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**XXXIII ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN (CIM)
EL SALVADOR – NOVEMBER 2006**

REPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU

ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN - 2006

INTRODUCTION

This document reports on advances in the status of women since the State's participation in dialogue with civil society, January 2005 to June 2006. The demographic information comes from the National Statistics and Information Institute and the State sectors.

I. GENERAL COUNTRY DATA

- Total population: 27,000,947, of which 50.3% are male and 49.7% female.
- Average life expectancy: 70.5 years - 72.6 years in urban areas and 65.9 years in rural areas; 68.5 years for men and 73.3 years for women. Women represent 49.7% of the total population^{1/}. 27%^{2/} of the female population resides in rural areas and 74% in urban areas.
- Population living in the Amazon: 2,876,749 persons (11% of the country's population).
- Andean population: 9,650,185 (36.9% of the country's population).
- Population of African descent: 1,307,613 persons (5% of the total population).
- 72 ethno-linguistic groups: 65 in the Amazon and 7 in the Andean region.
- 14 linguistic families: 12 in the Amazon and 7 in the Andean region (Quechua and Aymara are predominant).
- Illiteracy rate: 5%, 1,465,320 persons
- Overall fertility rate: 2.5 children per woman

II. LEGAL, POLITICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

During the period, the legal status of women in our country advanced toward greater equality of opportunities in the different areas of political, social, and economic life. Priority was given to: 1) having access to identification papers, birth certificates, particularly in regions high in the Andes, in the Amazon and periurban areas ("My Name" National Crusade); 2) combating violence against women (Zero Tolerance National Crusade); 3) capacity building for economic opportunities with a market ("My Job" National Program); 4) elimination of discriminatory standards; 5) integration of modern medicine with cultural practices (vertical delivery); 6) gender-specific education and interculturality; 7) proposal for alternating men and women on electoral slates in addition to meeting the gender quota.

1. INEI: Statistical Compendium 2005.

2. INEI. Peru, INEI Statistical Compendium 2005, pgs. 97 & 99.

- 1) **“My Name” National Crusade:**
 - RM N° 181-2005: all departments of the Ministry of Women and Social Development (MIMDES) are including measures for documenting their operating plans and budgets.
 - April celebrated as the Month of the Right to a Name and an Identity.
Results March-December 2005:
 - 44,126 births to minors: 56.6% girls and 43.4% boys
 - 12,014 births to adults: 18.16% female and 81.84% male
 - 34,554 national identification documents (DNI) issued to adults:^{3/} 74% female and 26% male.
 - 603 municipal districts and 21 regional commissions committed to the crusade.

- 2) **Combating Violence Against Women:**
 - Friends Helpline 0800-16-800 has been reinforced. Line 100 has been activated for children and teenagers. Access to both is free.
 - 47 MIMDES Women’s Emergency Centers are operating across the nation.
 - 41 Shelters exist nationally: 36.6% run by the government, 48.8% by civil society, and 14.6% mixed.
 - 59.8% increase in the budget for the National Program Against Violence between 2001 and 2006. In 2005 S/ 8,762,000 were spent. 2006 Budget: S/ 11,330,000.
 - Multisectoral Action (MIMDES, Ministry of the Interior, Health, Justice, and Education) for prevention and care.
 - Dialogue with Civil Society.

- 3) **“My Job”**
 - 18,196 women trained and 330 given specialized technical assistance for production.
 - 1,000 women entered the national and international labor markets.

- 4) **Elimination of discriminatory standards**
 - Ministerial Resolution N° 746-2005-MIMDES (10.11.2005): approves Directive N° 014-2005-MIMDES “Directive on Procedures for the Prevention and Punishment of Sexual Harassment in the Ministry of Women and Social Development – MIMDES”.
 - Law N° 28720 (25.04.2006): Law amending Articles 20 and 21 of the Civil Code, provides for the registration of children born out of wedlock, revealing the father’s name even if he is not present.

- 5) **Gender-specific approach and interculturality incorporated into health**
 - Ministerial Resolution N° 598-2005-MINSA: approved technical standards for assistance with vertical deliveries using an intercultural approach that makes birthing assistance in the vertical position official.

3. Includes women documented through the “Together” Program conducted by MIMDES.

6) Education

- The Ministry of Education approved directives regarding the “I Have a Right to Good Treatment” Campaign, which incorporates the issue of equal rights for boys and girls with respect to the prevention of sexual and psychological abuse and all types of discrimination.

7) Political participation by women

- Proposal for alternating genders (female-male or vice versa) on the slates of political party candidates, in addition to the gender quota, for general, municipal, and regional elections. Being debated.
- 11% increase in female parliamentary representatives through general elections (April 2006).
- Increase in the number of women from 2 to 6 (a 200% increase) in the new cabinet (July 2006), bringing the percentage of female ministers to 37%.

III. FOLLOW-UP OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CIM STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION

3.1 Public policy guidelines

- Approval by the Executive of the II National Plan of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, 2006-2010, Supreme Decree N° 009-2005-MIMDES (12.09.2005), drafted with the participation of civil society. It establishes 5 policy guidelines for joint action by the State and civil society with a view to eliminating all forms of discrimination and inequality between women and men. These guidelines are: 1) Institutionalized and broad based gender equity and interculturality; 2) Adopting the values and practice of equity; 3) Exercising social and cultural rights; 4) Exercising women’s economic rights; 5) Exercising civil and political rights.
- Institutionalization of the Award of the Women’s Order of Merit, the highest distinction conferred by MIMDES. It gives visibility to and recognizes the contribution of women in women’s rights advocacy, social work, competitiveness in business, the armed and police forces, sports, the arts, heroism, role models (older women), overcoming adversity (disabled women), professional performance.

3.2 Legislative advances

- Law N° 28704 (5.04.2006): amends Penal Code articles on crimes against sexual freedom and denies convicts the benefit of pardons and commuted sentences.
- Resolution N° 1234-2006-JNE (14.07.2006): the 30% gender quota included in the Municipal Elections Law includes candidates for the presidency of provincial and district city councils (*regidores*).
- Resolution N° 1247-2006-JNE (17.07.2006): application of the 30% gender quota in the Regional Elections Law.
- Law N° 28735 (18.05.2006): establishes rules for the treatment of persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and the elderly at airports; aerodromes; land, rail, sea and river transport terminals; and on public carriers.

- Law N° 28731 (13.05.2006): extension of the duration of the daily hour of leave for nursing mothers (*permiso lactancia materna*) by an additional hour in cases of multiple births.
- Ministerial Resolution N° 022-2006-PCM (26.01.2006): establishes the Multisectoral Commission II on the National Plan of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2006-2010, with members from MIMDES, Health, Education, Justice, the Interior, Transport and Communications, Labor and Employment Promotion, Economy and Finance, Agriculture, the Chair of the Council of Ministers and the National Statistics and Information Institute.
- Ministerial Resolution N° 188 -2006/MINSA: incorporates and promotes inclusive language as a strategy for promoting gender equity.
- Ministerial Resolution N° 039-2005-MINSA (19.01.2005): establishes the Technical Unit on Gender, Human Rights and Interculturality in the Ministry of Health, attached to the Directorate General of Health Promotion.

3.3 Eradication of poverty

The Government of Peru has been advocating and formulating policies, standards and programs for economic ventures by women, as an approach to overcoming poverty and moving from welfares to capacity building.

- “My Job” Program. Created in September 2005. Capacity building and access to business opportunities with a market for female entrepreneurs and businesswomen in micro- and small enterprises, in alliance with the Ministries of Production, Labor, Foreign Trade and Tourism, and Agriculture. Results: 1,000 women joined the labor market.
- “Together” Program. Involves conditional monetary transfers. A cash subsidy is given to women from the poorest families in exchange for participation in Civic Health, Nutrition, Education and Development programs. By February 2006, 32,000 women (150,000 persons) had received subsidies in 110 districts in the four poorest departments in the country (*Ayacucho, Huancavelica, Apurímac, and Huánuco*). Investment: S/ 300 million for 2006. The program has been extended to five departments: *Cajamarca, Puno, La Libertad, Ancash, and Junín* (an additional 210 districts).
- PROPOLI bond. A mechanism for co-financing training, advisory and technical assistance to microenterprises and their workers in 10 districts in the Lima metropolitan area. Results: 1,511 women trained.
- “With You, *Ayacucho*” Project. Development of entrepreneurial capacity combined with business opportunities for women that are victims of political, domestic and sexual violence, in conjunction with Belgian cooperation. Results: 1,000 women entered the labor market.
- Economic Capacity Building Project for Women in *Ayacucho* (*Huanta* and *La Mar*). Won the competition for the Italo-Peruvian Fund. It will start up with 2,000 participants, victims of political, domestic and sexual violence.

3.4 Education

- Material for use by primary and secondary school teachers and tutors on sexism and gender equity.
- Strengthening actions for developing education for rural girls. 4,000 radio spots in Quechua and Spanish to make scheduled enrolment universally available; 20,000 reference cards on non-discrimination and education of rural girls.

- 23,987 persons taught literacy through the project “Literacy in Reproductive Health, Gender, and Interculturality” in the Quechua, Aymara and Asháninka population.
- 59,912 persons were taught literacy in 2005.
- The primary and secondary school curriculum on gender equity and interculturality was improved.
- The curriculum for teachers of intercultural bilingual education in personal and cultural identity and gender equity was improved.

3.5 Labor

- Rural “Let’s Work” Program – Foncodes (MIMDES). Designed to create temporary employment. Results: 2001 – April 2005: 40,907 female heads of household.
- “Improving Your Life” and “Let’s Produce” Programs – FONCODES (MIMDES). Results: 70,671 and 341 jobs for women, respectively.
- Consolidation of women’s employment program – PROFECE (Ministry of Labor). Results: 33,387 business arrangements with women (2001 – 2006).

There is no updated information on working conditions for women in 2005 and 2006. It should be noted that the Wawawasi National Program allows working women, who are the mothers of many of the 50,000 children receiving assistance from the national system, to access its work centers with the assurance that their children are receiving specialized care.

3.6 Health

- Prenatal care: 90.6%,^{4/} with 70.1% of the babies delivered nationally in health institutions, up substantially in rural areas, which reported an increase in institutional deliveries from 24% to 42.9%. Lastly, care during puerperium stands at 37.8%.
- 274 homes for expectant mothers in rural areas, vertical delivery, birthing plan, community watch (*radar comunitario*), pregnancy clubs, better references and counter references, and organized community support.
- Integrated Health System (SIS) in 2005: 8,878,246 enrollees of which 23.8% are pregnant mothers; 339,962 births, including 9.3% to teenage mothers; 77.5% of pregnant mothers that are SIS members have their babies in health institutions.
- National guides to Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Care, technical and family planning standards, manual providing guidance/advice on sexual and reproductive health, with a view to managing sexual and reproductive health.

The results of epidemiological surveillance show that the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Peru is concentrated in the MSM population (prevalence: 14.6%). An estimated 70,000 and 100,000 persons are living with HIV^{5/}. Up until 2005, there were 6,211 reported deaths from AIDS, of which 2,207 were women. Prevention of the vertical transmission of HIV/AIDS nationally has increased access to HIV screening for all pregnant mothers in the country.

4. ENDES 2004-2005.

5. Reference: Boletín Epidemiológico trimestral de VIH/SIDA DGE—special issue on HIV/AIDS for World AIDS Day, 2004—Vol. 1 N° 1/3rd quarter 2004).

3.7 National institutions responsible for the advancement of women

- The Ministry of Women and Social Development (MIMDES) is the leading institution for women's development. It has a Vice Minister for Women who reports to the Directorate General of Women, the National Program Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Wawa Wasi National Program. Its Intrasectoral Commission has representatives from the general directorates, implementing units, Departments for the Promotion of Democracy (OPDs), and National Programs run by the MIMDES Vice Ministers for Women and Social Development.
- Deputy Ombudsperson for Women's Rights in the Ombudsperson's Office.
- Commission on Women in the Peruvian Congress.
- Intrasectoral Commissions to Monitor the National Equal Opportunity Plan in the Ministries of Health, Labor, and Employment Promotion, Agriculture, and Education. Multisectoral Commission on Monitoring the National Equal Opportunity Plan, 2006-2010. Regional Councils on Women and Gender in Lima, Piura, Huánuco, San Martín, La Libertad. Special Commissions on women in regional governments: Callao, Ica, Lambayeque and Ayacucho, and one Social Development and Equal Opportunity office in the Junín regional government.

3.8 Elimination of Violence Against Women – Measures for Implementing the Inter-American Convention for the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women “Convention of *Belém do Pará*.”

Prevention

- Ongoing training and awareness activities: 41,346 communal, municipal and regional authorities, police (PNP) and law professionals, health authorities, educators and social actors dealing with the problem of domestic and sexual violence (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Women and Social Development, and Ministry of Justice); and 1,100 police officers trained in coordination with the National Police Training School of Peru (Ministry of Women and Social Development and Ministry of the Interior).
- Landmark dates: International Women's Day (March 8) and Day of Non-Violence Against Women (November 25), with activities at the national level.
- National Crusades: “Zero Tolerance of Violence,” “Families in a Culture of Peace,” and “Good Treatment” and “To Children with Love.” 250 promotional events.
- Permanent prevention and care schemes that travel around the country: Friends of MIMDES Caravan (interactive and fun to stimulate reflection on domestic violence). Results: 62 national caravans and 12,000 participants in 2005.

Care

- Friends Helpline N° 0-800-16-800, free access and national in scope. Specialized care: psychological and legal assistance for victims of domestic and sexual violence.
- Line 100, free access. Designed to detect, prevent, and treat the mistreatment, abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children and youth.
- Line 0800 –23232 to report human trafficking. In service 24 hours a day, within the framework of the Call and Live campaign.
- 47 Women's Emergency Centers. Integrated care centers for victims of domestic and sexual violence.

- 41 shelters across the country (15 state-run, 20 run by civil society and 6 mixed). Spaces providing temporary housing for female victims of violence, established at the initiative of civil society or with government support.
- ALEGRA modules. Legal aid consultants from the Ministry of Justice, offices of the Peru National Police, and Ministry of Health.
- In 2005, the Institute of Forensic Medicine conducted more than 25,000 sexual integrity examinations, in other words, almost 70 examinations a day. Every hour three women are victims of some type of sexual aggression and report it. There are also over 80,000 examinations of injuries related to domestic violence (15% of the caseload of forensic examiners), which is a [daily] average of 219 persons attacked, most of whom are women and minors.

Research in 2005

- Baseline study on “Domestic violence in Ayacucho”
- Study on “Sexual exploitation of minors in Tacna, Puno, Iquitos and Cusco”
- Study on “Family relations, belief system, and perceptions of domestic and sexual violence in Ayacucho”
- Study on “Socioeconomic and productive characteristics of women vulnerable to domestic and sexual violence in Ayacucho”

IV. FUTURE ACTION TO ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CIM STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION

4.1 Approve the following laws:

- Law on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, from a gender perspective.
- Law on alternating the gender of candidates on slates. Law on simplifying the Procedures for becoming documented.
- Law against human trafficking. Law criminalizing domestic violence and sexual harassment.

4.2 Strengthen programs, projects, and plans

- Improve education and information in native languages, by enhancing quality and using an intercultural approach.
- Commit 100% of the regions and municipal districts to reducing by 70% the number of undocumented women and to prevent any new cases from arising. Quality of Integrated Health Insurance and proper treatment of the reproductive rights of women. Establish mechanisms for the administration of justice by the judiciary and national police so that cases of gender violence can be quickly processed. Create a Gender Violence Observatory. This project will be started in the second half of 2006 with funding from UNFPA.