

AG/RES. 2454 (XXXIX-O/09)

PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY

(Adopted at the fourth plenary session, held on June 4, 2009)

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN the report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (CP/CG-1761/09 corr. 1);

RECALLING:

That, through the adoption of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP) [AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00)], the governments of the Hemisphere committed to developing decisive strategies to integrate a gender perspective in all spheres of public life as a way of attaining the ultimate goal of promoting and protecting women's human rights and gender equity and equality, and achieving equality of rights and opportunities between women and men;

That international forums such as the Summits of the Americas, the Special Conference on Security, held in Mexico, and the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, held in Bolivia, have reiterated the mandate to promote gender equity and equality in all areas; and

That this year marks the ninth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality, through resolution AG/RES. 1732 (XXX-O/00); and

CONSIDERING:

The mandate emerging from the aforementioned resolution for the Organization of American States (OAS) to facilitate the integration of a gender perspective into all the work of its organs, agencies, and entities, and to provide support to governments in the systematic compilation and dissemination of statistical data disaggregated by sex;

Resolutions AG/RES. 1777 (XXXI-O/01), AG/RES. 1853 (XXXII-O/02), AG/RES. 1941 (XXXIII-O/03), AG/RES. 2023 (XXXIV-O/04), AG/RES. 2124 (XXXV-O/05), AG/RES. 2192 (XXXVI-O/06), AG/RES. 2324 (XXXVII-O/07), and AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08), which took note of the reports presented by the Secretary General on compliance with the IAP, and, as reflected in those reports, of the results of the actions taken in this respect by the organs, agencies, and entities of the OAS;

That, according to the report presented by the Secretary General (CP/CG-1761/09 corr. 1), in 2008, some 45 percent of the substantive areas and 15 percent of the offices of the General Secretariat reported on integration of the gender perspective into their annual activities, indicating that the General Secretariat is still working toward a satisfactory level of compliance; and

OBSERVING WITH SATISFACTION that the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States

was held in Santiago, Chile, on November 13, 2008, pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08),

RESOLVES:

1. To take note of the Secretary General's eighth report on the implementation of the Inter-American Program on the Promotion of Women's Human Rights and Gender Equity and Equality (IAP), submitted in fulfillment of resolution AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08); and to urge him to continue with its implementation.

2. To reaffirm its support for the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) as the principal forum for generating hemispheric policy on gender equity and equality and the promotion of women's human rights; and to continue to support the CIM's efforts at follow-up and implementation of the IAP, including activities to continue promoting gender mainstreaming in the ministerial meetings on labor, justice, education, social development, science and technology, and sustainable development, in matters related to leadership, migration, conflicts and peacebuilding, and natural disasters, among others, as well as in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process, in particular the Fourth Summit of the Americas.

3. Once again to request the Permanent Council, in fulfillment of the mandates handed down by this Assembly, the Summits of the Americas, and the IAP, to continue its efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the work of its special committees and working groups and into its resolutions, activities, and initiatives, as the case may be, to ensure that they benefit women and men on an equal and equitable basis.

4. To thank the Government of Chile for its generous hospitality and for the facilities it provided, which ensured the success of the Third Meeting of Ministers or of the Highest-Ranking Authorities Responsible for the Advancement of Women in the Member States, held in Santiago, Chile, on November 13, 2008.

5. Also to thank the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for the funds allocated to the project to promote the incorporation of gender analysis into the subsidiary bodies of the General Secretariat and into the ministries of labor in the region, including the organization of online courses and an information system on the subject, within the framework of the 2008-2011 OAS/CIDA Cooperation Plan.

6. To urge the member states to:

a. Continue their efforts to develop public policies, strengthen institutional mechanisms for the advancement of girls and women, including young women, and enforce laws that promote respect for their human rights and gender equity and equality, including equal opportunity for women and men at all levels;

b. Begin or continue, in accordance with their domestic law and as appropriate, to compile statistics and analyze data disaggregated by sex and race in all sectors, so as to better understand and address the differentiated impact of policies, programs, and projects on specific populations, among them girls and women, including young women; and

- c. Fulfill the mandates of the Fourth Summit of the Americas through:
 - i. The development of support programs that take into account the differentiated impact of labor and social policies on young people, women, and men and that can contribute to eliminating discrimination against women, including young women, in the workplace and to increasing their full and equal access to decent, dignified, and productive work; and
 - ii. The production and utilization of statistics disaggregated by sex and race, particularly in the labor area, for the development of labor policies based on gender equity and equality.

7. To urge the Secretary General to:

- a. Continue, with support from the CIM, promoting and working on full implementation of the IAP so as to achieve integration of a gender perspective into all programs, activities, and policies of the Organization of American States (OAS);
- b. Request the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to include in their annual reports to the General Assembly their initiatives to mainstream the gender perspective into their policies, programs, projects, and activities, and to forward that information to the CIM so that it may be included in the annual report to the General Assembly that is drawn up pursuant to this resolution;
- c. Initiate activities to commemorate the Inter-American Year of Women in 2010 pursuant to resolution AG/RES. 2322 (XXXVII-O/07) and to request the organs and entities, in connection with that commemoration and as a follow-up to the agreement adopted by the Executive Committee of the CIM at its first regular meeting, held on March 30 and 31, 2009, in Washington, D.C., to make reference in the reports mentioned in the preceding paragraph to the progress made in gender mainstreaming over the past decade, as well as to the resources dedicated to that topic;
- d. Continue to implement jointly with the CIM the gender analysis training project at the OAS, targeted especially at senior staff in management positions and new staff members who work in priority areas, and to develop, with the Department of Planning and Follow-up, gender indicators for specific priority programs and/or topics at the OAS for their inclusion in a pilot project; and
- e. Give priority, when allocating external resources, to activities that facilitate expansion of the OAS Gender Analysis Training Program and activities to commemorate the Inter-American Year of Women.

8. To request the Permanent Council to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth regular session, in coordination with the CIM, on the implementation of the IAP and of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.