

CIM Presents its Annual Report to the OAS General Assembly with a Call to States to Strengthen its Role and Resources

- *The President of the CIM, Niurka Palacio Urriola, urged OAS Member States to redouble efforts and resources to guarantee women's rights in the Americas.*
- *The report highlights the CIM's institutional milestones and strategic expansion in 2024, including the development of model laws, work with rural and Afro-descendant women, the private sector, and the strengthening of civil society networks.*
- *"As we approach CIM's 100th anniversary, we are concerned to see the gender equality agenda being challenged," said Palacio.*

St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, June 27, 2025 — The President of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), Niurka Palacio Urriola, presented the CIM's 2024 Annual Report this Friday before the 55th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), taking place in Antigua and Barbuda.

During her intervention, Palacio, who is also the Minister of Women of Panama, emphasized that gender equality must not be rolled back. She called on OAS Member States to strengthen their political and financial support to ensure that the CIM continues to be "the legitimate, strategic, and natural space within the OAS to lead the regional agenda on gender equality and women's human rights."

Palacio expressed gratitude to the team of the CIM Executive Secretariat and to the Ministers from the countries that comprise its Executive Committee: Chile, Saint Lucia, El Salvador, Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Canada, Honduras, and Uruguay. She also gave special recognition to Alincia Williams-Grant, Principal Delegate of Antigua and Barbuda to the CIM and President of the Senate.

Minister Palacio highlighted that 2024 was a year of historic milestones and strategic growth. The CIM marked 96 years since its creation, 30 years since the Belém do Pará Convention — the most widely ratified human rights treaty in the hemisphere — and 20 years since the establishment of its Follow-Up Mechanism (MESECVI).

The report presented by Palacio detailed tangible progress in women's political leadership training, with more than 180 women impacted through women's electoral candidate courses, two of which were delivered for the first time to Indigenous women from Latin America and the English-speaking Caribbean. The report also noted the strengthening of the civil society network, which reached 1,500 organizations by the end of 2024.

Palacio further noted that over the past year, the CIM deepened its work with rural women, Afro-descendant women, and the private sector. In this last area, she emphasized the development of tools such as the Decalogue for Co-Responsibility for Care in the Private Sector and the Guidelines for the Application of Co-responsibility Measures for Caregiving in Companies, aimed at transforming organizational cultures and fostering more equitable workplaces.

In the legal sphere, Minister Palacio highlighted CIM's progress in drafting Inter-American Model Laws on parity, financial inclusion, labor market insertion, and technology-facilitated gender-based violence. These initiatives will provide States with concrete guidance for building more just and inclusive legal frameworks. She also reported that CIM and MESECVI carried out technical visits to 16 Member States, published 10 specialized documents, and trained nearly 200 officials from Member States and the OAS on gender issues.

Finally, President Palacio reflected: "As we approach the CIM's 100th anniversary, we are concerned to see the agenda for gender equality being challenged, a concern echoed by women across the Americas in all the spaces where we work."

"As President of the CIM, I make a firm call to uphold the commitments adopted by Member States and to support the strategic work of the CIM, which today more than ever must be strengthened and adequately funded," she concluded.

This presentation marked the conclusion of the CIM's 2024 accountability process, which began on June 11 before the OAS General Committee with a presentation by the CIM's Executive Secretary, Alejandra Mora Mora. In both spaces, the CIM reaffirmed its commitment to building alliances, developing tools, and supporting States on the path toward equality.

- Download the CIM 2024 Annual Report [here](#).
- Watch the CIM President's intervention before the OAS General [here](#).

***INFORMATION FOR JOURNALISTS**

About CIM/OAS

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is the main hemispheric forum dedicated to promoting and protecting women's human rights and gender equality. Founded in 1928, the CIM has been a pioneer in identifying the barriers women face in social, economic, and political spheres and in designing policies and programs to overcome them. The CIM works closely with OAS Member States, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders to advance the gender equality agenda throughout the Americas.

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