

OAS Permanent Council Commemorates 97 Years of the CIM and the Day of Women of the Americas

- *The session, held in the Simón Bolívar Room, included the virtual participation of Niurka Palacio, the President of the CIM and Minister of Women of Panama, and Tamara Ospina Posse, the vice minister of women of Colombia.*
- *CIM Executive Secretary Alejandra Mora Mora highlighted the support of states, international organizations, NGOs, and women from the region throughout the organization's 97-year history.*

Washington, D.C., February 19, 2025. The Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) commemorated this Wednesday the 97th anniversary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and the Day of Women of the Americas.

The session, held in the Simón Bolívar Room, included the participation of CIM President and Minister of Women of Panama, Niurka Palacio Urriola; the Vice Minister of Women of Colombia, Tamara Ospina Posse; the CIM Executive Secretary, Alejandra Mora Mora; and the Coordinator of the OAS Women's Human Rights Coalition, María José Corvalán.

Minister Palacio stated that the multilateral space has been one of the continent's cornerstones of the women's movement. "The CIM continues to be a space for building bridges between realities, cultures, worldviews, and among women fighting for our rights," stated.

Vice Minister Ospina outlined the path toward the XL Assembly of CIM Delegates, which will take place in Cartagena, Colombia, on April 28 and 29, 2025, with the participation of Ministers for Women and high-level gender authorities from across the region.

"I am pleased to announce that this year, the central theme of the CIM Delegates' Assembly will be strengthening policies and strategies to promote the right to economic autonomy for the women of our nations," she confirmed.

Following the interventions of the authorities, a video was presented in the hall featuring the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia, along with the Acting Representative of Trinidad and Tobago and the Permanent Observers of Spain and France to the OAS. In the video,

the Ambassadors jointly emphasized the importance of protecting and strengthening the equality agenda across the continent.

Subsequently, Secretary Mora took the floor to highlight that throughout its 97 years, the CIM has benefited from the leadership of States, the support of international organizations and NGOs, and the commitment of women across the region.

Secretary Mora also stressed the need to renew commitments to address women's underrepresentation in multilateral spaces and peace processes. She reaffirmed the CIM's commitment to key areas such as climate change, digital transformation, and artificial intelligence.

Finally, the Coordinator of the OAS Women's Human Rights Coalition, María José Corvalán, emphasized that the best way to commemorate the Day of Women of the Americas is "through concrete decisions that reinforce the achievements made and allow further progress in addressing pending challenges."

***Information for Journalists**

About the 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 pioneered identifying the barriers women face in social, economic, and political spheres and formulating policies and programs to overcome these barriers. The CIM collaborates with OAS member states, civil society organizations, and other key actors to advance the gender equality agenda in the Americas.

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