

**Dialogue of the Heads of Delegation, the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary General and the Representatives of Civil Society Organizations, Workers, the Private Sector and Other Social Actors.**

SEGMENT: HUMAN RIGHTS

DECLARATION OF THE COALITION OF LESBIANS, GAYS, BISEXUALS, TRAVESTIS, TRANSSEXUALS,  
TRANSGENDER AND INTERSEX OF THE AMERICAS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS.

Washington DC, June 3, 2018

Mr. Secretary General, Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the official delegations, colleagues of civil society:

We express that, despite the growing number of measures adopted in the countries of the region to recognize our human rights; laws that criminalize and prohibit consensual sexual relations between people of the same sex are still in force in ten Caribbean countries. Also, some of those countries prohibit people from dressing in clothes of another sex, as well as the entry of foreigners because of their homosexuality. Without a doubt, all these laws violate human rights.

Most countries in the region still do not have laws or other measures that recognize gender identity and guarantee access to trans people of all ages, to all civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. . Girls, boys and adolescents, who because of their age are much more vulnerable to violence, run the risk of expulsion from their homes, do not have guarantees in schools and can not access adequate health care to affirm their gender .

A vision of the State committed to manifestations and religious interpretations of the legal systems has been promoted, which constitute a clear affront to the secular State as a guarantee of the human rights of all people, but especially of historically discriminated groups.

In recent years, the criminalization of personal drug consumption and anti-drug policies have been applied in a selective manner to criminalize transgender people and sex workers, who are already being violated by the application of criminal laws. prohibit activities linked to sex work.

In virtue of the foregoing, we demand

That the Member States:

1. Sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance, as well as the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Intolerance and the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights of Older Persons.
1. Create or strengthen National Human Rights Institutions and implement educational programs that

develop a culture of human rights based on the principle of equality and non-discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and corporal diversity.

2. Adopt measures that ensure access to justice and guarantee due process for people without discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Take measures to investigate, prosecute and punish with due diligence state agents involved in violations of the human rights of LGBTTTI persons.
4. Adopt comprehensive and specific health strategies for LGBTTTI populations, with particular emphasis on the differentiated needs of trans and intersex people.
5. Promote the implementation of comprehensive sexual education at all levels of education as part of the rights of children and adolescents.
6. Repeal any law that penalizes not revealing the status of HIV, its exposure and transmission. Also, that States limit the use of criminal law for cases of intentional transmission of HIV, in accordance with international recommendations.
7. Repeal all criminal laws that criminalize sex work, because they endanger the life, health and safety of sex workers and adopt legislative measures to ensure that their human rights, security and dignity are respected, protected and guaranteed.
8. That the States of the Americas take immediate measures to guarantee the security of persons, with emphasis on groups in particular situations of vulnerability, in relation to human rights violations of people in movement.
9. That free access to the judicial system be guaranteed so that crimes motivated by prejudice are treated as such and are not dealt with as mere murders or simple homicides, and that the right to self-defense is respected for those who defend themselves this type of aggression.

That the General Assembly:

- Approve the resolutions that protect the Human Rights of people with different Sexual Orientation and Identity and Expression of Gender and Sexual Characteristics.

That the General Secretariat of the OAS, the Secretary General, the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights:

- Redouble efforts for the OAS member states to sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention against All Forms of Discrimination and Intolerance, as well as the Inter-American Convention against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Related Intolerance and the Inter-American Convention on Protection of the Human Rights of the Elderly.

- Provide the technical support and cooperation necessary for the OAS member states to adopt measures to adapt their domestic legislation and policy to the standards established by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in its Advisory Opinion OC-24/17.