



PARTICIPATION OF SOCIAL ACTORS IN THE
ACTIVITIES OF THE SUMMITS OF
THE AMERICAS PROCESS

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**FOUNDING DECLARATION OF THE “SOMOS LIDERESAS”
(WE ARE WOMEN LEADERS) REGIONAL NETWORK
ON THE OCCASION OF THE NINTH SUMMIT
OF THE AMERICAS**

Los Angeles, California, United States, June 8, 2022

We, representatives of the women's organizations participating in the Ninth Summit of the Americas, representing different countries and organizations, have arrived at this Summit after several months of preparation, committed to a broad view of the reality of women and their needs, which motivates us to promote the creation of the “WE ARE WOMEN LEADERS” (*SOMOS LIDERESAS*) regional network of women's organizations (hereinafter, “the Network”).

Accordingly, we agree:

1. To officially form the founding group of the Network.
2. To continue working to strengthen the Network by establishing national chapters in the countries of the Americas.
3. To follow up on the mandates of the Ninth Summit of the Americas related to women's rights and establish a mechanism to monitor their implementation.

We also request the Summits Secretariat and the Organization of American States (OAS) to recognize the Network and its national chapters and to promote it by providing technical assistance and funding with a view to ensuring the full inclusion of women in regional decision-making and the management of donations to member organizations.

| ORGANIZATION | REPRESENTATIVE | COUNTRY |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| Observatorio de Mujeres y Política, Transparencia Electoral | Marta Gaba | Argentina |
| Women's Democracy Network Brazil | Silvia Rita Souza | Brazil |
| Asociación de Mujeres por Buenaventura | Laura Rossi | Colombia |
| Cátedra Abierta Latinoamericana Matilda y las Mujeres en Ingeniería | Adriana Páez Pino | Colombia |
| Coalición de comunidades afrodescendientes/ Fundacion Maleika | Maria Jackeline Ruiz | Colombia |

| ORGANIZATION | REPRESENTATIVE | COUNTRY |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Fundación Frida Khalo - Restaurando Vidas | Magaly Andrea Castañeda Rincón | Colombia |
| REDLAD | Diana Carolina Silva | Colombia |
| Centro Ecuatoriano De Desarrollo Y Estudios Alternativos (CEDEAL) | Patricia Gálvez Zaldumbide | Ecuador |
| Fundación TANDEM | Daniela Chacón Arias | Ecuador |
| Women's Democracy Network Guatemala | Karina Flores Arriola | Guatemala |
| Instituto para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Mujer Lenca de Honduras (IDESMULH) | Sandra Rosaura Cerrato Flores | Honduras |
| Asociación Nacional Cívica Femenina, A.C. (ANCIFEM) | Aida del Carmen Saucedo García | Mexico |
| Red Mujeres, Desarrollo, Justicia y Paz, A.C. | Elvia Ramirez Leon | Mexico |
| Agencia Nacional de Políticas Trans | Rosa María Trejo Villalobos | Mexico |
| Centro Familiar Afrosanteño CEFAS Panamá | Adela Panezo Asprilla | Panama |
| Centro Familiar Afrosanteño CEFAS Panamá | Dallys Nuvia Gutiérrez Melgar | Panama |
| Voces de Mujeres Afrodescendientes en Panamá y enlace por Panamá de la Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas, afrocaribeñas y de la diáspora | Mireya Peart | Panama |
| Centro de Liderazgo de las Mujeres de las Américas | Nadia Ramos Serrano | Peru |
| CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago (CCoTT) | Terry Ince Leigh | Trinidad and Tobago |
| Every Woman | Yael Marciano | United States |
| Equality Now | Jorie Dugan | United States |
| Red Sororidad Pacto Entre Ellas Éxodo | Alinis del Carmen Aranguren Agreda | Venezuela |

Mission statement

To promote the interlinking of women leaders to strengthen and advance their empowerment and leadership in decision-making and public policies with a human rights, gender, and intersectionality perspective in the countries of the Americas.

Vision

“WE ARE WOMEN LEADERS” is a network of women's organizations in the Americas that promotes the leadership and empowerment of women in all their diversity, in order to influence public policies for a more egalitarian society that respects human rights.

Values

- ♀ Respect
- ♀ Sisterhood
- ♀ Commitment
- ♀ Leadership
- ♀ Equality

♀ Diversity

Objectives

1. To strengthen ties among the members of the Network and give voice to the topics on which we are experts through monthly virtual meetings and the promotion of face-to-face meetings within the framework of international forums in the region.
2. To promote empowerment and leadership in decision-making for the Network's leaders and organizations by strengthening their capacities in forums for effective action and experience-sharing on women's rights, gender-focused public policies with technology, empowerment, and effective leadership, with at least one workshop per semester.
3. To advance and follow up on public policies related to women's human rights in accordance with the mandates of the Summit of the Americas through the preparation of an annual regional report.

Tools

The Network will rely on the following tools to achieve the above-proposed objectives:

- ♀ Virtual dialogues: Spaces for interaction between organizations with very specific purposes. They allow prompt and focused exchanges.
- ♀ Communication channel: It is imperative that the Network have a dedicated interaction channel, which could be through the WhatsApp group that would be used for more informal communications and quick exchanges of information, as well as through the email distribution list for formal communications and invitations.
- ♀ Member database: The Summits Secretariat will provide an up-to-date database with names, positions, and contact information that will be available to the Network members in order to streamline and optimize their communication.

Composition and operation

- ♀ The Network will comprise women's civil society organizations established or working in the Americas, the membership of which is approved by a simple majority of the organizations present (in person or virtually) at a regular assembly. During the first six months after the establishment of the Network, the Summits Secretariat will coordinate the operations and logistics of the Network, as well as maintain its institutional memory.
- ♀ Coordinating (or Executive) Committee: composed of a Chair, a Vice Chair, Spokespersons, and other positions to be determined as needed. The first Coordinating Committee will be composed of eight (8) organizations that are part of the Network's founding group and will serve for a period of one (1) year, until June 8, 2023.
- ♀ Frequency: the members of the Network will hold meetings at least every two months, in addition to such other activities (cooperation activities, workshops, dialogues, etc.) as the Coordinating Committee may determine.