



Organization of
American States

MESECVI condemns the discriminatory message behind the inflatable doll in Chile

The Committee of Experts of the Follow-Up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention ([MESECVI](#)) of the Organization of American States expresses its concern over the actions of representatives of the Association of Exporters and Manufacturers of the Chile (Asexma), which are a violation of the right of all women to live free from violence and discrimination.

During the annual Asexma dinner, representatives of the enterprise gave an inflatable doll to the Minister of the Economy, Luis Felipe Céspedes, with the message “to stimulate the economy.” Present at the dinner were representatives of government, political parties, parliamentarians, and high-level businesspeople, among other political figures.

This explicit reference to the reduced body of a women is a violation of article 6 of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women ([Belém do Pará Convention](#)), as well as a direct offense against the moral integrity of the women of Chile by government authorities and representatives of the Chilean private sector, who have a greater responsibility to Chilean society.

Article 7 of the Belém do Pará Convention highlights that the States Party condemn all forms of violence against women and agree to refrain from engaging in any act or practice of violence against women, and ensure that their authorities, officials, personnel, agents, and institutions act in conformity with this obligation.

Along the same lines, article 8 of the Convention establishes that the States Party agree to undertake measures to modify social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women and to counteract prejudices, customs and all other practices that legitimize or exacerbate violence against women. Similarly, they agree to promote and support governmental and private sector education designed to raise the awareness of the public with respect to the problem of violence against women, as well as the legal resources and reparations available.

The Committee of Experts sees this situation as an opportunity to take preventive measures aimed at avoiding similar occurrences and at harmonizing, revising and designing public policies based on the provisions of the Belém do Pará Convention, the recommendations of this Committee and other international legislation on the human rights of women and girls.