

AG/RES. 2709 (XLII-O/12)

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

(Adopted at the second plenary session, held on June 4, 2012)

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 (IAP) (CP/doc.4686/12); and

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), AG/RES. 2425 (XXXVIII-O/08), AG/RES. 2454 (XXXIX-O/09), AG/RES. 2561 (XL-O/10), and AG/RES. 2689 (XLI-O/11), which take note of the Secretary General's reports on the implementation of the IAP and of the outcomes of the actions undertaken to that end by the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization of American States (OAS) mentioned in said reports;

RECALLING that, through the adoption of the IAP by resolution 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 promoting and protecting women's human rights and gender equity and equality, and achieving equality of rights and opportunities between women and men; and

CONSIDERING:

The efforts that have been made by the Secretary General, with the support of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), to launch the OAS Gender Program and ensure that all the Organization's staff, especially senior staff in management positions and new staff members who work in priority areas, are given the opportunity to raise their awareness and build their capacity on gender issues so as to mainstream the issues in their different areas of work; and

The role of the CIM as the technical advisory body of the Summit Implementation Review Group on all aspects of gender equity and equality, as well as the importance of the CIM for follow-up on pertinent recommendations of the Summits,

RESOLVES:

1. To take note with appreciation of the Secretary General's eleventh 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. 2689 (XLI-O/11), and to urge him to continue with its dissemination and 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 equality and women's rights, and to continue to support its efforts at follow-up and implementation of the IAP, including gender mainstreaming in all areas, in the ministerial meetings convened by the Organization, and in the follow-up to the mandates of the Summits of the Americas process.

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 in the work of its special committees and working groups and in 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 urge the member states to:

- a. Continue their efforts to fulfill their commitments acquired at the inter-American and international levels in the areas of women's human rights and gender equity and equality, *inter alia*, through the formulation, strengthening, implementation, and execution of public policies and norms promoting these factors, particularly the commitments made in the IAP;
- b. Promote the full and equal access, participation, representation, leadership, and impact of women in the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural spheres;
- c. Begin or continue, in accordance with their domestic laws and where appropriate, the compilation of statistics and analysis of data broken down by gender 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, young women, adult women, the elderly, people with disabilities, indigenous people, and Afro-descendants;
- d. Formulate public policies, strategies, and proposals to promote women's human rights and gender equity and equality in all spheres of public and private life, considering their diversity and their life cycles; and
- e. Support the CIM in the identification of new and emerging areas to be included in its work and in that of the Organization, subject to the availability of financial resources.

5. 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 in all OAS programs, activities, and policies;

- b. Request the organs, agencies, and entities of the Organization to include in their annual reports to the General Assembly their initiatives to mainstream a gender perspective in 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. Ensure that, in the Organization's communication, dissemination, and publicity activities, priority is given to the rights of women and gender equality in order to raise the profile of these issues in the Organization's work;
- d. Continue implementing, with the support of the CIM, the OAS Gender Program and, when allocating external funds, prioritize activities that facilitate its expansion; and
- e. Include a direct link to the CIM on the main web page of the OAS.

6. To request the Permanent Council, in coordination with the CIM, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third regular session on the implementation of the Inter-American Program and of this resolution. 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.