

REGIONAL SEMINAR

“SHARING EXPERIENCES AND STORIES AMONG PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ADVANCE EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN”

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF COSTA RICA
FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC CONFERENCE ROOM
MARCH 9-10, 2017 | SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017

9:00 – 10:00 am Inauguration of the Parliamentary Seminar

Dip. José Alberto Alfaro, President of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Dip. Ronny Monge Salas, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica, PGA Board member and Co-Convenor of PGA's Gender, Equality and Population Programme

Mónica Adame Martínez, Director of the Gender, Equality and Population Programme, Parliamentarians for Global Action

Marco Castillo Rojas, President, Movement Diversity pro Human Rights and Health, Costa Rica

10:00 am Official photograph and coffee break

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Situation of LGBTI persons in the Americas and progress in achieving equality and non-discrimination

- The United Nations and the Inter-American System for Human Rights

Moderator: *Alex Roche del Fraile*, Programme Officer, SOGI Campaign, Parliamentarians for Global Action

Speakers:

Dip. Maureen Clarke Clarke, Liberación Nacional Parliamentary Group Leader, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Mr. Orlando Habet, Member of Parliament, National Assembly of Belize

Sen. Maureen Payne-Hyman, Senate of Antigua and Barbuda

Ms. Angie Cruickshank, Human Rights Specialist, United Nations System in Costa Rica

Rodrigo Campos Hernández, Representative of ISCA Movement, Costa Rica

12:00 – 1:45 pm *Lunch in the Acquarelas Restaurant Radisson San José Hotel*

1:45 – 3:15 pm Tools and best practices for parliamentarians in their legislative role

- Presentation of the publication “Advancing the Human Rights and Inclusion of LGBTI People: A Handbook for Parliamentarians” and introduction of PGA’s LGBTI Resource online Platform
- Collaboration with National Human Rights and/or Anti-Discrimination Institutions and/or Commissions and civil society

Moderator: Dip. Marvin Atencio Delgado, President of PGA’s National Group, Partido Acción Ciudadana Parliamentary Group, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Speakers:

Dip. Marcela Guerrero Campos, Partido Acción Ciudadana Parliamentary Group, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Sen. Wade Mark, Opposition Senator and Chair of PGA’s National Group, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Lucien Govaard, Board member of Suriname Men United and Co-Chair of CariFLAGS Steering Committee, Suriname

Larissa Arroyo Navarrete, Representative of Movimiento ACCEDER, Costa Rica

3:15 – 3:30 pm *Coffee break*

3:30 – 5:00 pm Discussion about legislative initiatives to promote equality and inclusion of LGBTI persons

- Cohabitation partnerships, civil unions and equal marriage
- Gender identity laws
- Anti-discrimination legislation and repealing laws that criminalize homosexuality

Moderator: Mr. Juan Manuel Cordero González, Deputy Ombudsman, Defensoría de los Habitantes de Costa Rica

Speakers:

Dip. Carlos Manuel Arguedas Ramírez, Liberación Nacional Parliamentary Group, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Sen. Julio César Valentín, Province of Santiago Senator, member of the Political Committee of the Partido de la Liberación Nacional (PLD), Chair of PGA's National Group, Congress of Dominican Republic

Deivis Ventura, Executive Director of Red de Voluntarios Amigos Siempre Amigos (REVASA), Dominican Republic

Simone Hill, Coordinator of the NGO Promoting Empowerment through Awareness for Lesbian and Bisexual Women (PETAL), Belize

Natasha Jimenez Mata, Representative of MULABI Movement/Espacio Latinoamericano de Sexualidades y Derechos, Costa Rica

Seminar is adjourned for the day

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2017

9:00 – 10:30 am Strengthening cooperation with civil society and decision-makers to guarantee no person is left behind within the Sustainable Development Goals framework

- Measures to fight discrimination and violence against LGBTI people
- Arguments and accurate information to counter hate speech

Moderator: *Mónica Adame Martínez*, Director of the Gender, Equality and Population Programme, Parliamentarians for Global Action

Speakers:

Dip. Gloria Reyes, Deputy Spokesperson of the Partido Revolucionario Moderno (PRM) Parliamentary Group, Congress of the Dominican Republic

Dip. Franklin Corella Vargas, Partido Acción Ciudadana Parliamentary Group, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Kenita Placide, Executive Director of the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality (ECADE), Saint Lucia

Ms. Grace Watamaleo, Member of Parliament, National Assembly of Suriname

Julio César Calvo, President of the Diverse Chamber of Commerce of Costa Rica

Dayana Hernández, President of NGO Transvida, Costa Rica

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Final thoughts and actions to be taken

Closing remarks and adoption of commitments:

Dip. Marvin Atencio Delgado, President of PGA's National Group, Partido Acción Ciudadana Parliamentary Group, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica

Margarita Salas, Representative of Movimiento Beso Diverso/FDI, Costa Rica

12:00 – 2:00 pm Lunch in the patio of the Radisson San José Hotel

Remarks by *Ms. Ana Helena Chacón Echeverría*, Vice President of the Republic of Costa Rica