



IV REGIONAL MEETING OF THE
WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS
"Building Feminist Alternatives for life in defense of our territories"
Cajamarca Peru, from October 23-25, 2015

We met in Cajamarca, Peru, about 100 members of the World March of Women of the Americas to carry out our fourth regional meeting. Participants included national coordination of Quebec, United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Cuba, Venezuela, Chile, Brazil and Peru. Also with us were compañeras of the March from the different regions of Peru.

For three days we were discussed our analyses and context, we put together our maps of resistances and alternatives; and heard testimony from fellow Peruvians on their struggles in defense of their bodies, their land and territories. We marched through the center of Cajamarca and held a dialogue with representatives of social movements in Cajamarca. We built a regional map of issues and alternatives from our national contexts for presentation at the next international meeting in Mozambique (October 2016).

We also discussed some elements of a training proposal from the World March of Women and shared cultural expression, like music, poetry and dance. Finally, we discussed in working groups the characteristics of our regions and our feminist movements, actions to be carried out collectively and decisions to bring back to the assembly. A summary of those agreements is presented below.

Main agreements

The assembly divided into groups by region to discuss two issues:

- 1) What kind of feminisms are we are building, what are their characteristics, who are the subjects?
- 2) What common struggles we share: climate change, how to control the powers of transnational corporations, abortion, heteronormativity, new treaties such as the TPP

We also talked about:

- Criteria for the election of representatives of the Americas for the International meeting in Mozambique in October 2016
- Strengthen communication
- political representation

All the groups reported back, and we agreed to continue the conversations. With respect to the actions it was decided:

1. Heteronormativity

The WMW in the United States handed out a paper they had written. A discussion process was proposed. There will be a Skype conversation to continue the conversation. Responsible: United States and Peru.

2. Follow-up to the COP

Monitoring the process of climate crisis, local and national actions. Actions / simultaneous local and national online actions intended to publicize what discussions are going on in Paris. United



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States will be hosting in Paris the Women's Assembly and direct action. The period of action was proposed dates between 28 November and 12 December. Responsible: Helena (United States) and Tica (Brazil). It is proposed to further action on water, the March 22, 2016, including 24 hours of feminist solidarity. Follows Brazil.

3. Treaty of peoples

Information was sent to all arrangements so that they are aware. US and Quebec support but would not be participating. They will decide later whether to participate in some way. Head: Eva, SI.

4. Meeting in Cuba - 10 years vs the FTAA Hemispheric Meeting

There is no clarity on who may participate but agreed to make a statement of solidarity that can be read there. Brazil will be there and probably Nalu Sandra (Guatemala) and Rosa (Peru). They would be responsible.

5. Abortion

Consistent with the idea of defending the body as the first territory. It proposes a process to know how the situation in each country regarding that fight, then make a campaign. The Trade Union Confederation of the Americas also decided to campaign for the legalization of abortion, we must contact them and arrange a joint. Responsible: Peru (Diana), Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Quebec (if they get someone who speaks Spanish).

6. Food Sovereignty

It was agreed to appoint a liaison country to follow the impulse of food sovereignty, strengthen coordination, socialize information. I set out to do some actions on the ground or on agriculture. In the following the process of FAO, the march is in the working group of agroecology. There is a demand to be involved in the process. The reference is Olga (Mozambique). Each national coordination send a contact link for sending information and monitoring. Responsible: Graça and SI.

7. UNASUR / ALBA

It calls on Peru, Brazil and Venezuela to inform the process of UNASUR. On movements towards the ALBA is asked socialize more initiative and which organizations are involved in the national process. Responsible: Venezuela (Alejandra).

Criteria for election of representatives to the International Committee

The elections will take place in the next international meeting (Mozambique, October 2016). The representatives who are chosen to represent the region in the IC are for a period of two years, which may extend to three periods. Emilia, Quebec, has served her terms (we thank her for her work) and Sandra, of Guatemala, may extend her term two years.

For this process they were discussed some points to consider:

- Sandra was elected to the Congress of Guatemala. The IC supports the possibility of extending its mandate, it is important to have experienced partners to support the work of the IS and will



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rotate several representatives, but it is necessary to make a consultation process on national coordination. It is a new situation in the March and to do a discussion about it. Some delegates did express its support for the re-election of Sandra, but emphasized the importance of consultation, as had also spoken of the March as a movement with autonomy from governments and IC processes not focus on a couple of people.

- The IC representatives have more responsibilities, it represents the March politically. political The IC meets twice a year, attends a monthly meeting skype, monitors international agreements in the region and works to strengthen the movement in the region. The statutes are the basis elements. The responsibility for the region and all communication is key. A report of what is happening in the region, based on information from each national coordination is made. But there has been a lack of information and responsibility, not all representatives have been participating in Skype calls or report their actions. For the meeting there were difficulties to get the names of the delegates, there were last-minute changes and absences even with paid tickets. It requires the commitment of all.

- National coordination bodies that have had representatives in the IC are: Quebec, Peru, Mexico, Brazil and Guatemala. It is not a criterion that prevents a rep to be elected again, but there is also a desire that the representatives are rotating. It was also mentioned that care should be taken that the alternation not weaken the regional coordination.

As for the criteria mentioned:

- That the representatives come from national coordinations where the march is strong and has possibilities for work is not limited to their country, and can communicate with other national coordination bodies.

- Have a regional vision, which represents north and south (although it was mentioned that there are many more NCBs in the South), with availability of time, which can be in constant communication and helps a lot if you can do translation (Emilia provides further support with translations).

- A key element is the ongoing communication, monitoring agreements and generate movement in the countries where we are not. For this meeting Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras, did not respond. Colombia has not been able to solve, not clear about Bolivia and Paraguay, Uruguay has not been active in the March and there is no representation from English Canada. The responsibility is to represent and strengthen the movement, communication actions.

- There is a responsibility to follow up, because March is high demand for articulate with social movements and it is important that whoever representative has the support of national coordination (time and resources) to monitor processes and contribute to the construction of the region.

It was agreed to start thinking about these criteria (because it is not yet the time of election) to see who could be candidates for elections during the international meeting and inform the region. Cuba, for communication conditions, but do not intend to collaborate in the task force for political education. The United States also offered to collaborate with finding funding.

About communication

- It is essential to know with whom we communicate, who the references, and answer the calls and follow up on the agreements. A list of new reference was made and are asked to



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communicate commitment from the national.

- The first Skype meeting is scheduled for early February.
- The communication channels have been Skype, email, phone and messenger sometimes. The importance of using social networks mentioned and the relevance of having a page / group of the Americas region.

The working group on training embers: Cuba, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, Brazil and Guatemala
Objective: To generate documents and methodologies for reflection and formulation. Validate a regional training meeting in July 2016 if possible to get financial resources. If not, validation will be nationwide. Yohana of Cuba sends the base document and in December the commission will return proposals.

STATEMENT

We, comrades of the World March of Women in the Americas region, from Quebec, United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Cuba, Venezuela, Chile, Brazil and other regions of Peru, have met in Cajamarca, October 23-25, 2015, to celebrate our IV Regional Meeting, mark the close of the Fourth international action liberating our bodies, land and territories.

We are in Cajamarca in recognition of the struggles that have taken place in defense of water and territories against predatory extractivism. We want to show our solidarity with women and peoples who resist daily against mega-mining in the region. We have heard the testimony of fellow Maxima Acuña, who has been an inspiration to us all and the struggles in our countries. We have gone in Cajamarca under heavy police presence demanding "Water, not gold! Life is worth more than gold. " We denounce the growing violence towards militarization and criminalization of social movements in the region, and specifically the cases of harassment of Peruvian colleagues as Maxima Acuña and Dina Mendoza who are facing unfair trials for their involvement against the Yanacocha mining companies and Candente Copper. They are not alone!

This meeting allowed us to know the struggles of women, youth, lesbians, rural and city, indigenous, north and south. To report this capitalist, colonialist and patriarchal system we put together maps that we have built in each country, reflecting our resistances and alternatives, and have generated a collective strength to move forward and strengthen our strategies for change. We note an increase of conservatism and attacking advances in women's rights, the criminalization of abortion, persistent heteronormativity and the dismantling of public services, job insecurity and free trade agreements that only benefit corporate interests, with the complicity of many governments to adapt the laws to the desirability of capital and not the common good.

We advance an imperialist offensive that seeks to undermine the progress of peoples; we followed the negotiations between Cuba and the United States and we hope the end of the blockade. We have common struggles against large hydroelectric dams, monoculture plantations and water pollution.

We have learned from the choices women across the region are already taking place around food sovereignty, peasant agriculture, feminist and solidarity economy, defense of our bodies and



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territories, and our alliances with other movements to face the climate crisis. We discussed the importance of political education from education and communication to build popular feminism we want. We celebrate our diversity and resistance of all women, also expressed in the chanting, music, poetry, singing and dancing.

This meeting was an opportunity to share our analysis and joint looks resistances and alternatives for the Americas region. We take this analysis, our strategies and agreements to 11th International Meeting to be held in Mozambique in 2016. We reaffirm our alliances with social movements and self-organization of women as essential subject for emancipation and autonomy.

No to the commodification of our bodies, land and territories!
We will continue until we are All Free!

Cajamarca, Peru. October 25, 2015.