

**VIII PLENARY MEETING OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY FORUM OF THE AMERICAS  
SEPTEMBER 8-10 2011, ASUNCIÓN, PARAGUAY**

**GROUP OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE AMERICAS : GENDER PERSPECTIVE ON  
CITIZEN SECURITY**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**President:**

Linda Machuca – Member of the National Assembly (Ecuador)

**Expert:**

Teresa C. Ulloa (Mexico)

The seventh meeting of the Group of Parliamentary Women of the Americas took place during two sessions on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, within the VIII Plenary Assembly of FIPA-ParlAmericas in the City of Asunción, Paraguay.

The work carried through by the Group of Parliamentary Women was entitled “**GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN MATTERS OF CITIZEN SECURITY**”, and as an invited expert, they had Master Teresa Ulloa, Regional Director of the Coalition Against Women and Girl Trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean, A.C. (CATWLAC).

**CONSIDERING**

That the Group of Parliamentary Women, as a part of ParlAmericas, promotes the respect of human rights as the fundamental basis to guarantee human prosperity and dignified life conditions for all;

That it defends and promotes governability, democracy and ethics in the parliamentary function, elements that compose the work of all legislators in the continent.

**RECOMMENDS**

1. Legislate to achieve parity and equity and to incorporate these principles in law-making in all countries. Gender must be considered in drafting all legal standards;

2. Have ParlAmericas create proposed framework legislation or a model bill on public safety that can be shared with all member countries. This approach has already been used on various issues by the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations (UN);
3. Have the working group on gender perspective on public safety promote and support the idea of having ParlAmericas create framework legislation or a specific model bill on human trafficking;
4. Produce a bill to protect victims and witnesses observing the Istanbul Declaration;
5. Encourage technical units on gender to be set up in every parliament, with the support of international cooperation;
6. Renew the commitment to develop a draft [proposal] on protection of victims and witnesses;
7. Promote the involvement of women parliamentarians and women ex-parliamentarians in organizations so that they can learn from these women's legislative experience and the knowledge that they have gained is not lost;
8. Create common agendas among women parliamentarians, regardless of ideology or political party, to promote inclusive, diverse and respectful practices which ensure that gender is considered in all legislation;
9. Motivate our parliaments to create gender-sensitive communication teams that will help make the work of women parliamentarians visible and support the agendas mentioned in paragraph 8;
10. Encourage the political will to include parity and (male-female) alternation in parties and thus have our political organizations be models of equality, which will then be reflected in public spaces;
11. Propose penalties for those who promote the sex trade and sexual exploitation in advertising and for advertising messages that denigrate women and girls. Also recognize and reward good practices that fight human trafficking and the sex trade;
12. Fight human trafficking, enslavement, sexual exploitation and the sex trade by criminalizing demand (i.e. the customers) in our legislation.