

# San Salvador Declaration of Latin American and Caribbean countries on eliminating violence against women, the priority theme of the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

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Declaration of National Women's Machineries in Latin America and the  
Caribbean for the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women  
(CSW)

San Salvador, El Salvador  
February 11<sup>th</sup> 2013

We, the Ministers and High Level Authorities responsible for public policy in favor of the rights and empowerment of women in Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in the city of San Salvador on February 11<sup>th</sup> 2013, by the invitation of UN Women and the Government of El Salvador for a regional consultation prior to 57<sup>o</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), in order to facilitate a dialogue and a guide of recommendations in the "Agreed Conclusions", to identify the critical issues we face in the region for the elimination of violence against women and girls in all its dimensions;

Recalling, that the CSW plays a key role in monitoring, review and evaluation of the progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action at all levels, and that in our region, are the intergovernmental regional and subregional organizations to advance women, are those which guaranteeing compliance with the commitments that governments take in the CSW;

We reaffirm our commitment to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its Optional Protocol as an instrument of international interest; with the Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995), the international commitments agreed in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its key actions; with the Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Belem do Para 1994), with the Brasilia Consensus, adopted at the XI Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Brasilia 2010), with the San Jose Declaration on Economic and Political Empowerment of Women in the Americas, adopted at the Thirty-Sixth Assembly of the Inter-American Commission of Women, (Costa Rica 2012); with other international legal instruments and resolutions in favor of human rights of women and their fundamental freedoms; and the observance to the dictates

international instruments of protection and prevention of violence and the role of the United Nations System, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, in strengthening these mechanisms;

As well,

Considering that the violence against women is an affront to human dignity and a violation of human rights;

We reaffirm, that violence against women in all stages of life is a phenomenon that persists in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean and, that the different forms and expressions of violence preclude their individual development, undermine their rights and freedoms, prevent full development of 0 Tw 8.5 r



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other sexually transmitted diseases in the public health services and the free distribution of emergency contraception, especially in cases of sexual violence, in countries that allow it.

4. Access to justice within a framework of human rights

1. Ensure access to justice for women, ensuring personnel to care for victims and their cases at all stages of proceedings;
2. Ensure that security measures are expeditious and effective in all cases of domestic violence against women and monitor the implementation process to take corrective action and / or appropriate sanction;
3. Strengthen the training and specialization of the judiciary, police and law enforcement, in respect of addressing gender-based violence against women;
4. Encourage consolidation of international jurisprudence, and the standards in protection subject and best practices;
5. Promote the standardization of protocols, manuals, research ministerial criteria, expert services and provision of justice to properly investigate all crimes related to the disappearance, sexual violence and femicide of women/violent death of women associated with gender, according to international standards and with a view gender and rights approach.

5. Statistics, records and accountability

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