

NATIONAL REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

In fulfilment of the country's commitments, the Vice-Ministry for Gender, Generational Family Affairs, through the Office of Gender Affairs (DGAG), submits this report on trends and experiences in the implementation of the

...on the basis of the national follow-up to the recommendations of the Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995.

With a policy decision by the Bolivian State to introduce gender equality as fundamental issues in public policy orientation as its basis, the Office of Gender Affairs has worked to strengthen democracy in the society, the economy and the family, in accordance with the existing laws of the country and its cultural and regional levels.

In the knowledge that discrimination against women has many causes, the State has proposed a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary programme of action in four dimensions of development: political, economic, social and cultural. This represents historic progress to adopt a cross-cutting approach to gender in state policies, and shows that women and men in the areas mentioned have achieved equality.

The following are priority areas for intervention:

- Legal rights and reforms
- Health
- Education
- Urban and rural employment and productivity
- Violence
- Political participation

In each of these areas, the major problems to be addressed have been identified and management targets defined. Progress in the implementation of the Office of Gender Affairs Plan of Policies has been reported in the following areas:

Legal reforms

Drafting and enforcement of Act No 1674 on Family or Domestic

Violence, promulgated in December 1995 with the objective of

preventing, terminating and providing practical support of this law can be a comprehensive legal services offices and the family in the Police Squads for the Protection of Women in the country's 9 departments.

requirement that at least 10 per cent of the candidates in the elections for deputy be women. 25 per cent in the case of senators.

ach in the Popular Participation Act, thereby opening up new opportunities in the full exercise of the rights of women.

- The mainstreaming of a gender equity Participation Act and Educational Reform Act to provide greater opportunities for women's greater participation in the political, economic, social and cultural fields, especially, with the goal of achieving the equal activities in the areas of health, education, political participation and citizenship, women's matters, communications and culture.

The Decree on Equal Opportunity Between Men and Women determines that the State guarantees equal opportunities in the political, economic, social and cultural fields, especially, with the goal of achieving the equal activities in the areas of health, education, political participation and citizenship, women's matters, communications and culture.

The mainstreaming of gender equity in public policy, with the goal of achieving the equal activities in the areas of health, education, political participation and citizenship, women's matters, communications and culture.

The National Agrarian Reform Service Act, which guarantees equal rights for men and women in the administration, ownership of land, is October 1996.

- The Act amending the Penal Code removed the term "decent women" from the Code; previously offences against women and girls considered "indecent or perverted" had gone unpunished - 10 March 1997
- Supreme Decree of 23 March 1998 promulgating the Domestic Violence Act.
- Code of Criminal Procedure, March 1999.

Ministry of Women's Affairs, Popular Participation Committee, Chamber of Deputies

Prevention of Victims of Crimes against Sexual Freedom Act, Constitution and Judicial Police Committee, Chamber of Deputies

Domestic Workers Act, Social Policy Committee, Chamber of Deputies

Sexual Harassment Act, Judicial Policy Committee, Chamber of Deputies

- Electoral Code (Political Parties Committee set up by the Office of the Vice-President)
- Political Parties Act (Political Parties Committee set up by the Office of the Vice-President)

Also under discussion are proposals to:

- Include domestic workers in the Social Security system

... insurance ... available to women teachers.

... working group stage provisions were included in both the Electoral Code and the Political Parties Act requiring at least 30 per cent participation of women. We have proposed amendments relating to gender for the following:

- State Political Constitution
- Family Code

... this area essentially focuses on sexual violence. From this perspective, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, a "Plan for the Reduction of Under-5 Mortality" was developed to reduce maternal mortality.

... approach in all its components. The Ministry of Health has been working on a gender approach in all its components.

Education

The Ministry of Education has identified a policy has been designed setting forth the strategic approach to achieve gender equality in education. There must be results in the following areas:

- Access to primary and secondary education
- Quality of training and skill development
- Access to higher education
- Production and distribution of materials
- Research

• Special project for the prevention of violence in schools (PVE)

iii.

Difficulties have been encountered with educational reform; the availability and quality of education must be such that education becomes a factor in the empowerment of women and development of national potential. The problem is how to improve the process and establish an appropriate relationship between administrative and curriculum reforms at the national, departmental and municipal level.

However, the Programme for the Educational Improvement of School has

empowering each teacher with a variety of courses of courses... The teacher's work is in addition, quality, implied, a variety of qualities conducive to coexistence, such as problem-solving

of working out adjustments. Without these elements a programme of the prevention of violence in school is not sustainable.

We are working towards a more understanding and inter-relationships with the policy makers and technicians of educational reform in order to promote a change in behaviour and greater openness between the Vice-Ministry for Gender, Generational and Family Affairs and the Ministry of Education. In preparation for the dialogue between teachers and school-level technicians, despite many difficulties and limited visible progress, sustained efforts have been made to design a strategy for primary education and to conduct a merger process. The additional advice in the reform have included training and the re-orientation of teachers. The province's acceptance and continuation of efforts to address rural areas has been formed.

EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY

Progress in this area is reflected in the design of policies, programmes and managerial methodologies which have been incorporated in the strategy plan of the Office of Gender Affairs. These efforts have been concentrated on promoting and different strategies and activities have been proposed for urban and rural areas.

Urban Employment and Productivity

..... Policies and programmes in the area of urban employment and productivity have been based on two central aspects: (i) elimination of gender inequalities in the workplace; and (ii) increasing women's autonomy by improving their technological and management skills.

The Office has placed priority on the following areas:

- (a) Salaried jobs subject to legal norms and regulations;

- (b) Technical training for workers;
- (c) Work organized under small and medium-sized enterprise projects;
- (d) Trade organizations for salaried workers and producers in general and
- (e) Progress in legislation to establish labour standards.

The progress achieved in these areas has been significant but uneven.

- Framework Law on Economic Promotion. The Vice-Ministry for Gender, Generational and Family Affairs, through the Urban Labour and Productivity Secretariat, participated in the drafting of a bill on economic

framework law which is one of the agenda of the Bolivian State. Its objective is to establish principles and create

mechanisms to stimulate cooperation between the State and private

both men and women. One of the important principles

is to ensure that women can participate in economic de-

and skills

Political participation

ical power between men and women. The purpose here is to redistribute

and strengthening of political There have been results in the areas of

At the basic level, the principle of gender equality has been mainstreamed by the 1994 Participatory Act broadening the access for women's participation in the design and management of policies covering their interests.

The creation of the National Assembly for Women, local women's and departmental associations of women, social forums and their training in participatory planning, legislation and municipal management has enabled the gender perspective to be included in the development of municipal laws.

A project for the development of municipalities entitled "Women and Municipalities: Policies in Action" is aimed at strengthening the management capacity of municipal governments and local authorities to mainstream the principle of gender equality as municipal policies.

With the goal of strengthening the work of legislators at the national level, the Union of Women Parliamentarians has been established

in order to include a gender perspective in the various national proposals or laws and in the design of policies which have an impact on the situation and status of women.

- The Office supports the work of the National Women's Political Forum and the Departmental Forum composed of local leaders and members of political parties, political organizations, members of non-governmental organizations and independent women politicians whose proposals are elaborated for participation in the national political system.

As part of the strategy of each of the areas, the gender perspective has been mainstreamed in national social and economic policy as a whole.

In the area of legislative and policy work, we have been involved in a process of coordination and process of communication between the State and civil society, including the strengthening of women's organizations.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

LEGAL ASPECTS

- Act No. 1100/89 ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Act No. 1599/99 ratifying the Inter American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women

... of the National Family or Human Violence, National
 ... Constitution of Bolivia as the
 ... report for fundamental human rights ...
 ... according to sex ...
 ... to promote gender equality

... NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT POVERTY 1997-2002 ... incorporates ...
 ... equality as public policy and considers violence against women ...
 ... policy issue.

... recognizes violence as a public health ...
 ... an issue for the Ministry of Health and ...
 ... SOCIAL SECURITY

... The National Police has reached ...
 ... the social problem of family violence ...
 ... established procedure to address the problem ...
 ... through women's ...

... STREAMING OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE ...
 ... try of gender, generational and family ...
 ... government bodies ...
 ... NATIONAL POLICY FOR ...
 ... executed by the Vice ...
 ... Affairs through all ...

... the results obtained have been the fruit of ...
 ... with the technical support of the Pan-American Health ...
 ... and ... support from the Government of the ...
 ... Violence against Women and Girls project ...
 ... Organizat ...
 ... Netw ...

... have taken place with ...
 ... impact on the established ...
 ... combat family violence at the Departmental level ...
 ... family violence and care for victims ...
 ... work through social participat ...
 ... coordination ... the appropriate ...
 ... promote the use of local resources, establish ...
 ... develop exchanges between ...
 ... in order to combat domestic and family violence ...
 ... Coord ...
 ... Organiz ...
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 ... Social ...
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 ... multi-se ...
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 ... municipa ...

3. In Bolivia, the project is executed through a tripartite committee

made up of the Ministries of Health, Social Security, Women's Affairs, Gender Affairs and Family Affairs and PAHO/WHO, and other institutions such as the National Police and the Ministry of Justice.

Vice-Ministry of Gender Affairs with the support of the Ministry of Justice.

The problem of violence we are trying to include in various institutions, prevention and treatment of this problem which affects Bolivian women of all ages. A development of technical instruments such as guides to further the process in such sectors as health, the judicial system, education and leadership.

4. By institutionalizing these activities in the ordinary work of all social classes, guides or manuals.

Financial and institutional measures

Financing for gender policies comes mainly from external cooperation resources from the Government of Sweden and the Royal Government of the Netherlands.

Financing for external resources is provided by UNFPA and the Inter-American Development Bank.

the national treasury as counterpart. Also important to mention that UNFPA and the Inter-American Development Bank have committed funds to finance the project.

Platform for Action we have assumed the responsibility of following up on the recommendations of various activities such as coordination with the national level, planning workshops and dissemination of the recommendations through discussion throughout society and development and execution of the National Plan.

since the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action, the responsibility for monitoring the progress of the implementation of the Platform for Action rests with the national level.

The innovative measure is the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in our country's Overall Plan for Economic and Social Development 1997-2002, as well as

in public policy in the areas of health, education, work, and citizenship, violence, and law, communication and culture.

pages and paragraphs reflects a minor matter compared with

Tracey's note: The odd numbering of the numbering in the Spanish text that is the actual content of the text.