

MECHANISM TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE OEA/Ser.L/ II.7.10

BELEM DO PARÁ CONVENTION (MESECVI) MESECVI/I-CE/doc.8/14.rev2

**FIRST SPECIAL CONFERENCE** October 24th 2014

**OF THE STATES PARTY TO THE** Original: Spanish

**BELÉM DO PARÁ CONVENTION**

October 23rd and 24th 2014

Mexico City

**Recommendations on tools to promote broad participation of the experts in CEVI meetings**

Pursuant to Article 12 c) of the document entitled “Agreements of the Fifth Conference of States Party to the Mechanism to Follow Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, ‘Convention of Belém Do Pará’ (MESECVI111)” (MESECVI-V doc.109/13 rev.4 corr.1), the 5th Conference of States Party (CSP) requested that the Working Group for the Strengthening of the MESECVI consider and make the corresponding recommendations to the CSP, prior to its upcoming Special Session, on the topic below, among others:

* 1. Recommendations on tools for promoting broad participation of the experts in CEVI meetings, including financing their participation in official CEVI meetings using the MESECVI Specific Fund created under Article 11 of the Mechanism’s Statute;

To this end, the Working Group prepared the document, “Procedures and Criteria for the Use of Funds to Finance, on an Exceptional Basis, the Participation of Experts in the Meetings of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the Mechanism to Follow Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women, ‘Convention of Belém do Pará’ (MESECVI)” (MESECVI/GT/doc.5/14).

Other recommendations:

1. Encourage countries to favor alternation, offering venues and logistical support for meetings;
2. Remind the CEVI that, in case it is decided to adopt the suggested changes, the process to follow should be according to the Statute of the MESECVI and the current Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Experts. Therefore, States Party are urged to facilitate the participation of their Experts in the meeting at which these recommendations will be viewed;
3. Continue to urge the States Party to appoint an Expert and to facilitate their participation. Additionally, recognize those States that are fulfilling that commitment;
4. Eliminate the footnote of Article 14 of the CEVI Rules of Procedure in order to constitute quorum with half plus one of the Experts effectively appointed to the Committee, as long as it is not less than twelve (12).

Eliminate the footnote of Article 15 of the Rules of Procedure and modify said Article in the following terms: “As a general rule, the *Committee* shall adopt its decisions by consensus. In those cases where there is a controversy with regard to a decision, the President shall use his or her good offices and all means at his or her disposal to try to reach a consensus. If this path has been exhausted and a decision by consensus is not possible, the issue shall be put to a vote. Decisions that concern the adoption of a country’s final report, hemispheric reports or amendment of these *Rules* shall be taken with a vote in favor of one third of the States Party to the Convention. The votes may be in favor, against, or abstentions. No expert may participate in the voting on the draft report of his or her country [[1]](#footnote-2)”.

1. Colombia will consult about the possibility to recognize the decisions of the Committee if these are taken in which the quorum is inferior to the majority of experts of the States Party to the Convention. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)