

16 February 2005

English

Commission on the Status of Women

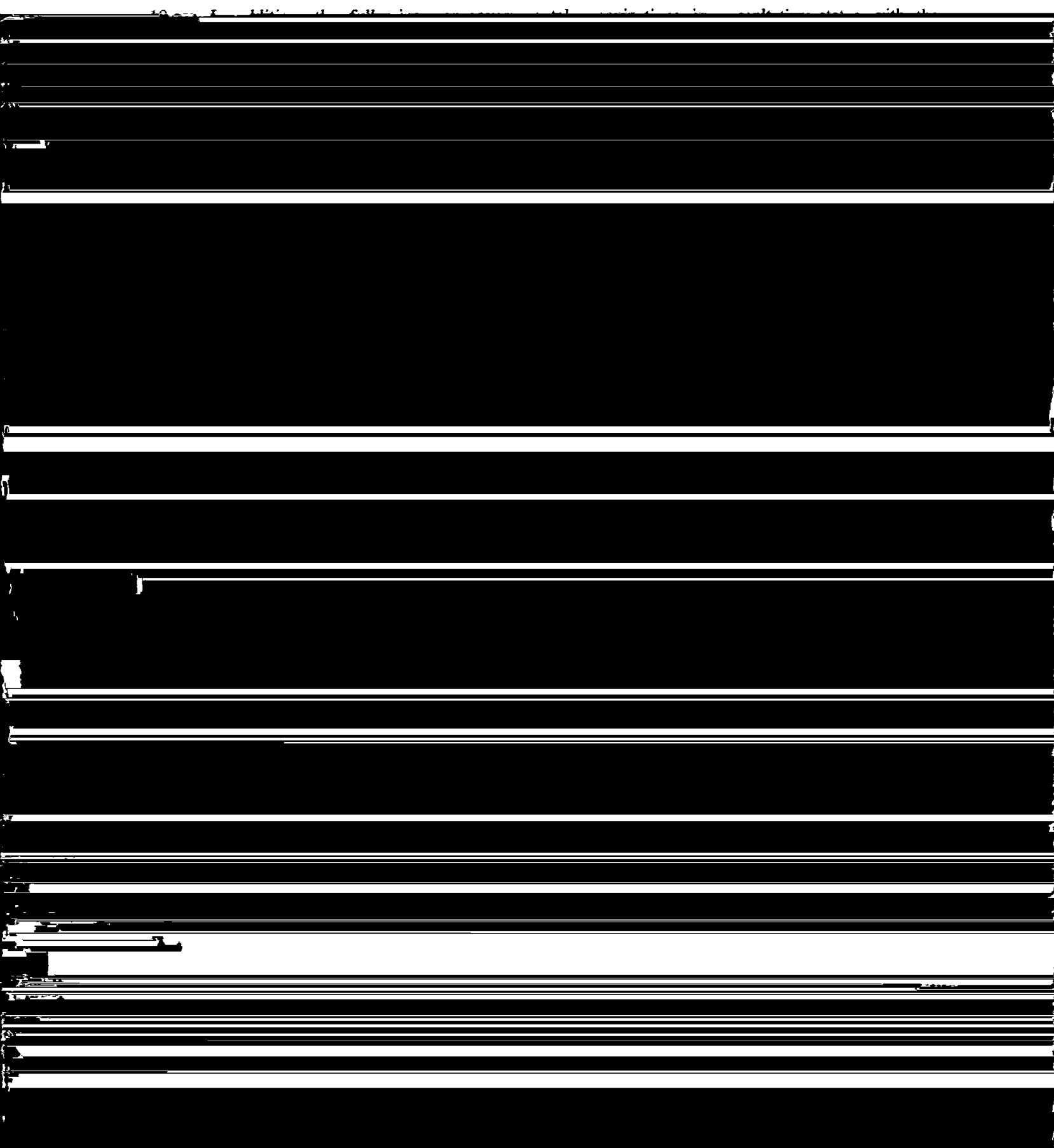
Forty-ninth session

28 February – 11 March 2005

Item 6 (a) of the agenda



Sciences, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, Organization of American States and International Organization for Migration.



Guatemala
Honduras

Puerto Rico

Rapporteur Ecuador

Documentation

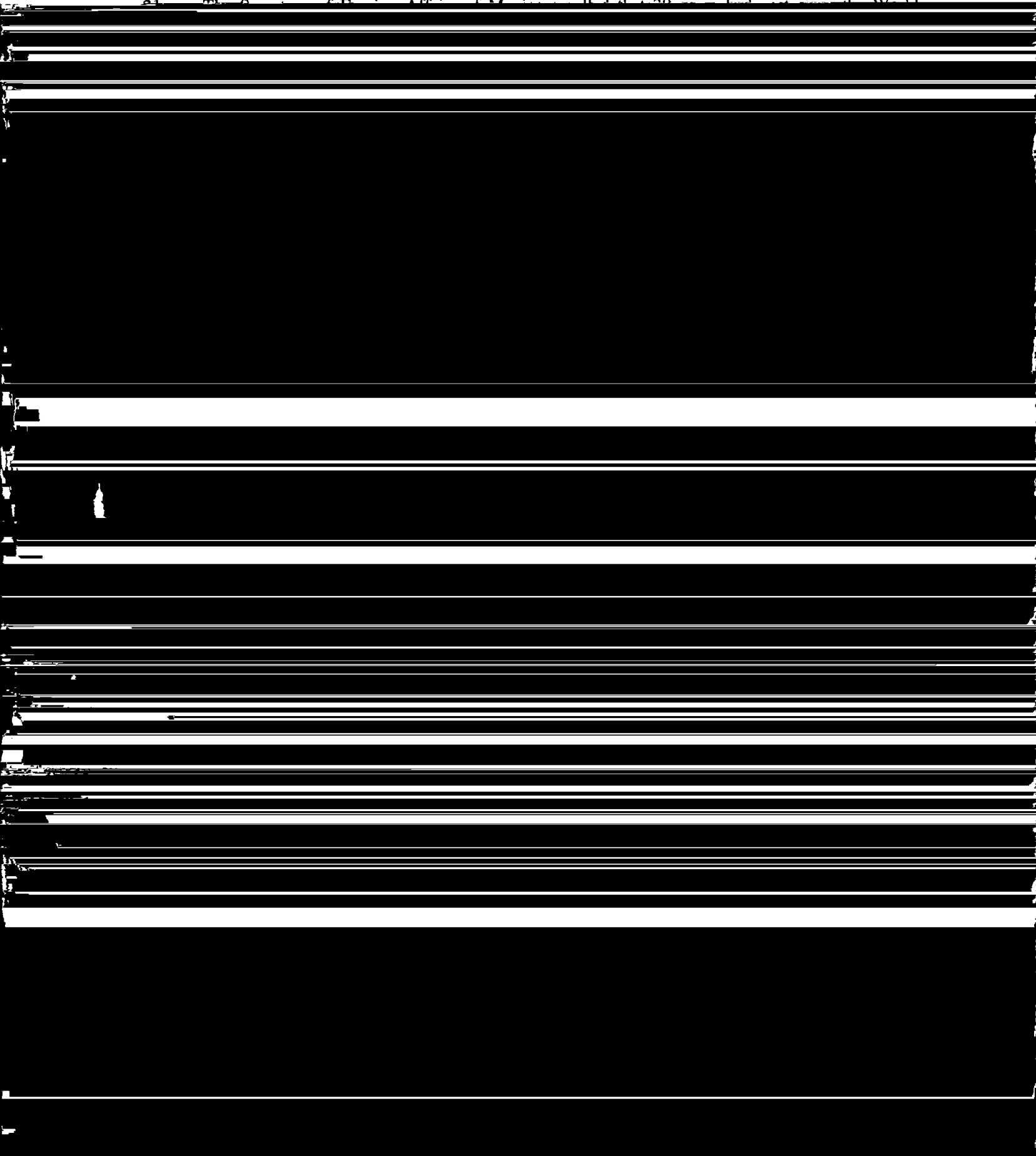
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II. PROCEEDINGS

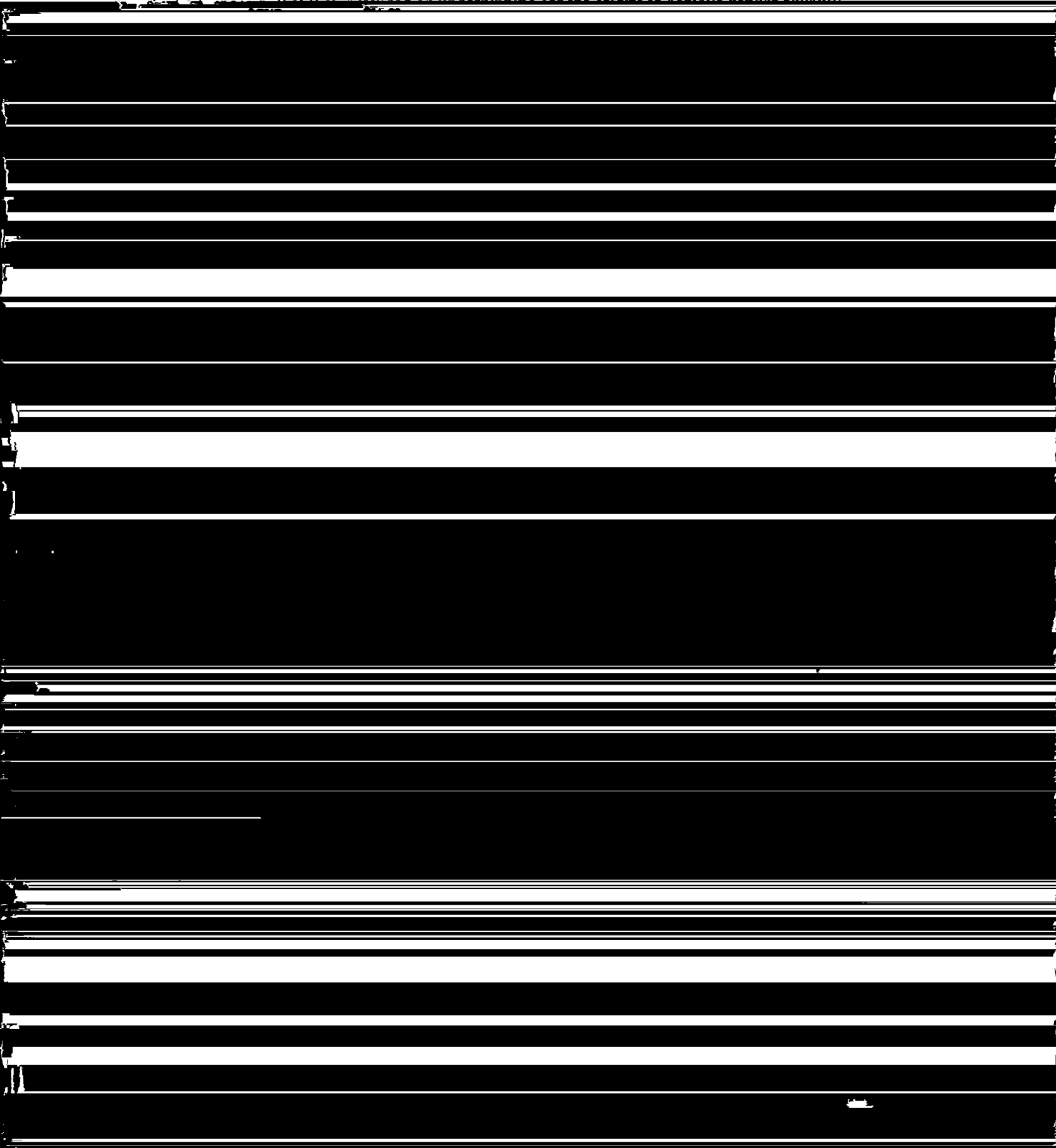
Opening meeting

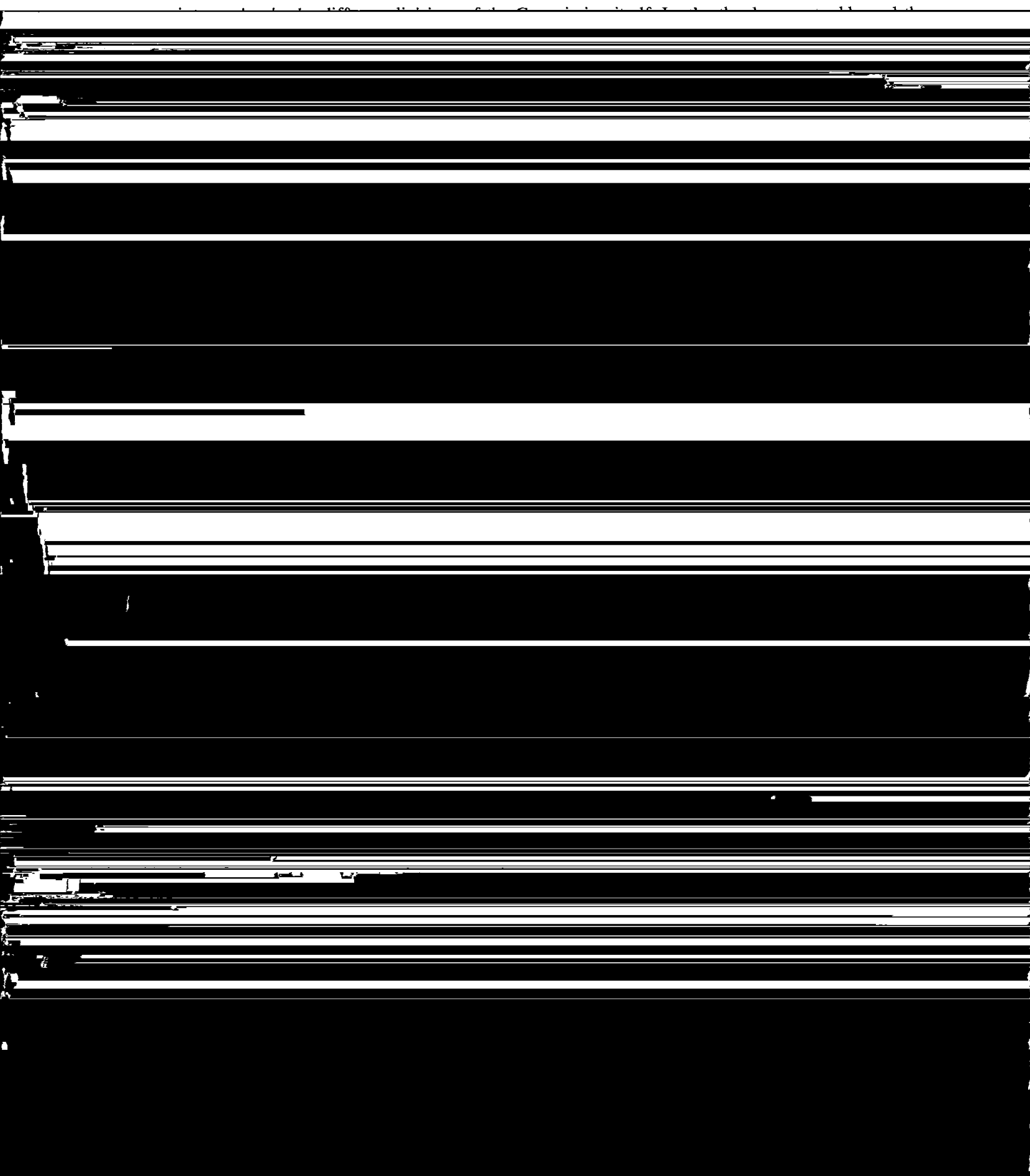
16. At the opening meeting, statements were made by Patricia Espinosa, President of the National
W. L. ... (...) of Mexico, ... (...) of Mexico, Executive Secretary of the Economic ...



subsequent establishment of the Women and Development Unit within ECLAC had been equally

~~in that it was recognized that the specialized commission for the efforts to achieve gender equality~~

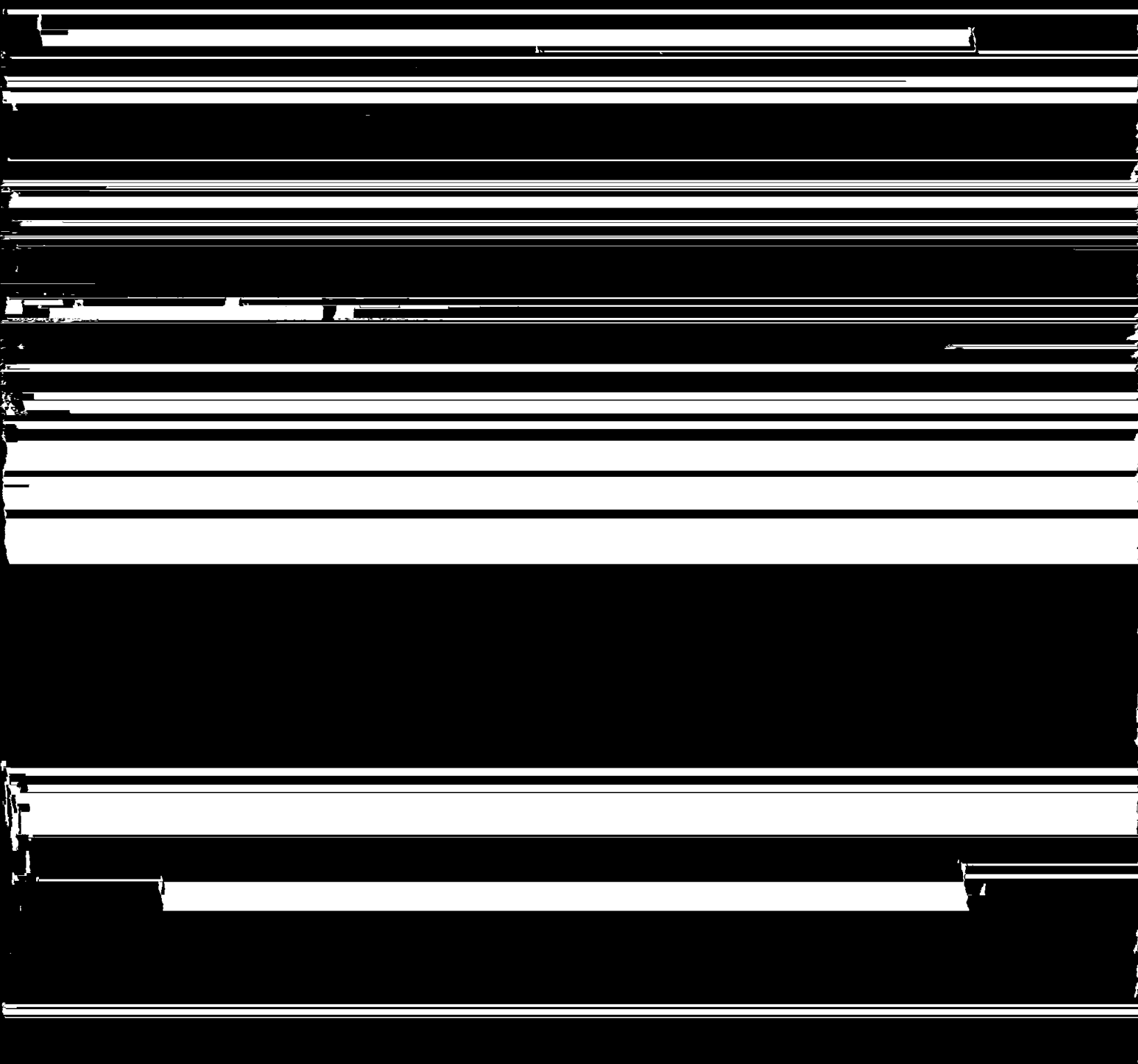




36. The delegations unanimously reaffirmed their commitment to the international agreements adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing), which served as central elements of their activities relating to gender equity and the rights of women. A more in-depth analysis was needed in order to understand why economic development did not result in a positive change in the social situation of the countries in the region and how that fact tied in with the conclusions of recent studies on the feminization of poverty and its differential impact on women and men. They requested further development of the gender-sensitive studies on recent trade agreements and, in general, on the repercussions of international trade liberalization on women, in particular on the impact of globalization on their working conditions. It was

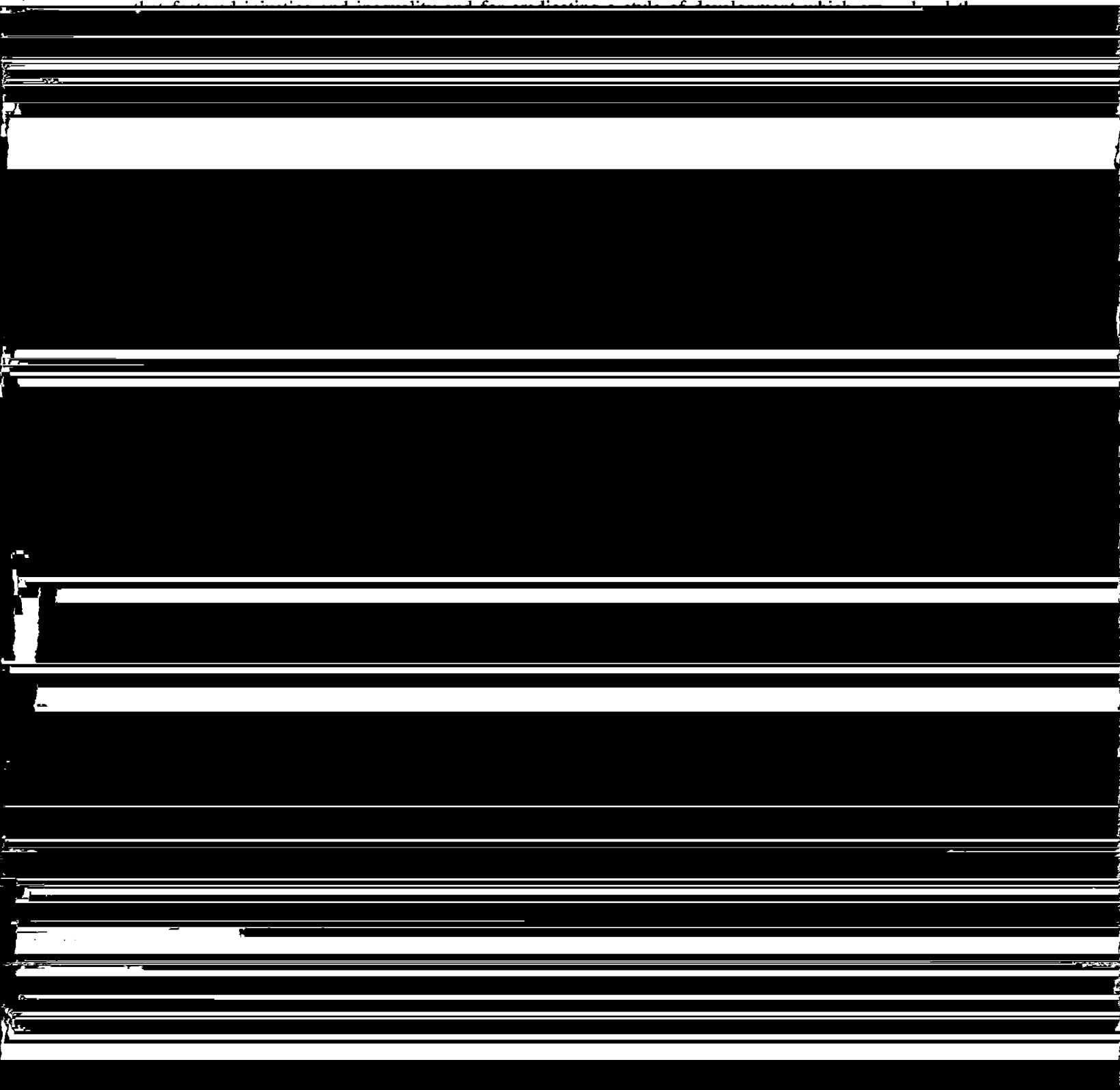
40. All of the participants emphasized the huge significance of the period that had transpired since the World Conference in 1975, as the processes initiated on that occasion had radically altered the dynamic of relations between women and men, not only in the sphere of public or business roles but in all aspects of everyday life. They recognized the valuable work of institutions and organizations of the women's movement in those processes and illustrated them with facts and personal anecdotes.

41. The panellists described the real and symbolic obstacles that had hindered their work as women in posts of high responsibility. In that connection they supported affirmative action measures as an



Statements by civil society organizations

44. Speaking on behalf of the civil society organizations present at the Conference, Blanca Dole said that their participation at the meeting was a decisive support for the sovereignty of States and the systems that promoted dialoguc and consolidated dcmocracy and a rcognition of the Latin American and Caribbean countries' ability to generate their own ideas and to defend them jointly in world forums. She reaffirmed the validity of the principles expressed in the Platform for Action of Beijing, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development of Cairo and the development goals set forth in the Millennium Declaration as an indispensable tool for overcoming an economic model that fostered inequality and inequality and favored a state of development which...

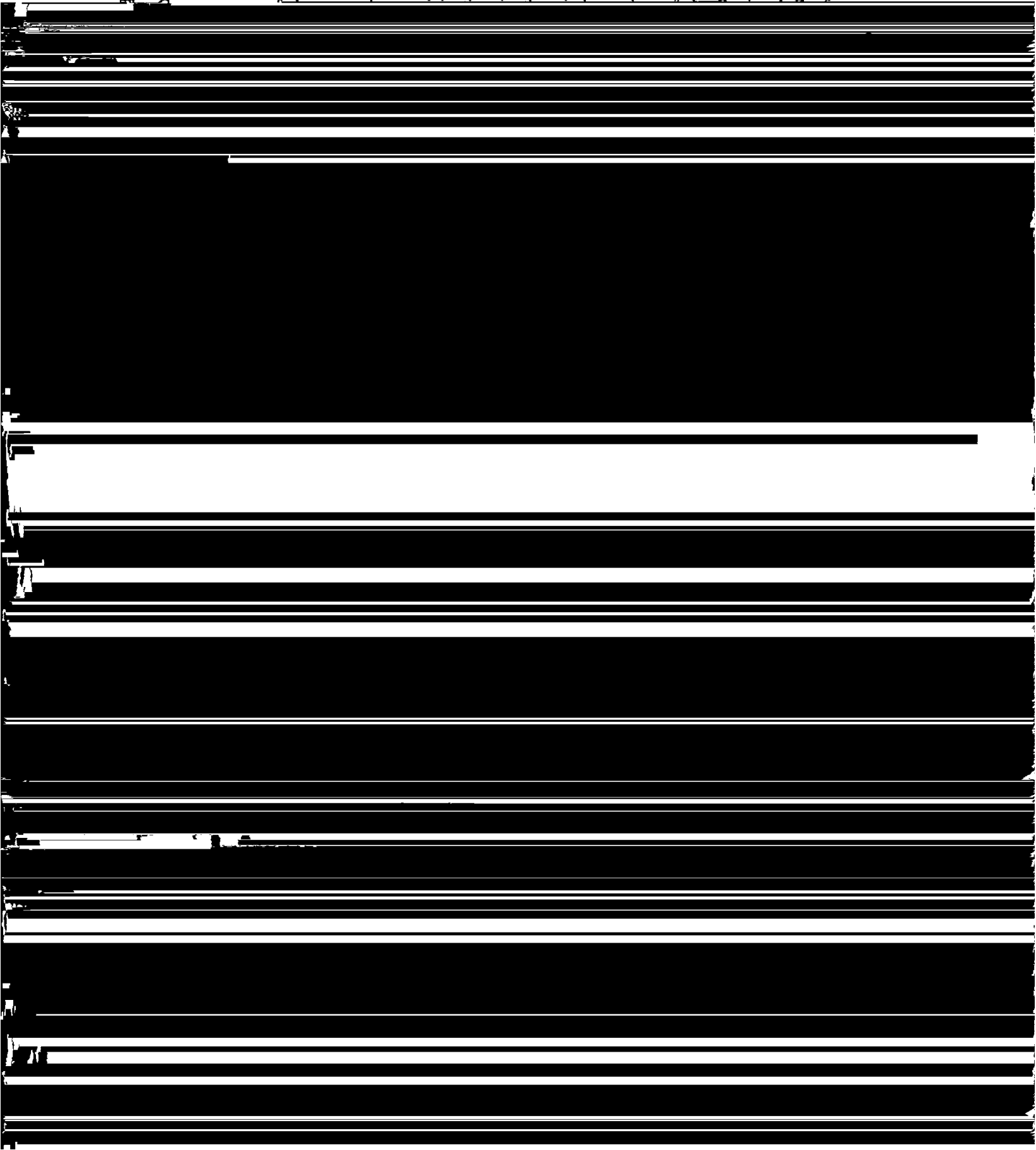


Conference on Women, which was a milestone in the struggle for the emancipation of women. She was convinced that ten years later, the fortieth anniversary of that memorable occasion would be celebrated with the same spirit and that the current conference would be recalled for the effort to achieve consensus against all odds. In her view, that success stemmed from the recognition and admiration of women who, although lacking the opportunity to express themselves, could be held up as examples of persistence, dignity and struggle for the right to a life of full citizenship.

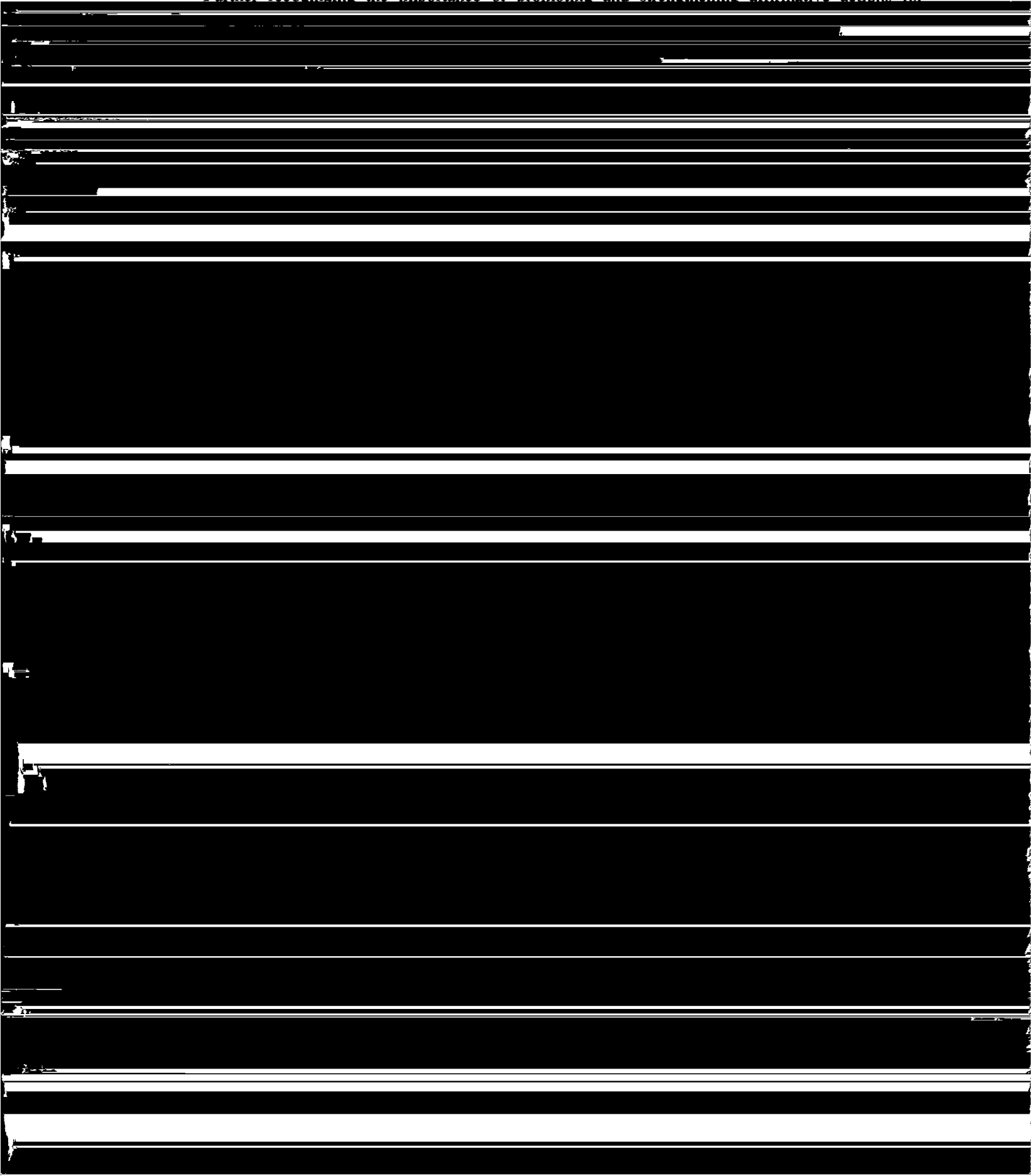
Closing meeting

51. During the closing session, statements were made by Sonia Montaña, Chief of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC, Cecilia Pérez, Director of the National Women's Service of Chile and by Patricia Espinosa, President of the National Women's Institute of Mexico, who spoke on behalf of all the delegations. The participants expressed great satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting, which they attributed to the valuable and constant participation of countries, agencies, institutions and civil society organizations in the preparatory process and in the meeting itself, as well as the capacity of the delegations of the member States to build consensus on the meeting's key issues.

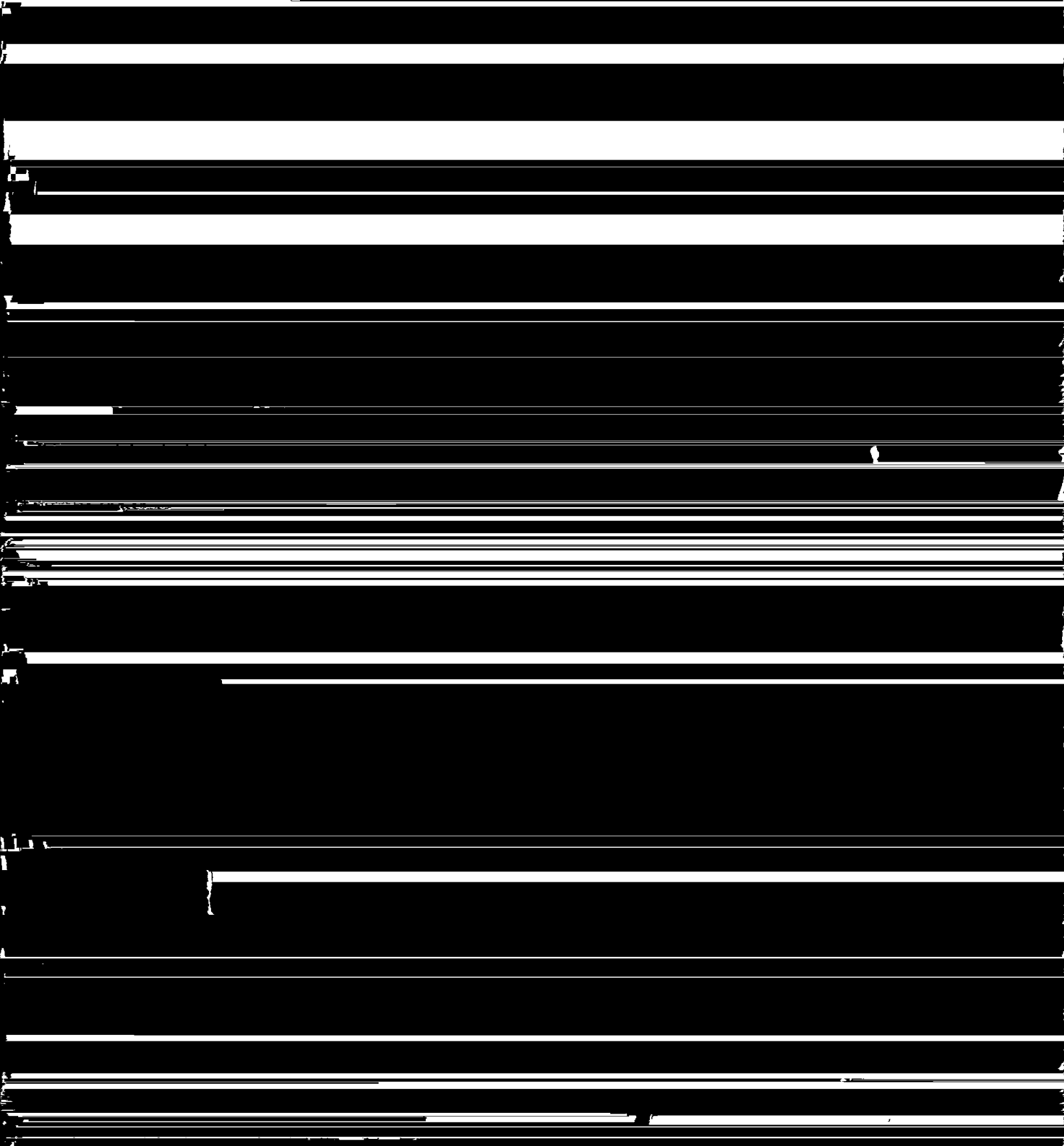
MEXICO CITY CONSENSUS



Further recognizing the importance of promoting and strengthening affirmative actions for



- (i) Adopt measures in all spheres, particularly the political, social, economic and cultural spheres, including legislative measures and institutional reforms, to ensure the full ~~development and advancement of women of all ages with a view to guaranteeing~~



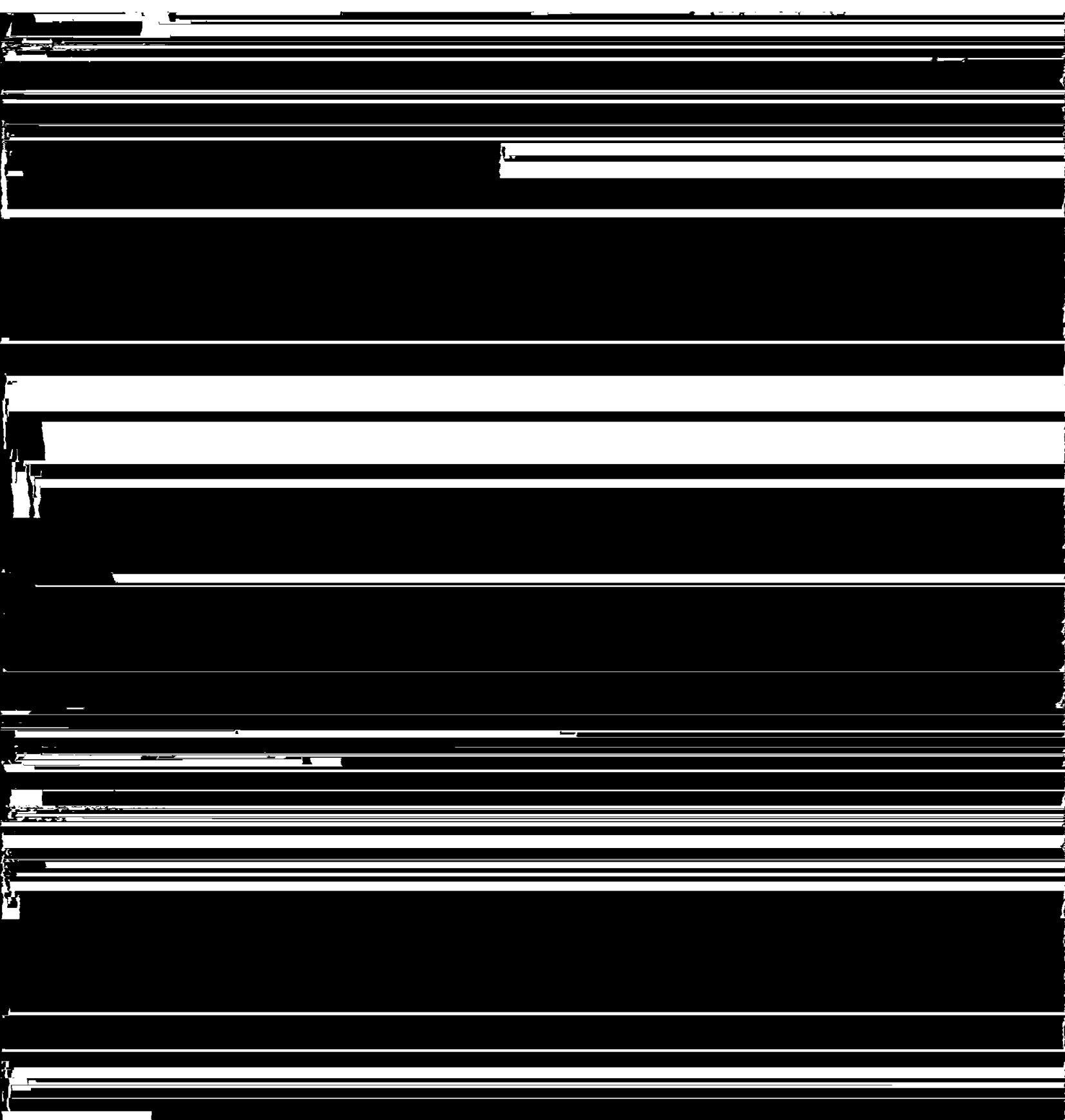
- (ix) Implement education policies that meet the countries' development needs, encouraging education for all women and promoting their access to economic, technological and scientific activities conducive to their equitable participation in a

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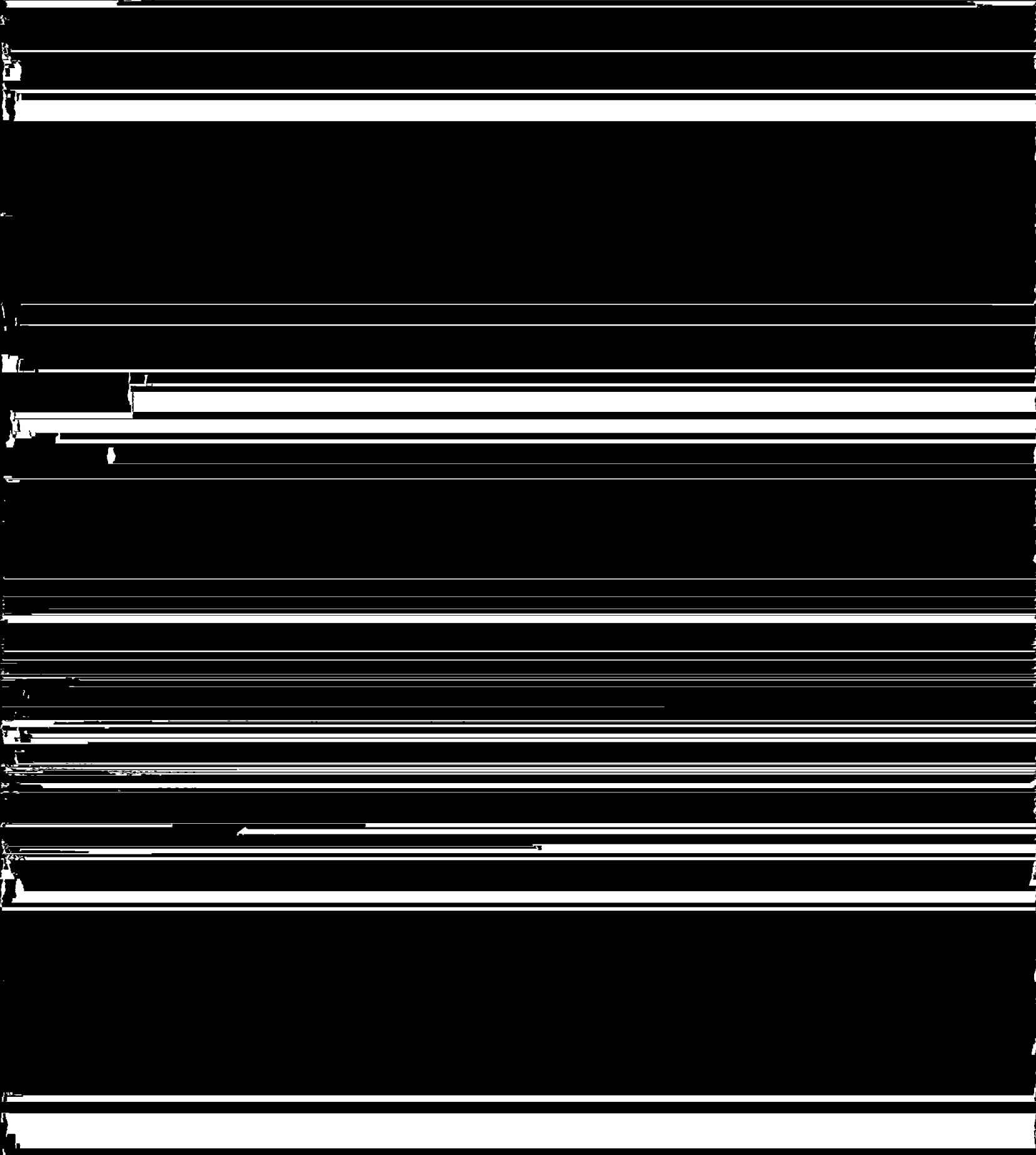
- (xix) Guarantee that national machineries for the advancement of women are provided with financial and human resources, build their political capacity and consolidate their institutional status at the highest possible level to ensure that they can fulfil their mandates efficiently and effectively;
- (xx) Develop closer ties of collaboration between national machineries for women and



RESERVATION OF THE DELEGATION OF EL SALVADOR



XL: d. C. ... ADC ... A, B, and C ...



Annex 3

RESERVATION OF THE DELEGATION OF NICARAGUA

The delegation of the Government of Nicaragua:

1 Welcomes and endorses the Mexico City Consensus



Annex 4

REPLY OF THE DELEGATION OF CUBA

A delegation such as the one I have just heard can only stem from the most blatant disregard for truth and

