Political Declaration of the Social Forum
Feminist networks, organizations and collectives
Fifth Regional Conference on Population and Development

Dear representatives of the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, representatives of the United Nations System, fellow activists: We are gathered today at the fifth Regional Conference on Population and Development, almost eleven years after the adoption of the Montevideo Consensus and 30 years after Cairo, to reflect on the achievements, challenges and gaps in the implementation of this historic agreement.

From a feminist, human rights, youth, anti-racist, anti-ableism and intersectionality perspective, it is essential to address the diverse and complex realities of all human groups without discrimination. The networks and organizations of feminist, indigenous, Afro-descendant, lesbian, transgender, youth, elderly, disabled, sex workers, women with HIV, all human rights defenders and committed to the fulfilment of the Program of Action of the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and all international commitments emanating from it, we are present today to highlight:

That the Montevideo Consensus has been a crucial framework for advancing the protection and promotion of human rights in our region. We have seen improvements in access to sexual and reproductive health, inclusive education and political participation of women and other historically marginalized groups.

We especially recognize the advances in the legal frameworks that guarantee access to sexual and reproductive rights to transform them into public policies, as in the case of: decriminalization of abortion in some countries in the region, comprehensive sexuality education, gender parity, access to justice and protection in cases of gender-based violence, and budgets earmarked for exceptional cases.

However, these advances are insufficient, do not cover historically excluded populations and have been implemented unevenly and slowly during these almost eleven years. In fact, setbacks and threats of loss of rights have been identified in many countries of the region.

We are alarmed by the persistent inequality that exacerbates violence and the lack of access to rights. The prevalent conditions of violence against women, young people, adolescents and girls, in all their diversity, as well as against people with disabilities, both in the family and in the institutional sphere, are unacceptable.

We raise our voice against the violence that deepens in the case of girls, adolescents, youth and indigenous women, women of African descent, women living with HIV, women with
disabilities, women in situations of forced displacement and migrants. We do not admit forced sterilizations and non-consensual institutionalization performed by State actors due to the logic of ableism.

We denounce that violence and hate crimes against LGBTIQ+ people in the region continue to increase. Attacks against lesbian, bisexual and queer/questioning women and transgender people continue to be ignored and invisibilized by state agents without a forceful response to prevent, address, document and care for such violence.

The lack of comprehensive responses to women victims of drug trafficking, trafficking and smuggling of women, girls and adolescents for sexual and labor exploitation is a serious problem. We also note the lack of structural and long-term policies to eradicate forced pregnancies, child motherhood and early child marriages and unions. In our region, health and education systems have been weakened, and sexual and reproductive health services do not guarantee effective and quality universal access. Young people, especially those in vulnerable situations, continue to face significant barriers in access to education and decent employment.

The right to bodily and reproductive autonomy is not guaranteed, nor are mechanisms implemented for effective participation in decision-making to protect and promote the effective enjoyment of our sexual and reproductive rights.

People with disabilities continue to be marginalized and discriminated against in many areas of society, as are women who use drugs, who are also excluded from health services.

Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples suffer systemic exclusion that perpetuates poverty and limits their development opportunities. Sex workers and domestic workers face precarious working conditions, lack of recognition and absence of legal protection.

To progress towards full compliance with the agreements contained in the Montevideo Consensus we need:

1. That the States reaffirm their commitment to respect for secularism, equality and the strengthening of democracies.
2. Implement inclusive and accessible educational programs along with labour policies that guarantee decent and fair jobs for young people, especially those in vulnerable situations.
3. Guarantee universal, effective and quality access to sexual and reproductive health services, including modern contraceptive methods, treatment for people living with
HIV, hormonal treatment for transgender people, emergency contraception, information, supplies and services for safe abortion.

4. Abandon the use of criminal law to regulate abortion and guarantee -through comprehensive public policies- access to timely and quality services that ensure the reproductive autonomy of women, Trans and non-binary persons assigned female at birth.

5. Mandatorily incorporate comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) on institutional curricula of basic education, ensuring the training of teachers within current normative frameworks, free of stereotypes, discrimination and violence.

6. Decriminalize drug use and provide care services based on harm reduction and scientific information with a gender perspective.

7. Strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ensuring their full participation in society and access to services and opportunities without discrimination and in community. Develop policies that address their specific needs, promote their effective participation in decision-making and ensure equitable access to resources and services, with materials in alternative and augmentative communication formats and with sign language interpretation at events and recordings.

8. Guarantee the full participation of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, women and youth in the design, implementation and evaluation of legislative measures and public policies, increasing the development of materials in indigenous languages and access to services in their native language.

9. Establish legal frameworks that recognize and protect labour rights, job security conditions and justice for women workers, including sex workers and domestic workers.

10. Ensure a life free of violence and access to justice, and the free expression of sexual orientation and gender identity. As well as implement inclusive policies and protection against discrimination and violence towards LGBTIQ+ people, promoting a culture of respect, recognition and acceptance.

11. Implement comprehensive responses for care and protection of women, girls and adolescents who suffer sexual violence.

12. Promote and protect the rights of older adults, ensuring their access to quality health and care services, social and economic inclusion programs, and environments free of violence and discrimination. It is essential to develop public policies that recognize their valuable contribution to society and guarantee their well-being and dignity at all stages of life.

13. Create community and home-based care and support networks to ensure that the elderly and people with disabilities can live in the community and outside of institutions.
14. Implement public policies and programs to recognize and solve the burden of care for women, strengthening care systems, community care and advancing in social security coverage, also recognizing people with disabilities as caregivers.

15. Guarantee access to justice without prejudice based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

16. Promote judicial reforms, so that justice is accessible to all people, and prosecutors have resources for the investigation of femicides, trans-feminicides and violence against women.

17. Intensify the response to the climate crisis recognizing its impact on the health conditions and rights of all people.

We demand that the governments of our region prioritize these actions in their political and budgetary agendas. To this end, it is imperative that they commit to:

1. Allocate sufficient public budgets for the implementation of inclusive, human rights and climate crisis response policies.

2. Strengthen accountability and transparency mechanisms to ensure that the commitments of the Montevideo Consensus are translated into concrete actions.

3. Promote the effective participation of civil society and feminist movements in the formulation and monitoring of public policies and protect women human rights defenders.

4. Strengthen socio-demographic and vital statistics, strengthening the capacities of national statistical systems to produce open, quality data, disaggregated by sex, age, residence, income, gender and ethnic-racial identity, migratory status, disability, sexual orientation, health status and other relevant characteristics.

5. Protect the Montevideo Consensus and other regional human rights agendas from fundamentalist anti-rights influences.

Civil organizations and the feminist movement have been and continue to be fundamental actors in advancing, proposing changes, generating debates and implementing the Montevideo Consensus, as well as in strengthening our democracies. It is crucial that governments recognize and support our work, ensuring spaces for effective participation and protecting the right to defend rights.

We reaffirm our commitment to the struggle for a more just, inclusive, equitable and democratic Latin America. We will continue to work tirelessly so that every person, regardless of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, health condition, or ability, can live with dignity and full equality of rights.
Our feminist vocation for the construction of peace and freedom of peoples is an unwavering call for justice and human dignity. Whether in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Haiti or Palestine, we firmly oppose occupations, blockades and any form of domination that perpetuates oppression and suffering.

We conclude this statement by raising our voices for those whose freedom has been denied, weaving networks of solidarity and hope that transcend borders. Our commitment is to continue building a transformative force that challenges oppressive power, because feminism is a current of thought and action that questions patriarchal arrangements at all levels and we will continue to do so to build a future where peace, freedom and autonomy are inalienable rights for all people and all peoples.

Thank you very much.

Regional Networks

Alianza Latinoamericana de Mujeres con Discapacidad ALAMUD
Alianza SIMA, (Sororidad, Inclusión, Mujeres en Acción)
Articulación Feminista Marcosur AFM
Comité de América Latina y el Caribe de defensa de derechos de las Mujeres- CLADEM
Consortio Latinoamericano Contra el Aborto Inseguro CLACAI
Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas de las Américas-ECMIA
FP2030 LAC HUB
Girls Not Brides LAC, Alianza para abordar el Matrimonio Infantil
ICW Latina
IPAS LAC
IPPF Américas y el Caribe
Red Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir de América Latina y el Caribe
Red de Juventudes Afrodescendientes de América Latina y el Caribe (REDJUAFRO)
Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas, Afrocaribeñas y de la Diáspora
Red de mujeres indígenas y afrodescendientes con discapacidad de ALC
Red de mujeres trabajadoras sexuales de Latino América y el Caribe- Redtrasex
Red Latinoamericana Jóvenes Latidas
Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, RedLAC
Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe de personas que usan Drogas LANPUD
Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Personas Trans (RedLacTrans)
Red LESLAC - Red de Organizaciones de Lesbianas y Bisexuales de Latinoamérica y el Caribe
Red mesoamericana mujer salud y migración
Red Mujer y Hábitat – LAC
Red por la Salud de las Mujeres de América Latina y El Caribe RSMLAC
National networks, organizations, and grassroots

¡EA! Juventud
Acción Ciudadana por la Democracia y el Desarrollo
ADEM Asociación por los Derechos de las Mujeres en la Campaña Nacional por el Derecho al Aborto Legal Seguro y Gratuito
Agrupación Ciudadana por la Despenalización del Aborto, El Salvador
Alianza Colombiana por los Derechos Sexuales y los Derechos Reproductivos
Alianza de SSR/El Salvador
Antigua Planned Parenthood Association
Articulación Alerta Montevideo Bolivia
Articulación Feminista Campaña 28 de Septiembre Bolivia
Asociación Ameyallí
Asociación de Personas Productivas con Discapacidad -ASODISPRO-
Asociación Grupo Integral de Mujeres Sanjuaneras
Asociación Las Crisálidas
Asociación Panameña para el Planeamiento de la Familia
Balance Promoción para el Desarrollo y Juventud AC
Base Educativa y Comunitaria de Apoyo. BECA
Católicas pelo derecho de decidir - Brasil
Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir - Bolivia
Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir - Colombia
Católicas por el derecho a decidir México
Cemoplaf
Centro de Derechos de Mujeres en Honduras
Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad – CEDES
Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales CELS
Centro de Estudios y Fortalecimiento Comunitario Mano Vuelta A.C
Centro de Investigación Para la Acción Femenina, CIPAF
Centro de la Mujer Peruana FLORA TRISTÁN.
Centro de promoción en salud y asistencia familia CEPROSAF
Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos - Promsex
CEPAM Guayaquil
CEPIA - Cidadania Estudo Pesquisa Informação Ação
CIES Salud Sexual Salud Reproductiva
Círculo emancipador de mujeres y niñas con Discapacidad de Chile, CIMUNIDIS
CISCSA Ciudades Feministas
Colectiva Iranu
Colectivo "Género y Teología para el Desarrollo"
Colectivo Rebeldía
Colectivo Vida Independiente de Guatemala
Comité de América Latina y el Caribe para la Defensa de los Derechos de las Mujeres – CLADEM-Bolivia
Comunidad de Derechos Humanos
Conexión Intercultural por el Bienestar y la Autonomía La Ceiba
Consortio Boliviano de Juventudes
Coordinadora 28 de Mayo Guatemala
Coordinadora de la Mujer Bolivia
Corporación Caribe Afirmativo
Corporación Colectiva Justicia Mujer
Corporación de Mujeres Ecofeministas Comunitar
Corporación Femm
Corporación Miles Chile
Corporación Polimorfas
Corporación Popular La Caracola
Corporación Red Nacional de Mujeres de Cartagena de Indias y Bolivar
Cotidiano Mujer
Creacion Positiva
Dominica Planned Parenthood Association
Ecuador Violencias Cero
Ecuménicas por el Derecho a Decidir Honduras
Equidad de Género, Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia -MX
Famia Planea – Aruba
Federación Mexicana de Educación Sexual y Sexología FEMESS
Formación y Capacitación
Fundación Arcoiris por el respeto a la diversidad sexual
Fundación Centro de Desarrollo Social - Cedesocial
Fundación Mexicana para la Planeación Familiar A.C. (MEXFAM)
Fundación México Vivo
Fundación Mujer & Mujer
Fundación mujer y futuro
Fundación Mujeres por Mujeres
Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer FEIM
Fundación Sendas
Fundheg (Fundación Derechos humanos equidad y género) IPPF Argentina
FUSA Asociación Civil
Generación caliente
Gestos - Soropositividad, comunicación e gênero
Girl Up México
Grenada Planned Parenthood Association
Grupo Cairo y Montevideo Guatemala
Grupo Intersectorial por los Derechos Sexuales y Derechos Reproductivos
Instituto de Liderazgo Simone de Beauvoir
Jamaica Family Planning Association
La Colectiva Colombia
La Mesa por la Vida y la Salud de las Mujeres
La Morada - Chile
Libres, Organización Lesbofeminista
Mesa de Trabajo en Discapacidad y Derechos Humanos
Movimiento Amplio de Mujeres de Puerto Rico
Movimiento de Mujeres Dominicano Haitianas (MUDHA)
MSI Bolivia
Mujeres Sobre Ruedas Fundación de Mujeres con discapacidad
Observadoras Ley de Aborto - Chile
Observatorio de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos de las Personas con Discapacidad - ODISEX PERU
Odara Instituto da Mulher Negra
Organización Colombia Diversa
Organización de Mujeres Tierra Viva, Guatemala
Organizacinn Feminista por los DDHH de las personas Trans
Organizacion Llanto, Valor y Esfuerzo (LLAVES)
Organizacion Negra Centroamerica
Oriéntame
ORMUSA Organizacion de Mujeres Salvadoreñas por la Paz
Perras del Olmo
Planned Parenthood Association of Trinidad and Tobago
Profamilia
Programa de Apoyo a la Sociedad Civil
Red de Jóvenes para la Incidencia Política -INCIDEJOVEN-
Red Feminista contra la Violencia hacia las Mujeres
Red Mexicana de Mujeres Trans A. C.
Red Multicultural de Mujeres Trans de Guatemala
Red Nacional de Líderes y Lideresas Juveniles Tú Decides Bolivia
Red Nacional de Mujeres de Colombia
REDAAS Argentina
Redes da Maré
Red Departamental de Mujeres Chiquimultecas REDMUCH
REDI Red por los derechos de las personas con discapacidad
Saint Lucia Planned Parenthood Association
Sindicato Nacional independiente de trabajadoras sexuales trans travestis y otros
Stichting Lobi-Suriname
Taller Salud
Unión Latinoamericana De Ciegos
Universidad Nacional Abierta y a Distancia. UNAD - Colombia
Útera Casa Feminista
We Lead Honduras

Global Networks

Amnistía Internacional
Centro de Derechos Reproductivos
Equality Now
Fòs Feminista
Médicos del Mundo