



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

OEA/Ser.E
ASCA/doc.24/22
10 May 2022
Original: Spanish

**Recommendations from Women's Organizations
on the thematic pillars of the IX Summit of the Americas**

The Summits of the Americas Secretariat, as part of its efforts to promote greater participation of civil society organizations and social actors in the Summits Process, has been working intensively with women's organizations of the Americas with the aim of strengthening their participation in the Summits Process. In this regard, with the support of the Government of Canada, the Summits Secretariat has carried out training workshops seeking to strengthen the capacities of these women's organizations, in topics such as the Formulation of Effective Recommendations, Spokesperson for the Summit and Conversations on the Gender Dimensions of the Summit themes. One of the most relevant activities has been the Thematic Consultations on the thematic pillars of the IX Summit of the Americas held on March 9 and 10, 2022. A total of four consultations were held, in which 60 women's organizations from the region addressed, from a gender equality and women's rights perspective, the five thematic pillars proposed for the IX Summit by the Host Country. The objective of these consultations was for the participating organizations to present their priorities, interests, and concerns, and to agree on recommendations from a gender and rights perspective.

Each consultation consisted of two phases. First, a general debate was moderated by the Summits Secretariat, in which the participating women's organizations exchanged ideas and expressed their interests, priorities and concerns, to give way to a second stage of work in smaller groups aimed at agreeing and issuing recommendations on each of the proposed topics. Finally, the recommendations issued were presented by a spokesperson designated by her peers and discussed in the plenary session.

Below are the recommendations presented by the women's organizations participating in these thematic consultations, separated according to the thematic pillars of the IX Summit of the Americas.

The women's organizations participating in the Summits Process recommend to the governments of the Americas:

Health and Resilience in the Americas

Women's lives and safety:

- Elaborate a Latin American Model Framework Norm on the various situations of rape of girls and adolescents, establishing protocols for the care of girls and adolescents who have suffered sexual violence with a gender, intercultural and intersectional approach.
- Promote models of care of services for victims of violence focused on human rights with a focus on gender, interculturality and intersectionality, which protect the lives of women from violence at all stages of their lives in favor of their mental and physical health and in favor of their right to life.
- Address situations of domestic violence and alcoholism that affect women.
- Establish adequate criminal prosecution for those who commit crimes of violence.

- Have up-to-date data from violence surveys.
- Implement a comprehensive family approach as a measure to prevent femicide.

Access to health:

- Guarantee timely and comprehensive access to health services focused on human rights and appropriate to the particular needs of indigenous women (ILO Convention 169); Afro-descendants; informal workers; migrants, especially during their displacement, when they are most vulnerable; girls and adolescents who are victims of sexual violence; pregnant women, addressing maternal deaths and not criminalizing abortions; women in poverty; victims of trafficking, among others.
- Address urban and rural health inequality, at all stages of their lives, to indigenous and Afro-descendant women, informal workers and migrants.
- Guarantee essential services, such as first aid and shelters, to victims of domestic violence, also taking into account their right to mental and physical health, and their right to life.
- Establish protocols for the care of girls and adolescents who have suffered sexual violence with a gender, interculturality and intersectionality approach.

Public policies:

- Formulate public policies on health that recognize the differentiated impact of COVID-19 on women with an intersectional and intercultural gender approach.
- Develop public policies with a comprehensive vision of health, with community and regional participation, in order to improve women's health care and access at all stages of life, without discrimination.
- Respect and incorporate the ancestral practices of the different indigenous and Afro ethnic cultures.

Mental health:

- Increase the mental health budget for the creation of mental health services in all countries. (Unified Latin American Health System).
- Create post-pandemic mental health programs for women.

Sexual and reproductive health

- Not to criminalize women who have abortions, adopting an official Latin American norm to decriminalize abortion in case of sexual abuse as a model law/framework.
- Guarantee a scientific and comprehensive sexual and reproductive education.
- Recognize dignified menstruation.

Transparency:

- Ensure transparency in the purchase and delivery of medicines, prosecuting and punishing the falsification of medicines.
- Promote and finance observatories of health expenditures, allied with civil society, to guarantee citizen control and good accountability.
- Publicize the comprehensive health budgets of each country in the Americas and label allocations from a gender perspective.
- Update data and statistics on violence, access to justice, investment, and budgets for women's health.

Education:

- Guarantee a scientific and comprehensive sexual and reproductive education.
- Adopt programs on sexual and reproductive health and family planning of the American Institute of Health, endorsed by PAHO and WHO, adapting legal and programmatic frameworks to international human rights standards in health.
- Ensure a comprehensive training of health professionals with a gender focus from their basic training in universities and techniques, incorporating educational programs with a gender, childhood, interculturality and intersectionality approach.
- Disseminate information about diseases and their effects on women, girls, and adolescents.

Care:

- Promote and create national systems of care, which include the coverage of health services for unpaid care workers, childcare and are linked to services for the prevention and care of violence against women.

Participating women's organizations:

- 33 Mujeres A.C, Mexico
- Agenda Nacional Política Trans de México A. C., Mexico
- Asociación Nacional Cívica Femenina (ANCIFEM), Mexico
- Asociación Regional Mujeres Ingenieras, Peru
- Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWIL), Trinidad and Tobago
- Cátedra Abierta Latinoamericana Matilda y las Mujeres en Ingeniería, Colombia
- CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago
- Centro de Estudios y Formación Integral de la Mujer Yucatán SC, Mexico
- Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos-PROMSEX, Peru
- Centro Ecuatoriano de Desarrollo Alternativo (CEDEAL), Ecuador
- Club de Leones Mujeres e Innovación, Venezuela
- Comité Argentino de los Derechos del Niño (CASACIDN), Argentina
- Corporación Red de Empoderamiento de las Mujeres de Cartagena de Indias y Bolívar, Colombia
- Fundación Vida Jurídica, Venezuela
- Instituto para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Mujer Lenca de Honduras (IDESMULH), Honduras
- Moflim, Peru
- Mujer Libertad AC, Mexico
- Red de Mujeres por los Derechos Humanos, El Salvador
- VIFAC, Mexico
- Voces de Mujeres Afrodescendientes en Panama, Panama
- Women Against Rape, Antigua and Barbuda

Our Green Future and Accelerating the Clean Energy Transition

Management of the resources:

- Include women in the management of water resources, considering that they are the main users of water.
- Promote zero food waste, according to FAO's existing program.

Access to technologies:

- Adopt transformative and innovative technologies in the region, which allow to bring together natural resources such as water, in order to avoid displacements that put women's safety at risk.

Education:

- Training on family farming, in order to strengthen food security.
- Train women in health and fair economy issues.
- Empower women and girls by training them in science and technology.
- Provide training to women on resilience in the event of climate disasters and on mitigation of the climate crisis from basic education.
- Seek solutions to climate change that include training women in agriculture, risk mitigation, environmental care, etc.

Health:

- Address the issue of toxicity, in order to prevent women from dying from poisoning due to the misuse and handling of toxic inputs.
- Ensure that companies are held accountable for the health services of women who are in informality handling products such as lithium and mercury, or those who work on the land with chemicals and pesticides, as well as those who work in the extraction of fossil fuels.

Entrepreneurship:

- Encourage the promotion of women's participation as coordinators in agro-economy, with the aim of generating greater entrepreneurship and improving their family economy, their community and that of their municipality.
- Strengthen post-pandemic nutrition by supporting women's work in family farms.
- Support women to go from being microentrepreneurs to macro entrepreneurs, strengthening leadership and creating cooperatives that allow them to achieve this growth, resorting to funds and loans that support them in this emerging economy.

Food safety:

- Strengthen the food security and nutrition of the family and country through training and education, and through family farming.
- Address food insecurity through networks of women seeking to achieve control of forest areas with better family bio-gardens.

Participating women's organizations:

- 33 Mujeres A.C, Mexico
- Asociación Regional Mujeres Ingenieras, Peru
- Cátedra Abierta Latinoamericana Matilda y las Mujeres en Ingeniería, Colombia
- Central Nacional de Mujeres de Sectores Populares del Perú "Micaela Bastidas," Peru
- Centro de Estudios y Formación Integral de la Mujer Yucatán SC, Mexico
- CONARMIZ, Venezuela
- Género F, AC, Mexico
- Red de Mujeres por la Democracia, Guatemala
- Red de Mujeres por los Derechos Humanos, El Salvador
- Red de Mujeres, Honduras
- Vifac, Mexico

Digital Transformation

Access to technology:

- Provide free adequate infrastructure and good quality connectivity throughout the national territory.
- Fund women and girls so they can get smart devices that allow them to take advantage of the use of technology.
- Promote accessible technologies and improve access to people with disabilities.
- Facilitate access to digital platforms and tools for people without mobile equipment.
- Ensure access to energy for digital device connectivity.

Health:

- Improve operational standards with a focus on the impact on women's health (e.g. antennas, cancer and other diseases).

Education:

- Ensure Digital Literacy in women and girls, so that they can take advantage of new technologies.
- Establish a government-society-community alliance to combat Digital Illiteracy in contexts of poverty.
- Provide vocational guidance in High Schools so that young people can move on to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) careers.
- Implement campaigns to make the STEM world visible to contribute to the inclusion of women in this area. This campaign should raise awareness about gender, family, school, and work stereotypes.
- Seek gender parity in government-funded research.

Cybersecurity:

- Provide appropriate safety and protection to women and girls in cyberspace, particularly against violence, trafficking, grooming, etc.
- Create and/or strengthen mechanisms for women to access cybersecurity tools for their businesses and the care of their physical autonomy.
- Generate safe spaces in cloud networks, regulating aspects of digital violence, establishing framework policies and regulations to mitigate violence in digital spaces, facilitating reporting mechanisms, promoting rights for women at all ages and established jobs.
- Generate policies to prevent, address, punish and eradicate digital violence, for the protection of women.
- Facilitate parental control of technologies for the prevention of harassment, pornography, blackmail, etc.

Public policies:

- Create a fund aimed at covering digital services to the most vulnerable social groups, financed with 2% of the collection of ICT companies.
- Creation of a regional repository of initiatives for social and behavioral change related to digital transformation.
- Create and/or strengthen the mechanisms of permanent dialogue between government and civil society aimed at encouraging participation to strengthen the creation of public policies aimed at digital transformation.

- Ensure the inclusion and participation of young people in public policy dialogues aimed at reducing the digital divide.
- Encourage women's organizations to include the issue of digital transformation within their equality plans.

Empowerment:

- Encourage the participation of women in the technology market, micro, small and medium enterprises.
- Prioritize public purchases from female-led technology companies.
- Make female leaders visible so that they can be an example for the new generations.

Intersectional approach:

- Reduce digital gaps for women, in an intersectional way, including the different inequalities that women go through (sexual orientations, gender identity/expression, age, disabilities, ethnicity, race, migratory and socioeconomic status).
- Promote the linking of girls and women in vulnerable situations with an intersectional analysis (disability, illness, poverty, indigenous people) in training and decision-making.

Participating women's organizations:

- 33 Mujeres A.C, Mexico
- Asociación Nacional Cívica Femenina (ANCIFEM), Mexico
- Asociación Regional Mujeres Ingenieras, Peru
- Cátedra Abierta Latinoamericana Matilda y las Mujeres en Ingeniería, Colombia
- CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago
- Central Nacional de Mujeres de Sectores Populares del Perú "Micaela Bastidas", Peru
- Centro de Estudios y Formación Integral de la Mujer Yucatán SC, Mexico
- Centro Ecuatoriano de Desarrollo Alternativo (CEDEAL), Ecuador
- Corporación Caribe Afirmativo, Colombia
- Moflim, Peru
- Mujer Libertad A.C., Mexico
- PROLIDER, Dominican Republic
- Red de Mujeres por los Derechos Humanos, El Salvador
- Red de Mujeres, Honduras
- VIFAC, Mexico

Democratic Governance

Women's access and participation:

- Implement temporary special measures to establish quotas of 30% for elective positions for women.
- Incorporate the participation of women with disabilities and promote their access to public office.
- Promote the political leadership of women in decision-making positions, ensuring that they hold the first positions in the lists of allocation of seats.
- Promote affirmative action that serves for the participation in public office of LGBTQ+ women
- Assign policies with a labeled budget allocation for the incorporation of measures at all levels of government, conciliation, care, and co-responsibility to guarantee the social and political participation of women.

- Review laws that exclude people from political and private office based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Ensure protection mechanisms in the exercise of political power against the violation of women's rights and political violence by strengthening the democracies of the Americas with their participation.

Electoral processes:

- Ensure the participation of women in electoral processes, seeking to be an equal participation between men and women, because this is a product of inequality of opportunities, educational deficiencies and unawareness of our rights.
- Seek mechanisms so that the institutions in charge of electoral processes (Electoral Tribunals) can guarantee that illicit financing does not permeate political campaigns.
- Seek that political parties ensure women's effective access to participation in elections, under the same conditions as men. Given that the results obtained in the last electoral processes show that the incorporation and participation of women in public offices is still minimal, when it comes to positions of greater responsibility and decision-making.
- Promote greater participation of women in electoral observation procedures, from a gender perspective.

Rights and freedoms:

- Guarantee and respect the rights and freedoms of association and expression, respecting the free exercise of independent journalism, actions of human rights defenders and independent judges.
- Integrate multisectoral roundtables to review progress of the Peace Agreements in terms of progress and women's rights.

International agreements:

- Ratify ILO Convention-190 on Violence and Harassment in the Workplace by September 2023.
- Review non-compliance with existing Inter-American conventions against racism and discrimination.
- Develop and implement laws and policies that prohibit violence against women, specifically in politics in accordance with existing international and inter-American conventions.

Legislation:

- Create citizen observatories to review those existing laws are implemented with a gender perspective, and apply sanctions in case such laws are implemented without such a perspective.

Transparency and open government:

- Adopt codes of ethics by political parties to engage with practices and behaviors such as transparency, integrity, etc.
- Establish measures to implement a model of government, justice and open parliament that guarantees citizen participation in decision-making processes and implementation of public policies.
- Allow citizen surveillance as a mechanism to ensure the involvement of citizens in local participatory processes, to enable their access to their citizen and political rights.
- Encourage transparency in such a way that women can access decision-making spaces.

Justice:

- Expedite justice in all public entities for different types of violence and not revictimize victims.
- Provide budgets for urgent and priority attention to violent conflicts and the construction of peace for democratic stability, as well as establish alternative and restorative justice mechanisms.

Participating women's organizations:

- 33 Mujeres A.C, Mexico
- Agenda Nacional Política Trans de México A. C., Mexico
- Asociación Civil Mujer y Ciudadanía, Venezuela
- Asociación de Mujeres Afroamérica XXI, Guatemala
- Asociación Nacional Cívica Femenina (ANCIFEM), Mexico
- Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWIL), Trinidad and Tobago
- Central Nacional de Mujeres de Sectores Populares del Perú "Micaela Bastidas," Peru
- Centro Ecuatoriano de Desarrollo Alternativo (CEDEAL), Ecuador
- Dominio Público, Mexico
- Mujer Libertad AC, Mexico
- Red de Mujeres por la Democracia, Guatemala
- Red de Mujeres, Honduras
- Women Against Rape, Antigua and Barbuda