



THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JORGE VALERO
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REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ITEM 28: ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN
THIRD COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 11 2010

Thank you Mr. President,

The Delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela wishes to thank the Secretary General for the preparation of the reports entitled: Strengthening efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women; Trafficking of women and girls; Support efforts to eradicate obstetric fistula; Activities of the United Nations fund for women; The situation of women in United Nations.

It also aligns itself with the statements made by the G-77 and China, and the Rio Group in relation to Item 28: Advancement of Women.

Mr. President,

The struggle of women in the world to gain recognition of their human rights and respect for their dignity had its highest expression in the Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen of 1971.

The capitalist system has denied the value of women's housework, considering that this is not real work or is unproductive in terms of capital.

Contrary to this, the Venezuelan Government in the construction of a new development model recognizes the equality between women and men and domestic work as a generator of added value that creates wealth and welfare. This momentous and revolutionary act, is not covered in any other constitution in the world, claims the role of women in history and breaks the chains that kept them oppressed.

In Venezuela, gender equality and equity is a state policy. The application of the gender perspective, the defense of the rights of women as well as the promotion of women's empowerment and ownership - including that of indigenous women, women of African descent and women with disabilities - are essential components of public policy.

The government of President Hugo Chávez has a policy for the overall defense of women's human rights; a policy designed to eliminate discrimination against women, promoting their active participation in various aspects of national life and to achieving equality and gender equity.

Mr. President,

The political participation of women in the national political scene is now happening in Venezuela, which is an unprecedented event. Of the five existing public powers, four are headed by women: the Legislative, Electoral, Judicial and Moral.

The legal framework adopted by our country warrants the exercise of both civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights. It ensures, so, their inclusion in the democratic and revolutionary process as well as the socio-productive process taking place in our country.

In order to overcome the inequities and contribute to the actual equality of women, new institutions develop and implement new policies and innovative programs in Venezuela

These include the Ministry of People's Power for Women and Gender Equality, and institutions like the National Women's Institute (INAMUJER), Development Bank of Women (BANMUJER), and various social missions, especially The Mission Madres del Barrio.

Social Missions implemented by the Bolivarian government in the areas of health, education, housing, food security, among others, have helped reduce poverty rates in the country and improve socio-economic welfare of the population.

The Mission Madres del Barrio, which was implemented in 2006, provides social protection to mothers and housewives in extreme poverty by joining them in social programs and by the provision of financial allocations. This Mission has promoted the creation of grassroots women's organizations under the Barrio Mothers Committees.

Mr. President,

Violence is the most brutal face of discrimination against women. To combat this crime, the Bolivarian government has enacted innovative laws such as the Organic Law on Women's Right to a Life Free of Violence from 2007, considered one of the most advanced legal instruments on the subject that exist in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Venezuela addresses the issue of women trafficking from a comprehensive approach. It incorporates preventive action and addresses the factors that cause it. This has also created the conditions for the elimination of women in poverty. In this context,

Venezuela promotes international cooperation to tackle the trafficking of women, taking into account the shared responsibility that must exist in the area.

Mr. President,

I greet the unanimous decision by the General Assembly on the creation of a new gender entity, called UN Women, and the designation of the Former President of Chile, Michelle Bachelet at the front of this Organization.

She is a woman from Latin America. We are confident that under her leadership she will contribute to improving the status of women around the world.

Finally, I refer to the words spoken by President Hugo Chávez, in the act in honor of the Liberator's Liberator, Manuela Sáenz:

"You could not achieve complete liberation, without the complete liberation of women from the yoke of sexism in which these sexist, capitalist and unjust societies were created".

Thank you very much.