



FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM  
CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ (MESECVI)  
**Thirteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts**  
October 11-13, 2016  
Mexico City, Mexico

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## **GUIDELINES FOR REGULATING VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS**

The States Party to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, “Convention of Belém do Pará,” gathered at the Sixth Conference of States Party to the MESECVI on October 15 and 16, 2015, in the city of Lima, Peru, agreed to “11. Request the Technical Secretariat of the MESECVI to prepare a guidelines project to regulate the virtual participation of the Committee of Experts in accordance with the statutory regulations, which shall be submitted to the Committee for its consideration in the following meeting and subsequently reported in the following Conference of State Parties;”

The Statute of the MESECVI approved by the States Parties of the Convention, states that the Experts shall be appointed by each State from among its nationals (Art 5.3) and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts of the MESECVI establishes that the States Parties shall ensure the stability and continuity of the Experts throughout the evaluation process and that each State Party shall be responsible for the participation of its expert in the Meetings of the Mechanism (art. 2 par. 5).

In the event the CEVI meetings don’t reach the quorum of half plus one of the effectively designated Experts, the Committee may convene the virtual participation of the Experts to reach the quorum.

It will be considered virtual participation and it will be valid when any member of the Committee of Experts communicates to discuss or decide through the simultaneous or consecutive forms of communication to which she has access, for example: email, fax, telephone, teleconference, videoconference, Internet, online conference, etc. It will also be considered valid virtual participation when any of the members of the Committee of Experts expresses how her vote is to be cast in writing. The virtual participation will be duly recorded in the meeting minutes.

Virtual participation does not exempt States of their obligation to ensure the physical participation of its principal or alternate Expert.