

FORUM: Human Rights Council

QUESTION OF: Protecting Indigenous Women from Acts of Marginalization and Violence

MAIN-SUBMITTED BY: Ecuador

CO-SUBMITTED BY: Cuba

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL,

Applauding the efforts of the United Nations on the issue of violence against indigenous women through several conventions including UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP), and Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous People (EMRIP),

Reaffirming that the Ecuadorian Constitution addresses gender equality under its chapter 1 and 2, and international organizations such as CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) works to close the gender gap in Ecuador,

Stressing the need to redirect hyper-masculine culture such as Machismo which allows both physical and sexual harassments of indigenous women to be prevalent,

Seeking ways to eliminate violence against indigenous women and to reinforce existing laws,

Keeping in mind that policies to protect women have been created since the 1970s, yet the marginalization of women remains extensively,

Acknowledging that the issue of violence against women is not limited to Ecuador where “6 out of 10” women and “9 out of 10” divorced women have experienced some form of violence and “1 out of 4” women experienced sexual violence,

1. Calls upon international organizations within and working with the UN to collaborate to create a guideline for national curriculums to better ensure social justice for indigenous women, with features including but not limited to:
 - a. having “gender classes” similar to sex education classes to combat stereotypes,
 - b. presenting guidelines that teachers must follow to provide equal opportunities and treat students of both genders equally,
 - c. having mixed-gender group activities to prevent the social seclusion that might occur from having a disproportionate male and female ratio,
 - d. encouraging students to refuse initiating, participating, or condoning discrimination and violence against indigenous individuals,
 - e. the guidelines would be developed by NGOs with connections to experts in the field including but not limited to UNESCO and Teachers Without Borders;

2. Endorses women to join the workforce through ways such as:

- a. adding benefits for women, including a mandatory maternity leave and flexible time schedule,
 - b. providing incentives to businesses that employ indigenous women such as reduced taxes,
 - c. monetizing unpaid care so that unpaid women get recognized and compensated;
 - i. UN Women
 - ii. UNICEF
 - iii. National Indigenous Women's Rescue Center
3. Calls upon national ministries of education to endorse curriculum or teacher guidelines that educate students since an early age as a means to gradually eradicate the Machismo culture through:
 - a. having "gender classes" similar to sex education classes to combat stereotypes,
 - b. presenting guidelines that teachers must follow to provide equal opportunities and treat students of both genders equally,
 - c. having mixed-gender group activities to prevent the social seclusion that might occur from having a disproportionate male and female ratio,
 - d. encouraging students to refuse initiating, participating, or condoning discrimination and violence against indigenous individuals;
4. Recommends to establish an international indigenous organization specifically for women that:
 - a. dispatches regional sub-organizations/communities to certain regions where acts of violence against indigenous women are prevalent,
 - b. enables indigenous women to speak out for any abuse or marginalization by internationally publicizing the acts of violence indigenous women are suffering from,
 - c. creates a recovery program for both physical and mental damages from abuses.