



OAS | CIM

INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

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ORGANIZATION OF WORK

STATEMENT OF CONCERN FOR THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN AND IRAN

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS), as the first hemispheric political forum created to ensure the recognition of women's human rights, brings together in its Assembly the Ministers of Women and/or high gender authorities of the American region, within the framework of conventional instruments, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, 1979) and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará, 1994).

The Executive Committee of the CIM warns of the deepening discrimination and violence against women and girls, and therefore, we renew our work in favor of the rights of women and girls in the American region.

In solidarity, we express our deep concern over the situations that deteriorate the human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan and Iran. We warn of the impacts when there is setback to, or retaliation for the exercise of, the freedoms of expression, association and movement, the rights to physical integrity, political participation, education, and health, among others, that prevent all women and girls from living a life free of violence and discrimination. In this context, the Committee calls for their human rights to be guaranteed, as well as a life free of violence and discrimination to all women, adolescents, and girls in the countries aforementioned.

The Committee expresses its solidarity with Afghan and Iranian all women and girls, and reminds the international community of the need to make every effort so that equality and dignity are rights that women can enjoy: likewise, to guarantee protection and justice in the face of omissions or abuse. Only when the international standards for the protection of all agreed rights and freedoms reach women, the world will be safer and more inclusive.

Subscribed by: Member States of the Executive Committee of the CIM 2022 – 2025, present in the First Committee meeting (September 27th, 2022): Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Canada, Chile, El Salvador, Panama, Saint Lucia and Uruguay.*

**Abstention: Honduras.*