



Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Ninety-first session

Summary record of the 2153rd meeting*

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 18 June 2025, at 3 p.m.

Chair: Ms. Haidar

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* No summary record was issued for the 2152nd meeting.

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

Consideration of reports submitted by States Parties under article 18 of the Convention (continued)

Tenth periodic report of Mexico (continued) (CEDAW/C/MEX/10; CEDAW/C/MEX/QPR/10)

1. *At the invitation of the Chair, the delegation of Mexico joined the meeting.*
2. **The Chair** invited the delegation of Mexico to continue replying to Committee members' questions.

Articles 7–9

3. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Government was constantly working to strengthen the production of disaggregated data and data with differential and intersectional perspectives. There were 78 statistical programmes through which gender-disaggregated data were generated, in addition to eight specialized programmes for the generation of data on gender issues such as violence against women. The 2026 edition of the national survey on the dynamics of household relationships would contain updated questions on women's use of Indigenous languages and include a specific category for Afro-Mexican women on the list of ethnicities. The Washington Group short set of questions on functioning would also be incorporated into the survey to allow for the collection of data on women with disabilities. The most recent edition of the survey had revealed a significant decrease in domestic violence in the past year. Data collected through the national household income survey showed that women's access to financial products and credit had been increasing since 2018. Other surveys that addressed issues affecting women included the national surveys on time use, sexual and gender diversity, discrimination and the care system.

4. **A representative of Mexico** said that between 80 and 90 percent of the approximately 200,000 weapons that entered Mexico illegally each year came from the United States. The Government had taken legal action against a number of arms manufacturers from that country; while a lawsuit filed in Boston had been struck down, one filed in Tucson continued to advance. Government lawyers were exploring other litigation strategies and were also waiting to receive an advisory opinion of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, which they hoped would support their arguments given the significant human rights violations that had been committed as a result of the influx of firearms.

5. A recent study had revealed that women currently accounted for 37 per cent of employees in the Mexican Foreign Service and that just 27 per cent of those women held leadership positions. Efforts to remedy that situation by changing the culture within the Service were being made as part of the country's feminist foreign policy. Although male ambassadors continued to outnumber their female counterparts, the gap was decreasing.

6. **A representative of Mexico** said that political violence against women had been addressed through the issuance of regulations to govern the handling of relevant complaints, the preparation of a guide on the prevention and punishment of such acts and the provision of comprehensive reparations for victims, the development of a victim support protocol, the delivery to public officials of training programmes on preventing gender-based political violence and the creation of a model protocol for local electoral authorities on initial contact with victims and risk identification. The authorities had established a national register of individuals who had been sentenced for committing such acts and a specialized advocacy unit to provide free legal representation for victims, which had helped more than 150 women.

7. With regard to elections, a specific set of criteria had been drawn up to facilitate the candidacy of individuals from vulnerable groups. Community radio stations ran campaigns to promote the exercise by Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women of their political and electoral rights. The National Electoral Institute organized book fairs on the matter, and various programmes had been developed to encourage women to become political leaders and support their participation in political life through civil society organizations.

8. **A representative of Mexico** said that training designed to dismantle gender stereotypes had been delivered to more than 20,000 individuals over the past five years. Since

2019, community events had been organized to promote the political electoral rights of migrant, Afro-Mexican and rural women and women with disabilities. In 2024, the Federal Judiciary had received support from the United Nations in developing a comprehensive inclusion policy to promote the participation of women from those groups in the Judiciary's activities. The electoral courts had issued more than 100 rulings in cases relating to matters such as the political representation and participation of Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable women. Political parties were required to ensure that their candidates in at least 50 per cent of municipalities in a given state were women. In some cases, they had been obliged to adjust their list of candidates or put forward only female candidates in order to guarantee gender parity.

9. **A representative of Mexico** said that guidelines on the use by Indigenous communities of social infrastructure funds had been published in March 2025. The guidelines reiterated the need to ensure full respect for the right of Indigenous communities to set up their own committees to manage the funds received and to do so without interference. Each community was required to elect a woman to act as the committee's treasurer and oversee the projects being funded. Around US\$ 650 million had currently been allocated to more than 20,000 communities.

10. **Ms. Toledo Vásquez** said that it had been brought to the Committee's attention that the legal provisions guaranteeing women's equal right to transmit citizenship and the right of all individuals born in the State Party to become citizens were not being implemented in practice. Accordingly, she would like to know what measures the State Party had adopted to guarantee universal access to birth registration and whether registry offices had been established in Indigenous communities and remote areas and along migration routes. The delegation might wish to describe what had been done to ensure access to identity documents for women in street situations, rural women, displaced women and transgender women and what measures had been introduced to address the linguistic and technological barriers faced by migrant and Indigenous women when registering their children. She wondered what steps had been taken as part of the State Party's feminist foreign policy to facilitate the return of Mexican citizens to the country and guarantee their access to all rights and necessary documentation.

11. **A representative of Mexico** said that the National Institute of Indigenous Peoples had signed cooperation agreements with Indigenous communities in various states in order to promote birth registration, which had resulted in the issuance of more than 9,600 birth certificates to members of those communities. Some 38,000 unregistered individuals had been registered thanks to the organization of eight registration campaigns. Mobile units had been set up to register migrant children, and 1,600 migrant women had received assistance through a programme designed to support individuals in emergency situations. Other efforts had included the establishment of an inter-institutional group to promote migrants' right to identity and access to education and the strengthening of support for women who had been repatriated to the northern border. All migrants, irrespective of their immigration status, were entitled to receive the documents they needed to obtain access to social services.

Articles 10–14

12. **Ms. Pia-Comella** said that she would like to know what was being done to guarantee access to education for girls with disabilities and those living in rural or Indigenous communities. A description of the steps taken to promote gender mainstreaming in educational and vocational training programmes would be appreciated, as would information on the percentage of the education budget that was earmarked for gender-related programmes and the mechanisms in place to assess the impact of such programmes. It would be interesting to learn what measures had been adopted to protect the right to education of pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers, help them remain in school and ensure that comprehensive sexuality education was delivered at all levels of education and in all states. In view of the high levels of gender-based violence in schools and universities, she wished to know whether the State Party had introduced a public policy to prevent and eradicate that form of violence and guarantee compensation for the victims. What steps had been taken to ensure that the perpetrators were duly punished?

13. **A representative of Mexico** said that the incorporation of a gender perspective and comprehensive sexuality education into the new curriculum was one of the key pillars of the educational reform process. In 2024, there had been significant investment in sexual and reproductive health training programmes for all school staff, who could also receive training in supporting pregnant adolescents. Steps taken to tackle violence among students had included the development of a programme on violence-free schools and the design by the Ministry of Women and the Ministry of Education of a protocol for the detection, reporting, handling and prevention of sexual violence. An additional protocol on child abuse was currently under development. Female students in need of support to remain in education were entitled to receive bursaries or assistance through the “Young people building the future” programme. The provision of such support had led to significant decreases at all levels of education in the number of girls who abandoned their studies. Investment in the “School is ours” programme had reached US\$ 3.2 billion, a proportion of which had been earmarked for schools serving Indigenous and Afro-Mexican students.

14. **A representative of Mexico** said that, over the past 10 years, the implementation of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy had led to a decrease in adolescent pregnancies of 10 per cent. The Ministry of Women intended to focus its efforts in the area on rural and Indigenous communities, where the rate of adolescent pregnancies remained high owing to factors such as the prevalence of forced marriage and the lack of access to sexuality education.

15. **Ms. González Ferrer** said that she would like to know whether the outcomes of the “Young people building the future” programme had been assessed and, if so, whether the delegation was able to provide the Committee with gender-disaggregated data on the programme’s impact.

16. **Ms. Pia-Comella** asked whether universities were covered by the protocol on sexual violence issued by the Ministry of Women and the Ministry of Education.

17. **A representative of Mexico** said that, with regard to the protocol, the Government was working with public and private universities and organizations representing higher education institutions. The National Institute of Statistics and Geography was working to improve capacity to generate gender-disaggregated data in order to support the evaluation of programmes such as “Young people building the future”.

18. **A representative of Mexico** said that the National Institute of Indigenous Peoples ran a programme aimed at helping Indigenous and Afro-Mexican students to complete their studies by providing them with food, accommodation and bursaries. In the first quarter of 2025, almost 83,000 students had received assistance through the programme. Steps had been taken to provide Internet access in 761 of the dining halls and accommodation centres set up for such students.

19. **Ms. Mu** said that she wished to know what action the State Party had taken to close the gender wage gap, ensure that women had equal access to jobs and career advancement opportunities and improve women’s digital literacy. The delegation might describe what had been done to formalize women’s employment, provide women working in informal sectors with basic social security and welfare benefits and promote access to formal employment for women from disadvantaged groups.

20. She would welcome statistics on workplace sexual harassment, in addition to a description of the channels available for women to file complaints and of the penalties handed down to the perpetrators. It would be useful to learn what steps had been taken to ensure that the authorities had the human and financial resources required to conduct labour inspections, using a gender-based approach, and effectively prevent and punish the dismissal of pregnant employees, workplace sexual harassment and other violations of women’s rights.

21. **A representative of Mexico** said that a social security scheme for self-employed workers had been in place since 2020. Women accounted for 43 per cent of the approximately 330,000 individuals covered by the scheme. Steps were being taken to implement a pilot project providing platform workers with access to health, disability and life insurance and other benefits such as maternity leave, childcare support and a pension. Some 20,000 women had benefited from a programme designed to support farm workers, and women accounted

for 66 per cent of the approximately 60,000 domestic workers who received social security benefits through a programme that had been introduced in 2019.

22. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Supreme Court had established that pregnant workers who were unfairly dismissed from their post had the right to request their reinstatement. It had also ruled that all pregnant workers were entitled to keep their job during their pregnancy and maternity leave and, in the event that they were employed on a fixed-term basis, to have their contract renewed to cover those periods. Employers who claimed that a pregnant employee had willingly given up her job were required to provide evidence that she had not been pressured into doing so or dismissed owing to her pregnancy.

23. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Supreme Court had issued a ruling setting out employers' obligations towards their domestic employees. Various policies were being implemented to promote the rights of female domestic workers, which were guaranteed by law.

24. **Ms. Mu** said that she wished to know what percentage of rural women and domestic workers were covered by social security schemes.

25. **A representative of Mexico** said that measures had been taken to eliminate child labour and fully protect the rights of adolescent workers. Regular training was held for civil servants under the protocol for preventing, addressing and punishing sexual harassment, and some 290,000 had been trained between 2018 and 2023.

26. **A representative of Mexico** said that the minimum wage had been raised in recent years, resulting in a 19.6 per cent increase in women's average income and a reduction in the gender wage gap. In addition, the number of women insured by the Mexican Social Security Institute had risen 18.7 per cent over the preceding six years. An inter-institutional coordination agreement involving the public and private sectors had been signed in 2022 with a view to increasing women's employment in certain sectors.

27. **Ms. Peláez Narváez** said that she would be grateful for information on the care available to women in state hospitals; the effects of the discontinuation of the People's Insurance on women's health; the reasons why the vaccination rate had recently sharply declined and, between 2018 and 2021, the breast cancer mortality rate had risen, the number of mammograms performed had fallen and the budget for addressing cervical cancer had been reduced; the shortage of medicines in health facilities around the country; the accessibility of gynaecological and obstetric services to women with disabilities; the availability of healthcare services to women in remote areas; and any steps being taken to restore funding for women's healthcare. She wished to know what the State Party was doing to ensure that medical providers did not demand legal proof of rape from rape victims before agreeing to perform an abortion and that women and girls who had abortions did not face arrest on charges of homicide or infanticide. She would also like to find out how the State Party ensured that women from disadvantaged groups were not stigmatized by sexual and reproductive health service providers, had access to contraception and were not subjected to forced or non-consensual sterilization or infertility treatment. It would also be helpful to know how it ensured that free and informed prior consent was given. She wondered whether a gender perspective would be incorporated into the State Party's disability assessment for women, what services were provided to child victims of vicarious violence and whether women who were victims of gender-based violence, trafficking, sexual exploitation or sexual violence had access to mental health services.

28. **A representative of Mexico** said that a person did not in any way have to prove in the justice system that a sexual assault had occurred in order to have an abortion. Work was being done to raise awareness of that point among hospital staff. The health system provided all forms of contraception free of charge to all persons needing them. The Government was reviewing the methods used for obtaining informed consent in the health sector to ensure they were accessible to persons with disabilities and used inclusive language. Unlike the People's Insurance, the "Bienestar" (Well-being) programme of the Mexican Social Security Institute – which had been in operation for a couple of years and currently served 11 million people, including in remote areas – ensured that women received the same high-quality care throughout the Mexican health system. The Government was working to regain ground that

had been lost in terms of vaccination coverage and breast and cervical cancer detection owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

29. **A representative of Mexico** said that, under a recently introduced programme called “Health, House by House”, thousands of doctors and nurses had been hired to go house-to-house to provide preventive care and treatment. In its initial phase, the programme would focus on services for older persons and persons with disabilities. Mental health services were available to victims of violence at the Women’s Justice Centres and the 678 LIBRE Centres for women.

30. **Ms. Peláez Narváez** said that she would be grateful for information on any efforts by the State Party to combat harmful practices such as forced or non-consensual sterilization or infertility treatment and any specialized services for child victims of vicarious violence.

31. **A representative of Mexico** said that, according to data from the 2021 National Survey on the Dynamics of Household Relationships, there had been a statistically significant decrease in the prevalence of obstetric abuse – from 33.4 per cent to 31.4 per cent – between 2016 and 2021. The rates with respect to unauthorized medical treatment had remained steady.

32. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Government was reaching out to offices for the protection of children and teenagers around the country in an effort to better understand the risks to children of vicarious violence in the home, at school and in other settings.

33. **A representative of Mexico** said that Mexican Official Standard NOM-020-SSA-2025, published in February 2025, addressed obstetric violence, including non-consensual treatment, before, during and after childbirth and provided for the use of a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach.

34. **Ms. González Ferrer** said that she would be grateful for information about the arrests of women who had had an abortion and the charges that those women faced.

35. **A representative of Mexico** said that, in the majority of the federative entities, no women were arrested for having had an abortion. Nine states had still not decriminalized abortion. An amnesty had been issued during the previous administration for all women who had been imprisoned for having had an abortion.

36. **Ms. Eghobamien-Mshelia** said that she wished to learn about any efforts being made by the State Party to better value unpaid care and domestic work, ensure funding for programmes that provided economic or financial benefits for women and equip women to effectively deal with economic developments such as those driven by artificial intelligence. She wondered whether there was any database with statistics on women beneficiaries of financial and entrepreneurship grants. She would like to know whether the State Party was taking any steps to increase female leadership in economic sectors, including through quotas or affirmative action measures; whether there were any targeted interventions benefiting women under, for example, action plans on business and human rights or environmental and social impact assessment frameworks; whether any of the funds from the 1 per cent of the military budget that would be put towards reforestation would be used to compensate women for the loss of their livelihoods; and whether any strategies were in place to expand women’s participation in sports leadership or provide funding for women’s sports and recreational activities at the local level.

37. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Government was developing a series of loans to promote the formation of cooperatives for women in various lines of work, such as artisans and farmers, to whom the Government would then provide support and training.

38. **A representative of Mexico** said that, as the 2023 National Household Income and Expenditure Survey had shown, social programmes had increased rural women’s income by 12 per cent. Nationwide, extreme poverty in female-headed households had decreased from 9.8 per cent to 8.9 per cent between 2022 and 2023. The recently introduced women’s pension programme, provided to women between 60 and 64 years old, recognized the work done by women in the home. It had benefited almost 1 million women in its first year. An initiative had been introduced to set the same base salary for male and female athletes playing a given sport.

39. **A representative of Mexico** said that, under the Programme for the Comprehensive Well-being of Indigenous Peoples, US\$ 62 million had been disbursed between 2019 and 31 March 2025 to support 5,333 economic and environmental projects. The projects focused on activities such as production, nature tourism and climate change mitigation and adaptation and had benefited 66,392 Indigenous persons and Afro-Mexicans, of whom 39,636 were women.

40. **A representative of Mexico** said that 200 childcare centres would be created in 2025 to allow women – particularly maquila and rural workers, who often lacked access to such centres – to remain in the workforce. The President of Mexico had made the proposal that 1 per cent of the budget for arms should be put towards reforestation at the international level at meetings of the Security Council and the Group of 20.

41. **Ms. Eghobamien-Mshelia** said that it was still not clear whether any proportion of the funds diverted from military expenditure to reforestation would be used to provide women with reparation for harm that they had suffered. She wondered whether women's non-governmental organizations had been consulted about the design of the National Care System, whether the System would ensure that the standards set by the social protection floor would be met for all women and their families, and whether gender-sensitive targets had been incorporated into the national investment plan. She would welcome clarification of the level of reparation that had been provided by technology companies to women subjected to digital violence.

42. **A representative of Mexico** said that a gender perspective would be incorporated into all the economic development projects to be implemented during the Government's six-year term. Virtually all the measures taken by the Government involved some degree of consultation with communities. Much of the new funding made available was intended to promote the economic participation of women in different areas of the economy. During the previous six years, 50,000 agricultural property titles had been granted to women. As much of the territory of Mexico was made up of ejidos, or community-owned lands, efforts were being made to promote the participation of women in the assemblies that managed those lands and to increase the number of agricultural property titles held by women.

43. **Ms. de Silva de Alwis** said that legislators in Mexico City had adopted a law under which the murder of a transgender person on grounds of gender identity was punishable by up to 70 years' imprisonment. In view of that development, it would be interesting to know whether such a law would be adopted by the other 31 federative entities. She wondered whether the amendments made to the General Act on Women's Access to a Life Free from Violence and the Federal Criminal Code with a view to protecting women from digital violence would be used to protect Indigenous women and lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women. Would the State party consider ratifying the new United Nations Convention against Cybercrime, which prohibited online grooming and the non-consensual sharing of intimate images?

44. It would be interesting to know how Indigenous and migrant women would benefit from the national development plan known as Plan Mexico and whether any measures would be taken to prevent Indigenous women from being dispossessed of their land by family members or rendered landless by measures taken to privatize collectively owned land. She would like to know what would be done to overcome cultural taboos that prevented women from owning land and whether the Government would consider establishing a joint-titling system for community-owned land.

45. She would be interested to learn to what extent Indigenous women were involved in setting the nationally determined contributions designed to combat climate change. She would be grateful for information on any measures being taken to implement the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, especially any steps taken to benefit Afro-Mexican women and women who could not find work because of their age.

46. Given that more women than men were held in pretrial detention, she wondered whether the State Party would strengthen women's right to due process to ensure that they did not remain in such detention for prolonged periods. It would be useful to know whether

the State Party would adopt a survivor-centred approach to justice for disappeared women and their families.

47. **A representative of Mexico** said that over 10 million people had escaped from poverty over the previous seven years. The social policies implemented by the Government prioritized rural and Indigenous communities, which often received additional funding because of their level of vulnerability.

48. **A representative of Mexico** said that training and guidance were provided to rural women to guarantee their access to land and to protect their property and inheritance rights. In that connection, rural women were given the tools and knowledge that they needed to exercise their agricultural and human rights. In order to address backlogs of unresolved land disputes, the case files of judgments on inheritance cases involving women were being reviewed to ensure women's access to land titles.

49. Indigenous women would be given access to culturally appropriate land tenure without breaching the internal regulations of their communities. During its six-year term, the Government aimed to issue 150,000 agricultural certificates, which attested to the holder's right to use agricultural land.

50. **A representative of Mexico** said that federal social rehabilitation centre No. 16, which was exclusively for women, currently had a capacity of 2,528 and a population of 726. In order to improve the detention conditions in the centre, steps had been taken to employ specialist doctors to treat the prisoners and to prevent and diagnose health conditions. Every woman in the prison was given a medical check-up. Special attention was paid to the provision of maternity care and the protection of children living with their mothers in the centre. Measures were taken to protect inmates and their children against violence and abuse. A mechanism for identifying and responding to cases of torture had been established.

51. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Federal Public Defender Service had conducted 5,650 visits to female prisoners and had helped to improve the mental healthcare that they received. Specific measures had been taken to support transgender women, including the placement of restrictions on surveillance measures that could constitute ill-treatment. A study of the application of the gender perspective in women's prisons had been published, and steps had been taken to improve the monitoring of detention conditions in prisons. The Supreme Court had issued guidelines establishing that pretrial detention orders should be reviewed periodically to determine whether they continued to be valid. Legal amendments had been introduced to restrict the use of pretrial detention.

52. **A representative of Mexico** said that Mexico had ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in 2007 and had recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive individual complaints in 2020. Mexico was one of the few countries to have adopted a general law on enforced disappearance. The Government did not agree with the decision of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to activate article 34 of the International Convention in respect of Mexico as the decision had been based on the statement on non-State actors in the context of the International Convention (CED/C/10), which in the Government's view, distorted the object and purpose of the International Convention as it interpreted the concept of disappearance too broadly.

53. On 17 March 2025, President Sheinbaum had announced a series of immediate measures to combat the offence of enforced disappearance, including measures to strengthen the National Search Commission. Steps were being taken to enhance the use of the personal identification code number to identify disappeared persons, to establish a single national database of forensic information and a national human identification platform and to improve the technological capabilities of the National Centre for Human Identification. New protocols governing the issuance of immediate alerts and the prompt initiation of investigations would be proposed.

54. **Ms. de Silva de Alwis** said that she wished to know whether the State Party would consider promoting gender mainstreaming in measures to combat enforced disappearance in view of the impact that enforced disappearances had on women and their families and the key role played by women human rights defenders in responding to enforced disappearances.

Articles 15 and 16

55. **Ms. Schläppi** said that she wished to know what was being done to ensure access to justice for women facing intersectional discrimination, including Indigenous, Afro-Mexican, migrant, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex women, women with disabilities, women living in poverty and women in detention. With regard to the planned judicial reform, she wondered what measures would be taken to ensure that Indigenous justice systems did not prevent the principle of gender equality from being upheld and whether any steps would be taken to eliminate customary practices that violated that principle.

56. Given that women and girls were often prevented from exercising their rights within families, it would be interesting to learn about the impact of the efforts made to train law enforcement officers in gender issues. She would like to know whether the results of those efforts had been assessed and whether any plans were in place to raise awareness of women's rights among family judges, lawyers, social workers, child protection officers and local government officials and to encourage them to behave in a gender-sensitive and culturally sensitive way. Lastly, she wondered what steps were being taken to raise awareness of the minimum age for marriage and to enforce the legal prohibition on early marriage and early unions.

57. **A representative of Mexico** said that a significant number of measures, including legal reforms, had been taken to protect women belonging to vulnerable groups from intersectional discrimination and to ensure their right to a life free from violence and their financial, physical and decision-making autonomy.

58. **A representative of Mexico** said that the Supreme Court had identified unconstitutional rules and measures that prevented wives and cohabiting partners, or two or more cohabiting partners, from gaining access to a widow's pension concurrently with another pension. The Court had taken steps to combat gender-based prejudices and stereotypes relating to family structures and had issued rulings on regulations that withdrew beneficiaries' access to widow's pensions when they remarried or entered into a common-law marriage. Following comprehensive analysis carried out by the Court, it had recognized that women were the primary carers within families.

59. **A representative of Mexico** said that 10 per cent of the staff of the Federal Public Defender Service were native speakers of an Indigenous language, which made it easier for Indigenous people to access justice. A group of lawyers attached to the Supreme Court were given training in the application of the intercultural perspective.

60. **A representative of Mexico** said that she wished to thank the members of the Committee for the time and effort they had invested in the constructive dialogue. The Government recognized that there was much to be done and greatly appreciated the Committee's questions, which would be treated as proposals for the work that lay ahead. As the world faced a rise in anti-rights sentiments and neo-fascist movements, she was proud to be Mexican and proud to be part of a Government that was committed to transforming women's lives.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.