

OAS Permanent Council Commemorates International Day of Care and Support

- *The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) presented advances and instruments to accelerate the construction of national care systems, supported by the Model Inter-American Caregiving Law and its Implementation Guide.*
- *During the session, 17 Member States and three Observers to the OAS shared their progress in building national systems of care, based on the frameworks and guidelines established by the Inter-American system.*

Washington, D.C., October 22, 2025. The Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS) commemorated this Wednesday the International Day of Care and Support, in a session requested by the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic, with the co-sponsorship of the Permanent Missions of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Uruguay.

The session included presentations by the Minister of Women of the Dominican Republic, Mayra Jiménez; the Executive Secretary of the CIM, Alejandra Mora Mora; and the Global Director of Networks of the MenEngage Alliance, Oswaldo Montoya. In addition, delegations from various Member States took the floor to reaffirm the regional commitment to co-responsibility for care.

Minister Mayra Jiménez expressed that the commemoration of this day responds to a long historical debt owed to women, families, and society as a whole. "The construction of a care society continues to be a collective and multidimensional task that implies recognizing the right to care, to be cared for, and to exercise self-care," she assured.

In her intervention, the Executive Secretary of the CIM, Alejandra Mora Mora, highlighted the magnitude of the challenge: "In Latin America and the Caribbean, it is estimated that the economic contribution of unpaid domestic and care work is equivalent to around 20% of the region's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Women dedicate on average 2.6 times more of our time than men to unpaid care and household work".

Mora highlighted the sustained work of the CIM in recent years: the Inter-American Model Law on Care and its Implementation Guide, used by at least nine countries in the region; tools for the private sector, such as the Guide on Co-responsibility Measures. Secretary Mora also underscored two recent milestones that place the region at the forefront: the Advisory Opinion 31/25 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which recognizes care as an autonomous human right, and the Tlatelolco Commitment of the XVI Regional Conference of Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which establishes a decade of action for a care society (2025-2035). The Executive Secretary of the CIM concluded that multilateralism drives change and that the care agenda shows the value of these spaces and the advances achieved in recent years.

MenEngage Alliance Global Director of Networks, Oswaldo Montoya, stressed that care is an ancient and enduring practice, deeply human and innate in all people, regardless of gender. He warned that "patriarchal systems have taught many men to repress this dimension, unfairly assigning caregiving to women" and explained that MenEngage works with alternative models of masculinity so that men fully assume their role in the co-responsibility of caregiving.

Throughout the discussion, the delegations referred to advances in the inter-American legal framework as the cornerstone for building national systems of care. They also presented concrete advances in their countries and highlighted the technical support provided by the CIM.

***INFORMATION FOR JOURNALISTS**

About CIM/OAS

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is the principal hemispheric forum dedicated to the promotion and protection of women's human rights and gender equality. Founded in 1928, the CIM has been a pioneer in identifying the barriers faced by women across the social, economic, and political spheres and in formulating policies and programs to overcome them. CIM works in collaboration with OAS Member States, civil society organizations, and other key actors to advance the gender equality agenda in the Americas.

Links of Interest

- [Inter-American Model Law on Care](#)
- [Guide for the Application of Co-Responsibility Measures for Caregiving in Companies](#)
- [Decalogue for Co-Responsibility for Care in the Private Sector](#)
- [CIM/OAS Encourages the Private Sector to Adopt the "Decalogue for Co-Responsibility for Care"](#)
- [Advisory Opinion OC-31/2025 of the Court-IDH](#)
- [Tlatelolco Commitment](#)

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