación derecho a contestar si un discurso pronunciado después de cerrada la lista lo hace aconsejable.

Artículo 7

Propuestas y enmiendas

Cada país habrá enviado sus observaciones al Proyecto de Declaración dentro del límite de tiempo establecido por la Secretaría Pro-Tempore. Cualquier observación específica adicional se podrá presentar durante el debate programado para tal fin en la agenda.

Artículo 8

Designación de representación alterna

En caso de que se establezcan comisiones de trabajo, los consejeros, asesores técnicos, expertos o personas de categoría similar designados por la Primera Dama o Delegada Gubernamental, podrán actuar como miembros en tales comisiones. Sin embargo, estas personas no podrán actuar en las sesiones plenarias.

Artículo 9

Derecho de voto

Cada Delegación tendrá derecho a un voto. El derecho de voto corresponde a la Jefa de Delegación o a la persona que ella designe como su suplente.

Artículo 10

Procedimiento de adopción de decisiones

- a) Las decisiones se harán preferentemente mediante el consenso.
- b) En caso de que alguna delegación solicite la votación sobre alguna propuesta, la votación se efectuará (a mano alzada, nominal).
- c) Las propuestas se aprobarán por mayoría de las delegaciones presentes.

Artículo 11

Organización de las sesiones

Reconociendo el valor del debate y conviniendo utilizar al máximo el tiempo dentro de la Cumbre, se dispone lo siguiente:

- a) **Duración de la Plenaria**
La Plenaria no deberá exceder de tres horas.
- b) **Cierre de la lista de oradoras**
La organización del debate exige que la lista de oradoras que quieren participar se cierre una semana antes de la Conferencia.
- c) **Duración de las intervenciones**
El tiempo de las intervenciones programadas no debe exceder el tiempo fijado por la Secretaría Pro-Tempore. Las intervenciones espontáneas dentro de la plenaria no deben superar el tiempo asignado a las intervenciones programadas.
Se sugiere que tales intervenciones no excedan los dos minutos.

Artículo 12

Derecho a respuesta

- a) En las sesiones, las delegaciones harán uso del derecho a respuesta al final de la Plenaria, dentro del tiempo estipulado.
- b) El número de intervenciones de cada delegación en ejercicio del derecho a respuesta en una misma sesión se limitará a dos por tema.

DISPOSICIONES FINALES

Artículo 12

De las adhesiones

Todos los países de la región que manifiesten su interés en ejecutar los programas que se proponen en el contexto de la Declaración Final de la Conferencia de Esposas de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno, podrán adherirse a los mismos.



Document N° 3

8th

**CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS
OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS
OF THE AMERICAS**

DEBATE REGULATIONS

**Santiago de Chile,
September 28, 29 and 30, 1998**



REGULATIONS

CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: Participants

Heads of Delegation, Advisors and Technical Advisors, Delegates and Guest Delegates shall integrate the delegations of the countries attending to the Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government.

Article 2: Types of Participants

The First Ladies are defined as the Wives of Heads of State and Government or their daughters that have officially assumed said role, and the Government Delegates from those countries where there is no First Lady.

The Government Delegates are defined as the participants designated by the governments where there is no First Lady. The rights of participation of the Government Delegates shall follow the order of precedence.

The Technical Advisors are defined as those members of the team of the First Lady or Government Delegate responsible for coordinating the substantive aspects of the Conference.

The Guest Delegates are defined as the representatives of International and Government Organizations.

Note: Advisors or Technical Advisors and Guest Delegates are alternate representatives, and are subject to protocol precedence.



CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

Article 3: Language

The Pro-Tempore Secretariat will provide English-Spanish simultaneous interpretation and translation services.

Article 4: Quorum

Quorum shall be constituted by one half plus 1 of the Wives of Heads of State and Government participating in the Conference.

Article 5: Speech Rules

The Pro-Tempore Secretariat will offer the floor to the speakers according to the order established prior to the meeting. The Pro-Tempore Secretariat may call a speaker to order when his/her observations do not relate to the subject being discussed.

Article 6: Speech Limitations

- a) The Pro-Tempore Secretariat shall determine the maximum time limit granted to each Head of Delegation to make his/her presentation based on the time availability and the order defined in the Agenda. The order will be based on the importance of the issue and the order of submission.
- b) The Pro-Tempore Secretariat may limit the alternate delegates' time during his/her intervention, in a period shorter to that granted to the Head of Delegation.
- c) During a debate, the Pro-Tempore Secretariat may read the list of speakers and declare the list as closed. However, the Head of Delegation shall have the right to contest if a speech given after the closing of the list makes it advisable.



Article 7: Proposals and Amendments

Countries shall submit their observations to the Draft Declaration within the time limit established by the Pro-Tempore Secretariat. Any specific additional observation may be submitted during the debate scheduled for this purpose in the agenda.

Article 8: Designation of Alternate Representation

If work teams were to be established, technical advisors, experts or similar persons designated by the First Lady or Government Delegate may act as members of said commissions. However, these persons may not participate in plenary sessions.

Article 9: Voting Right

Each Delegation shall have the right to one vote. The Head of Delegation, or the person designated by the latter as his/her alternate, shall be vested with said voting right.

Article 10: Decision-Making Procedure

- a) Decisions shall be preferably made by consensus.
- b) In the event any delegation requests to vote on a proposal, voting shall be effected by roll call or hand raising.
- c) Proposals shall be approved by majority vote of the attending delegations.

Article 11: Organization of Sessions

Recognizing the value of the debate, and in order to make the best use of the time during this Conference, the following dispositions are to be observed:

- a) **Extension of the Plenary.**
Each Plenary should not extend beyond three hours so that all Heads of



Delegation may have the opportunity to expound within the time limit set by the Pro-Tempore Secretariat.

b) Closing of the speaker's list.

The organization of the debate demands that the list of speakers who wish to participate be closed one week prior to the Conference.

c) Extension of the interventions.

The time of the programmed interventions must not exceed the time limit established by the Pro-Tempore Secretariat. Any spontaneous intervention during the Plenary should not exceed the time limit granted to scheduled interventions.

It is suggested that the spontaneous interventions do not exceed from a maximum of two minutes.

Article 12: Response Rights

- a) During the sessions, the delegations may use the right to respond at the end of the Plenary, within the established time limit.
- b) Each acting delegation, in use of its right to response, shall be allowed only two interventions per subject in a single session.

FINAL DISPOSITIONS

Article 13: Conference Host Country

When deciding on the country that in each opportunity shall be the host country for the Conference, the following order should be observed:

The hemisphere has been divided into 5 Regions:

- North America
- Central America
- Caribbean



- Andean Pact
- South Cone

In each opportunity, one of the countries of each Region shall be the host country for the Conference according to the consecutive order set forth above. Should none of the countries in the corresponding Region express its willingness to be the host country for said event, one of the countries in the next successive Region will be invited to be the host country for the Conference. In this case, the proposal shall be decided with the vote of the Heads of Delegations attending the respective meeting.

Article 14: Participation

All countries of the region that have expressed their interest in participating in the execution of the programs proposed within the final Declaration of the Eighth Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government, have the right to adhere them.

Note: The deadline for submission of the recommendations on the Regulations governing the Plenary Sessions of the 8th Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government of the Americas and future ones, is August 15, 1998 .



Document N° 5

8th

**CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS
OF STATES AND GOVERNMENTS
OF THE AMERICAS**

**FOLLOW-UP ON THE AGREEMENTS
AND PROJECTS**

**Santiago de Chile,
September 28, 29 and 30, 1998**



7A CONFERENCIA DE
ESPOSAS DE JEFES DE ESTADO
Y DE GOBIERNO DE LAS AMERICAS

FOLLOW-UP ON THE AGREEMENTS AND PROJECTS ADOPTED AT THE VII CONFERENCE OF FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS

1) TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

Argentina. National commitment in favor of the Mother and Child, developed by the Health Secretariats of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Programs for Responsible Procreation in 13 of 24 of the country's jurisdictions. Training program on adolescent pregnancy and maternity. The National Workshop on Strategies for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention was recently carried out. It is important to note that the percentage of live births whose mothers are adolescent is still about 15.5%, of which 1.5% are under 15 years of age.

Bolivia. Improvement of the quality of health care services care and more information regarding family planning. 25% progress; financed by USAID / JHPIEGO /DFID.

Colombia. Project regarding teen pregnancy care, strengthening of the 10 care units for pregnant adolescents, development of a training and sensitization campaign regarding the appropriate way of handling their sexuality. Progress: 25% - 50%; its financing source comes from FNUAP and the Colombian Family Welfare Institute chaired by the First Lady.

Costa Rica. Overall Adolescent Care of the Costa Rican Social Security Institution, where several activities are performed. It is financed by the government and the Office of the new First Lady plans to soon develop a program on adolescent pregnancy prevention.

Chile. Sex education campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Education at all schools, with the support of the First Lady through the appropriate communications and orientation lectures addressed to teenagers at the Family Foundation presided over by the First Lady. It is financed with the National Budget.



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Ecuador. Sex education campaign through a nation-wide campaign on adolescent health; progress: 25% and financed through the National Budget.

El Salvador. Periodic and massive campaigns, specific information projects, education at health institutions on sexual health and reproduction for adolescents; progress: 80% and financed by the government of El Salvador and the International Agencies.

Honduras. Adolescents' education to prevent pregnancy through AIDS prevention and family planning programs. Progress: 25%; financed by GTZ, O.P.S., Fondo de Población, European Union, USAID.

Panama. Several District Committees for the prevention of teen pregnancies have been installed throughout the country. The Central Government, jointly with the ONGs, has promoted the subject of reproduction in schools and in several workshops. The project is being carried out 100% by the government; its financing is shared with UNDP.

Paraguay. Implementation of training projects emphasizing teen pregnancy prevention. 90% progress. Financing source: FNUAP.

Peru. Sex education programs have been implemented at an elementary, secondary and teachers training level. Likewise, a National Program on Reproductive Health is being implemented. Progress: 50%. Financed with public funds – UNICEF – USAID -PAHO.

Trinidad and Tobago. Following participation in UNICEF workshop in Jamaica "Teenage Motherhood", a 3 three day workshop was hosted by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation of Holland, catering to a select group of trainers across the English speaking Caribbean, and included active participation from Curacao and St. Martin.

Two workshops held for over 300 teenagers, chosen from a wide sub-section of the population – Topic "Adolescent Sexuality and Early Pregnancy Prevention". This was co hosted by Van Leer Foundation and Uni-Gem 8NGO operating under aegis of UN agencies). 100% completed.



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Continuous programmes for retraining teenage mothers – Choices programme operated by Child Welfare League Trinidad and Tobago, with funding from Van Leer Foundation. Project extended to a third area in the country (50% execution)

Submission of policy document to UNICEF re introduction of HFLE in the school system and for our of school Youth – The three pronged project involves collaboration of schools, parents, community.

United States of America. The teen pregnancy rate in the U.S. has declined over the past year. Educational and health campaigns have been implemented by the Ministry of Health and Human Services and by a non-governmental organization called the Campaign to Reduce Teen Pregnancy. The Office of the First Lady has supported these efforts.

Venezuela. Commission for Women and Health (National Women's Council). National Plan for Prevention of Teen Pregnancy (CONAPEP), Expansion and Strengthening of the Governmental Network for Prevention of Teen Pregnancy, through the installation of Government Commissions. Progress: 50%. Financed by UNFPA, UNICEF, the World Bank, the Ministry of Family, Governments and

2) CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Bolivia. Training of health personnel at the Sexual Health and Reproduction Centers; education and promotion for the taking of the Papanicolaou test and breast self-examination; execution of an agreement with ALICC; coverage through the Basic Health Insurance and follow-up of positive cases. Progress: 25%. Financed through TNG; people's participation (basic health insurance) and Association of Ibero-American Leagues against Cancer.

Canada. The Cancer Bureau is interested in providing expertise and share Canadian experiences in the development of national cancer control plans and creating national cancer surveillance systems.



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Health Canada's Women's Health Strategy is being implemented within the context of the new population health approach, which includes Cervical Cancer Screening Surveillance and the Cervical Cancer Prevention Network, among others.

Colombia. Creation of the Medicines National Fund and Uterine Cancer Prevention campaigns. With a coverage of 75% it is carried out by the Ministry of Health under the direction of the First Lady.

Costa Rica. Cervix Cancer Detection and Control National Program of the Costa Rican Social Security Institution; several actions were executed, being one of the most important the construction of the National Cytology Laboratory.

Chile. Educational Campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Health. The First Lady's Office collaborates with the institutions providing medicines to low-income segments, such as CONAC, Fundación López Pérez and the Caupolicán Pardo Hospital. Likewise, orientation is given to people affected by this disease.

Ecuador. Project for Reducing Uterine Cancer. Progress: 25%. Financed through the National Budget and OPS.

El Salvador. Ongoing campaigns, training of human resources regarding cancer prevention and detection, as well as the following specific actions: ambulatory cytology, cancer prevention education, expansion of the out-patient ambulatory services network, press, radio and TV campaigns, delivery of brochures, training of student leaders, operation of a new pathology laboratory and creation of CONILIP. Progress: 75%; financed by the government of El Salvador, ALICC and the National Cancer Association of El Salvador.

Honduras. Health personnel training, cervix-uterine cancer prevention workshops. Progress: 50%; financed by OPS and USAID.

Panama. The course for Cytotechnologists was organized and carried out through the "Latin America Against Cancer" program.

The Central Government has completed 100% of this program. It is financed by ALICC.



Paraguay. Through education and awareness campaigns and donation of medical devices. 100% coverage; financed by ALICC, European Union, Ministry of Health and Fundación Jazmín.

Peru. Ongoing countrywide cervix and uterine cancer prevention campaigns. Organization of seminars and training courses for specialists and teachers all over the country. Progress: 50%. Financed by UNICEF – USAID – PAHO

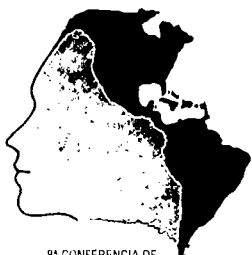
Trinidad and Tobago. On going training health personnel. Continuation of Cancer Registry Project with international funding. On going sensitization of public. Mobile clinic provided by NGO (Family Planning Association).

United States of America. Prevention and research activities for breast and other types of cancer are supported by the Office of the First Lady and carried out by the Ministry of Health and Human Services. The Office of the First Lady has been particularly active in the campaign to promote mammography as an important method for detection of breast cancer in women.

Venezuela. Oncology division of the M.S.A.S., Anti-cancer Association and Women's National Council (CONAMU), "Women and Health" Advisory Commission. Celebration of the "III National Meeting of the Persons in Charge of the Women and Family Health Network of Venezuela" with the purpose of integrating, coordinating and strengthening resources and abilities towards the achievement of emotional, social, physical and ecological welfare of women and their families. Progress: 50%. Financing Source: M.S.A.S., Anti-cancer Association.

3) PREVENTION OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE

Argentina. Inclusion in the Constitution of the Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Law that approves the Inter-American Convention for Prevention, Sanctioning and Eradication of Violence against Women in the National Constitution. On-going regional



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meetings organized by PAHO. Creation of the National Program against Violence.

Bolivia. Issuance on December 15, 1995 of a law regarding intrafamilial violence. Issuance on May 27, 1998 of the corresponding regulations. Draft on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls. Implementation of a program to prevent violence in schools and submission to the approval of the congress of a draft on sexual harassment.

Canada. Canada supports a multi-disciplinary approach and works with specific sectors (schools, the workplace, and the health, social and criminal justice systems).

In the past four years, the government has introduced a broad range of legislative measures that take action on violence. Health Canada is responsible for coordinating federal efforts to ensure a multidisciplinary approach in addressing family violence.

Colombia. Promulgation of a law regarding intrafamilial violence in 1996 and creation of an inter-institutional committee against women and children trade. Progress: 50%. Budget of the Ministry of Justice strongly supported by the First Lady's Office.

Costa Rica. On December 1, 1995, the week from the 20th through the 25th of November was declared as a cultural and sports week of "women against violence". In November 1996 a commission was created at the health sector for the implementation of a nation-wide plan to deal with and prevent intrafamilial violence. In 1998 a nation-wide system was created to deal with and prevent intrafamilial violence and the government adopted several actions to protect family members.

Chile. A law regarding intrafamilial violence was issued on August 27, 1994, and the law regarding children abuse was issued on August 26, 1994. An agreement between the Women National Service and the Identification and Civil Registry Service was subscribed in order to distribute a brochure to all future couples to create awareness that show of affection does not include beating. The Ministry of Justice, the Women National Service and the Office of the First Lady promote all type of measures towards the protection of the family



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against any abuse; kindergarten, elementary and secondary education teachers were instructed to inform on any signs of children abuse. Likewise, the Ministry of Health is instructed to inform on any care provided to abused persons. The creation of Family Courts to provide assistance to victims of intrafamiliar violence is under study. A Family Police Station and a Family Police Protection Department were created to assist victims of intrafamiliar violence. Financed through the national budget.

Ecuador. 13 new police stations and a shelter home were created. Progress: 50%. Financed through the national budget.

El Salvador. Expansion of the services and coverage of the program for restructuring family relationships within the national territory; integration of this issue into the public policies, especially into the women national policy, and strengthening of the family protection inter-institutional system. Progress: 80%. Financial sources: the government of El Salvador and a project of the United Nations.

Honduras. A law against intrafamiliar violence was issued, and family assistance services were created. Progress: 50%. Financed through the national budget.

Panama. Law 27 dated June 16 is still being implemented; this law creates the Commission for Prevention and Care of Intrafamiliar Violence.

The Ministries of Health, Education and Youth, Childhood, Women and Family support the program with different action plans.

Peru. The following mechanisms exist for the promotion and protection of women: Women's, Human Development and Sports Commission of the Congress; Defense of Women's Rights Department; Women's Promotion and Human Development Ministry. In 1998 were issued the regulations to the Intrafamiliar Violence Protection Law enacted in June 1997. All police stations of the country have a special section to file intrafamiliar claims, and in all city halls there is a Defense Department of Children and Adolescent Rights. The Ministry of Health, sponsored by UNICEF, has implemented the Child Abuse Assistance Modules in the Health Sector, which serves minors 0 to 18 years



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old with a multi-disciplinary group in general hospitals. Progress: 50%.
Financed with public funds and UNICEF.

Trinidad and Tobago. Introduction of revision to existing domestic Violence Legislation. On going continuation of counsselling services for victims of Domestic Violence, especially with referrals from Court system GOTT, NGO's..

Networking activities by NGO's in programmes – Violence against Women, with participation in Caribbean networking activities. Extension of on going training for Police Officers and other service personnel, GOTT and NGO funding. Introduction of Drop in Centres, with active participation of trained persons from CBO's – funding by Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

Training of community based Parenting – Outreach Facilitators to improve parenting skills and reduce risk of abuse – collaboration between Government and NGO, with funding form UNICEF (85% completion). Other prevention strategies —rogrammes introduced at teacher training levels re education on abuse prevention and corporal punishment.

United States of America. The U.S. established, with the support of the First Lady, a new Ministry focusing on violence against women. Over the past year, domestic violence has decreased in the United States. Also, the U.S. supports regional activities aimed at increasing awareness and prevention of domestic violence. The First Lady continues to work on this issue. In 1997, Mrs. Clinton participated in an IDB forum focusing on domestic violence in our hemisphere.

Venezuela. Women and Legislation Commission and Women and Health Commission of the Women National Council. An agreement was subscribed between Fundación de Promoción a la Mujer and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Uruguay. Violence and crime prevention is part of its citizens' security program, which includes three sub-programs: reinforcement of institutional abilities; young people as prevention agents; and communities' prevention initiatives. Through a loan agreement executed on March 14, 1998, by the Republic of Uruguay in its capacity of borrower and surety, the Ministry of Domestic Affairs in its capacity of executor. Financing source: 70% IDB and 30% local contributions.



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4) REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY

Argentina. Implementation of the specific process for regular health care, prevalent pathology and perinatal AIDS. The standards for the promotion, protection and maintenance of maternal lactancy, medical aid for difficult delivery, puerperal complications and other complications resulting from delivery and a comprehensive preparation for maternity are being developed. The Commission for Surveillance and Control of Maternal Mortality was created by the National Program, recently approved and therefore included in the National Program for Medical Care Quality Guarantee. This plan enables forming regional commissions and hospital committees for maternal mortality. This National Commission is comprised of the country's main scientific entities, who are involved in the subject, such as PAHO/ WHO and UNICEF. 50% of the program has been developed.

Bolivia. Training and redesign of educational and maternity programs (sexual and reproductive education) at the universities. Nourishing complementation with ferrous sulphate and Vitamin A to prevent anemia in pregnant women. A literacy and reproductive health campaign was carried out for 100,000 persons of the Chuquisaca and Potosí Districts, especially addressed to women and young people in rural areas. 50% Coverage. Financed through projects with USAID / JHPIEGO / UNICEF / WFP / PAHO / WHO / UNFPA.

Canada. The Canadian Perinatal Surveillance System (CPSS) is a national program of ongoing data collection, expert analysis and interpretation, and communication of information for action to improve the health of pregnant women, mothers and babies in Canada. The goal of CPSS is to collect data on all recognized pregnancies in Canada, regardless of outcome.

Canada has a very good ranking on its rate of maternal mortality and in the vast majority of cases, skilled and appropriate health care for women during pregnancy, labour and delivery is provided.

The Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program is designed to provide food supplementation, nutrition counseling, support and education. There are currently 275 projects in over 200 communities across Canada.



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Colombia. Launching of a plan to reduce maternal mortality with 25% coverage and finance by the Ministry of Health strongly supported by the First Lady of the Country and the First Ladies of each District.

Costa Rica. Due to the strong development and socialization of the health systems, the government pays special attention to providing a first quality pregnancy medical care to women of all ages. Likewise, educational programs exist to this end.

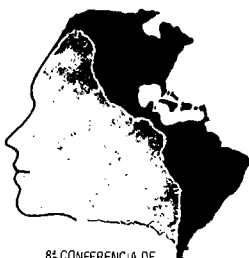
Chile. This issue is under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health. Maternal mortality and morbidity is practically non-existent; medical care is provided to women giving birth at all health institutions. As regards rural areas, shelters have been established near the hospitals where women may seek shelter prior to giving birth. In some other cases, a monitor is provided that allows them to detect their symptoms and be in contact with the doctor. 100% coverage; financed by the Ministry of Health.

Ecuador. A national committee was created to reduce maternal mortality; a women and children's basic health care law was issued and a campaign against maternal mortality was initiated. Progress: 50%. Financed through the national budget and the Motersa Project of the World Bank.

El Salvador. Expansion of the pre-natal, delivery and post-natal medical aid programs, distribution of information in hospitals and children protection associations. Progress: 80%. Financed by the government of El Salvador.

Honduras. Development of standards to handle obstetrics emergencies and update of existing regulations regarding childbirth medical care. Within a period of 5 years, seven maternal shelters were constructed and medical aid services increased by 10%. Maternal mortality decreased by 31%. Progress: 50%. Financed by the Swedish government, OPS and USAID.

Panama. Maternal Morbidity and Mortality has decreased thanks to human resources training programs, continuous education to health care assistants, the existence of standards and the provision of equipment for gynecological and delivery assistance. Health services have also been expanded nationwide through the implementation of reproductive centers and training.



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Paraguay. A mobile diagnosis unit for women was created. Financed by the Ministry of Health and Fundación Jazmín.

Peru. An Action Plan for the reduction of maternal-perinatal mortality is being implemented. Approval of the Emergency Plan to reduce maternal mortality establishing as a goal a rate of 10 for each 100,000 born children as of the year 2000. An Epidemiology Surveillance Plan for Maternal Mortality has been developed. Progress as of the first quarter is 25%. Financed with public funds-UNICEF-POH-USAID.

Trinidad and Tobago. On going activity by Government, with assistance of PAHO, in area of retraining health and community personnel.

Increasing Public Education programmes to promote importance of pre and post natal case.

United States of America. Supported by the Office of the First Lady, the U.S. continues to fund regional activities, in partnership with PAHO, to reduce maternal mortality, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Venezuela. Women and Legislation Commission and Women and Health Commission of the Women National Council (CONAMU). A 2-year agreement was subscribed between Fundación de Promoción a la Mujer and IDB with the purpose of developing a Regional Pilot Program for Prevention of Intrafamilial Violence against Women (Program-Venezuela), which will be applied in the Caracas Metropolitan Area. AVESA, FUNDAMUJER, CISFEM, General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic, Draft on Women and Family Abuse of the Ministry of Justice, which was submitted to the consideration of the Congress for its approval. Establishment of networks against Women and Family Abuse. Strategic Alliances subscribed by CONAMU and the state governors to decentralize and implement a Women and Family Abuse Prevention Program. Progress: 50%. Financing sources: IDB, CONAMU, the State and ONGs.



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5)

COMPLIANCE REGARDING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Argentina. Claims filed by the state. Adoption formalities foresee that "the judge will personally hear, if deemed appropriate, the adopted child, provided the child is at least 10 years old..." Alimony claims due to non-compliance by any of the parents with their obligations; children will be entitled to sue them and demand they comply with their obligations. There are no differences in the legislation applicable to children born within and outside the marriage, nor in respect of adopted children.

Bolivia. A draft of an infants and adolescents code was submitted to the congress for approval. Financed through the national budget.

Canada. The Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect (CIS) has been underway since October 1997. This study will address the four principle forms of child maltreatment, namely physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and child neglect, in order to provide national estimates, increase public awareness and set priorities for prevention and intervention.

Colombia. The Infancy Protection Regional Summit for Latin America and the Caribbean was held and an Infancy Protection Agreement was subscribed. Progress: 100%. Financed by the Family Welfare Colombian Institute and project of UNESCO, ILO and IDB.

Costa Rica. The new Patronato Nacional de la Infancia constitutional law was issued and an area to defend and guarantee children and adolescent rights was created. Financed through the national budget.

Chile. Children and Adolescent rights were constitutionally recognized. Several agreement recognizing children rights were subscribed. The First Lady sponsors seminars at a domestic and international level regarding children rights. Financed through the national budget.

Ecuador. This issue is included in the Constitution and is financed through the national budget.



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El Salvador. Legislation regarding the family was expanded and regulations regarding adolescent rights were approved. Progress: 100%. Financed by the government of El Salvador and projects of the United Nations and BID.

Honduras. The Honduran Infancy and Family Institute was created. An infancy information system was established. The Infancy Code was approved. A Children Rights National Commission was created. An amended infancy protection agreement as of the year 2002 was subscribed. A thorough study of the outstanding suits at the Children Courts was carried out. Progress: 50%. Financed by the government of Honduras, UNICEF, OPS.

Panama. Compliance is promoted with governmental funds and a UNESCO UNICEF project.

The Pact for Childhood Program lead by the First Lady has carried out measures to prevent violence, child abuse, drug use, child labor and lactancy. Mini Summits have taken place to inform boys and girls of their rights and duties.

Paraguay. Training is provided to teachers through the strengthening of the Teaching Institutions. Progress: 100%. Financed by the Ministry of Education and ONG Sumando.

Peru. The Comprehensive Formation programs include specific subjects on this issue, especially as regards the Parents School Program. Steps have been taken to minimize children's abuse. A National Steering Committee on Child Labor has been created. There are 845 Children and Adolescent Defense Departments and a Children's Abuse Telephone Advisory Service. Progress: 50%. Financed with public Funds.

Trinidad and Tobago. Defended status reports at meeting of Committee on the Rights of the Child in Geneva in October 1997. Efforts continue re:

Legislation to establish a Children's Authority being drafted for presentation to Cabinet (25% completion)

Establishment of formal Foster Care Service 40% completed. Government financing assistance in training form International NGO.



Continuation of project to build 50 new ECCE centres by 2002. Funding by World Bank, GOTT (30% completion).

Research into child Labor in Trinidad and Tobago planned to be funded by ILO and UNICEF, in collaboration with government Ministries. Data will yield information to direct policy and programme (30% completion)

United States of America. Primarily the Ministry of Health and Human Services carries out Child welfare activities. Supported actively by the First Lady, in 1997 the U.S. passed new legislation to strengthen the programs that support children who have been abused and neglected and that promote adoption of these children.

Venezuela. Adequation of the Venezuelan Legislation to the International Convention of Children Rights. Submission to the National Congress for its approval of the Children and Adolescent Protection Organic Law, and Minors' Protection Law. Execution of the project "Local Networks to Protect Children and Adolescents". Progress: 50%. Financing Source: Government Funds.

6) IMPROVEMENT OF CHILDREN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

Argentina. The Federal Education Law provides an adequate framework for the improvement of education quality and its continuity. It decentralizes education, maintaining only Common Basic Contents as mandatory in the entire country. It prolongs mandatory education for at least 10 years, beginning in pre-school at five years of age. It provides free education in the entire country from pre-school to university education.

Costa Rica. Law No. 7676 establishing that public spending in education may not be less than 6% of the gross domestic product was approved in August 1997. Financing of actions to widely extend pre-school education. Integration of bilingual education and computer sciences at all schools in the country. Coverage: 100%. Financed by the Ministry of Education.



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Canada. In the *Federal Plan for Gender Equality* (1995) , the federal government makes a commitment to broadening women's representation and distribution in education and training fields.

Colombia. Issuance of a 10-year educational plan. Coverage: 80%. Financed by the Ministry of Education.

Chile. Elementary education is mandatory and free as established in the country's Political Constitution. During the last government period, improvement of education has been strongly promoted, including the flexible curricular system, extension of school hours and inclusion of computer sciences. Plans exist to widely extend preschool education. Coverage: 100%. Financed by the Ministry of Education.

Ecuador. Implementation of an elementary education improvement program. EB / PRODEC. Progress: 25%. Financed through the national budget and a project of the World Bank.

El Salvador. 100% coverage of Model and Healthy Schools as well as Educo Program. Financed by the government of El Salvador and private organizations.

Haiti. Implementation of training programs for teachers regarding educational issues. Financed by BID, French Cooperation and the government.

Honduras. Development of the project "Improvement of the Quality of Educational Systems for Children" and delivery of editions of the basic subject to the third and fourth grade of elementary education. Progress: 50%. Financed by the World Bank, KFW, USAID, PRAF, FHIS.

Panama. 110 pilot centers for General Elementary Education have been established and textbooks have been developed in several subjects. The educational system in general will be modernized.

Paraguay. Comprehensive assistance to girls through training and delivery of the required materials. Coverage: 100%. Strongly sponsored by Fundación Jazmín.



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Peru. A technical education model is being implemented to improve the quality of labor education, which has an incidence in the curricular reform, the teachers' training and the infrastructure. Progress: 50%. Financed by BID, World Bank and with public funds.

United States of America. The Ministry of Education administers programs in the U.S. Current activities include supporting technology in the public schools, strengthening pre-school education, reducing class size in the early grades, and promoting childhood literacy. The U.S. also supports regional activities to promote the Summit of the Americas goals of access to quality primary and secondary education, improvement of school retention rates, and 100% completion of primary school by 2000.

Uruguay. The purpose of the primary education improvement project carried out by the Steering Committee of ANEF and the Primary Education Council is to improve the quality, fairness and efficiency of the primary education system. The World Bank and the Government finance the project.

Venezuela. INAM's Community Shelters Program. Primary Education Projects: "Challenge, Commitment and Transformation"; "Classroom Library"; "Schools Pedagogic Project" and "Teachers' Training" of the Ministry of Education. Progress: over 50%. Financing Sources: Ministry of Family, Infants and Family Comprehensive Assistance Autonomous National Service (SENIFA), Social Development Program and Ministry of Education.

6) FAIR ACCESS OF CHILDREN TO EDUCATION

Argentina. The Federal Education Law provides an appropriate framework for promotion of coeducation by establishing "effective equal opportunities for all inhabitants and rejects any type of discrimination"; likewise, it intends to eliminate discrimination in educational material, by using non-sexist language. The Ministry of Culture and Education with the support of provincial and district women's associations implements the National Program for Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Women in Education.



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Bolivia. Promulgation of an amended educational law establishing non-discrimination of gender within the domestic educational system. Issuance of a ministerial resolution prohibiting to expel pregnant adolescents from private schools. Implementation of an educational program based on equal access and non-discrimination of genders.

Colombia. No gender discrimination exists as regards access to education.

Costa Rica. The educational system of the country establishes equal access and non-discrimination of genders. 100% coverage.

Chile. The educational system provides for fair access and non-discrimination of genders. The system is supervised and controlled by the Ministry of Education. The First Lady presides over Fundación Integra that promotes pre-school education for children of low-income families. Financed with local funds.

El Salvador. Programs are being implemented to achieve non-discrimination as regards education in El Salvador. Financed through the national budget.

Haiti. Construction of schools in underprivileged areas. Financed by the government and ONGs.

Honduras. Development of the project "Improvement of the Quality of Educational Systems for Children" and delivery of editions of the basic subject to the third and fourth grade of elementary education. Progress: 50%. Financed by the World Bank, KFW, USAID, PRAF, FHIS.

Paraguay. Comprehensive assistance to girls through training and delivery of the required materials. Coverage: 100%. Strongly sponsored by Fundación Jazmín.

Peru. Actions towards the sensitization and awareness of family heads regarding women's equal rights have been taken. A school medical insurance was implemented, and statistics evidence that care is provided to a larger number of girls. A law was enacted establishing that pregnant students may finish their studies. Progress: 50%. Financed by BID, World Bank and with public funds.



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United States of America. The U.S. has 100% coverage.

Venezuela. INAM's Community Shelters Program to promote school retention. "Children Rights, a Commitment at all Levels" of the Ministry of Education. Craft and Training Workshops for children belonging to high risk groups or that require special assistance sponsored by Fundación Banco de Venezuela, the Arts Museum and Red de Casa don Bosco. Progress: 50%. Financing sources: Ministry of Family, SENIFA, Social Development Program, Non-Governmental Organizations, Minors' National Institute, UNICEF, CECODAP, Ministry of Education, Arts Museum and ONGs.

7) PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Argentina. The Constitution establishes that all inhabitants have the same legal rights and equal job opportunities. Equal opportunities for men and women for political positions shall be guaranteed by positive actions towards the regulation of political parties and electoral systems. Law 21.012 sets forth that women should be included in the candidate lists of political parties. The law also establishes that at least 30% of women should be included among candidates for vacant positions. As of 1996 a woman was designated as Minister of Education and two other women hold the position of Secretary to the Presidency.

Bolivia. Issuance of the Peoples' Participation Law that guarantees equal representation opportunities for men and women. Creation of the Quotas Law that obliges the political parties to incorporate at least 30% of women in the electoral lists as candidates to the position of multi-nominal regular and alternate members to the parliament, and at least 25% as regular and alternate candidates to the Senate.

Canada. Canada's approach has been to encourage political parties to set targets, rather than to take legal or constitutional measures. Most national parties set targets for a minimum percentage of female candidates, ranging from 10% to 50%. Currently women hold a record 21% of seats in the federal House of Commons.



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Canada's national statistical agency collects sex-desegregated data through a variety of surveys, as well as the National Census.

Colombia. Follow-up and support of the agreements subscribed. Progress: 100%. Financed by the Women Equal Opportunities Department.

Costa Rica. During this decade women have gained an ever-increasing participation, not only at a regional but also at a nation-wide level. Accordingly, in November 1996 the amendment of several articles of the Electoral Code was approved. Article 60 of said Code establishes that "...delegations of the departamental, cantonal and provincial assemblies shall at least be comprised of 30% of women." Another paragraph sets forth that the by-laws of the political parties shall include a "mechanism to ensure the participation of a number of women equal to the percentage established in article 60 of the aforementioned Code, not only as regards the party's organization but also as candidates for public positions..."

Ecuador. Promotion of constitutional amendments and creation of CONAMU. Financed with the national budget.

El Salvador. Promotion of this issue and subscription – within the near future – of an agreement with the Electoral Supreme Court and the Municipal Development Department of El Salvador. Likewise, training on women's leadership is a key issue of this process. The incorporation and follow-up of actions regarding women participation in domestic policies. Progress: 50%. Financed by the government of El Salvador.

Honduras. The new administration has incorporated an important number of women in the decision-making process: Presidential Assistant, Vice President of the Congress, Judge of the Supreme Court, General Auditor of the Republic, Director of Administrative Moral Integrity, Finance Minister, Finance Assistant Minister, Labor Assistant Minister, Technical Cooperation Assistant Minister, and Director of the Central Bank of Honduras. Progress: 100%. Financed with domestic funds.

Panama. Approval of Law 22 dated July 14, 1997, including Article 196 to the Electoral Code through which "in their internal meetings, the political



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parties guarantee that at least 30% of the candidates applying to positions in the country or popular election positions should be women.”

Paraguay. This issue is under the supervision of the Women's Secretariat.

Peru. In October 1997 a law was enacted establishing that all list of candidates to the Congress should include at least 25% of women, and that support should be provided to all training programs leading to the participation of women in public positions and decision-making processes.

United States of America. The U.S. supports regional efforts to promote increased participation of women. Through USAID, the U.S. supports women's participation in all aspects of economic, political and social life.

Venezuela. CONAMU's Women and Legislation Commission. Project to amend the Voting and Political Participation Law. Women Rights Bicameral Commission, Women ONGs Coordinator. A project regarding the obligation to include at least 30% of women in the lists of candidates to the Congress and Representatives of the Legislative Assembly was approved. Progress: 50%. Financing sources: Women National Council, the State and ONGs.

United States - Follow-Up for the 8th Conference of Wives of Heads of State and Government

Early Pregnancy Prevention

The teen pregnancy rate in the U.S. has declined over the past year. Educational and health campaigns have been implemented by the Ministry of Health and Human Services and by a non-governmental organization called the Campaign to Reduce Teen Pregnancy. These efforts have been supported by the Office of the First Lady.

Cancer Prevention

Prevention and research activities for breast cancer and other types of cancer are supported by the Office of the First Lady and carried out by the Ministry of Health and Human Services. The Office of the First Lady has been particularly active in the campaign to promote mammography as an important method for detection of breast cancer in women.

Prevention of All Forms of Violence

The U.S. established, with the support of the First Lady, a new Ministry focusing on violence against women. Over the past year, domestic violence has decreased in the United States. Also, the U.S. supports regional activities aimed at increasing awareness and prevention of domestic violence. The First Lady continues to work on this issue. In 1997, Mrs. Clinton participated in an IDB forum focusing on domestic violence in our hemisphere.

Maternal Mortality

Supported by the Office of the First Lady, the U.S. continues to fund regional activities, in partnership with PAHO, to reduce maternal mortality, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Children's Rights

Child welfare activities are carried out primarily by the Ministry of Health and Human Services. Supported actively by the First Lady, in 1997 the U.S. passed new legislation to strengthen the programs that support children who have been abused and neglected and that promote adoption of these children.

Improvement of Educational Systems

The Ministry of Education administers programs in the U.S. Current activities include supporting technology in the public schools, strengthening early childhood education, reducing class size in the early grades, and promoting childhood literacy. The U.S. also supports regional activities to promote the Summit of the Americas goals of access to quality primary and secondary education, improvement of school retention rates, and 100% completion of primary school by 2000.

Fair Access of Children to Education

The U.S. has 100% coverage.

Participation of Women

The U.S. supports regional efforts to promote increased participation of women. Through USAID, the U.S. supports women's participation in all aspects of economic, political and social life.



Under the slogan "*America Builds Today the Roads for the Year 2000,*" the Eight Conference of First Ladies of the Americas will address the following issues.

1 - Education

- a) Sound schools
- b) Sex education for girls
- c) AIDS HIV prevention among young people
- d) Hemisphere-wide program of reinforcement of rural women's integration in productive, entrepreneurial systems and social economic democratization.
- e) Horizontal Cooperation – INTEGRA Conference

2 - Intrafamilial Violence

- a) Legislation
- b) Judicial systems and education of judges
- c) Protection of children in schools
- d) Practical operating systems in each country

3 - Promotion of participation rights

- a) Senior Citizens, experience in work with this age group and results
- b) Women's Leadership

4 - Coordination among agreements adopted at the II Presidents Social Summit and the Eight Conference of First Ladies of the Americas

- a) Commitments assumed
- b) Agencies in charge of carrying out the commitments
- c) First Ladies, as drivers or communicators of those agreements



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