Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

Geneva, Switzerland

Case: Information to the Special Rapporteur’s report on femicide to be presented at the 76th session of the General Assembly

**Key questions and types of input sought**

The Special Rapporteur kindly seeks the continued support of States, National Human Rights Institutions, civil society actors, international organizations, academics and other stakeholders to provide information:

**1 - On the existence, or progress in the creation, of a national femicide watch and/or femicide observatory and/or observatory on violence against women with a femicide watch role; observatories at Ombudspersons’ office or Equality Bodies; academic institutions and/or NGOs, or any plans to create one.**

Answer: In Brazil, *lesbocídio* (the genocide against lesbian women) occurs at a high rate. However, there is no monitoring by the State. The only document that reports such violence suffered specifically by lesbian women is the “Lesbocídio Dossier in Brazil: 2014 to 2017,” which has not been updated since 2017. It’s the only basic document to map where and how lesbian women die or suffer from violence**.** The dossier shows us a high rate of violence against lesbians with masculinity and Afro-descendant lesbian characteristics. Authors of the dossier suffered threats after publication.

Through its participation in the National Council for the Rights of Women (CNDM) and occupying the seat of the user segment by representing the lesbian agenda, *Brazilian Lesbian Articulation*- ABL combats in the defense of protection against gender violence, participating in the Technical Monitoring Chamber of the National Policy Plan for Women. ABL works to demand the implementation of policies to confront violence, especially those suffered by lesbian women as a result of their sexual orientation.

ABL also represented the CNDM with the Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons (CONATRAP) of the Ministry of Justice. This Committee monitors complaints and effective actions against the crime of human trafficking. For ABL, it is essential to make a gender emphasis, since, in most cases of this crime the victims are girls and women trafficked for national and international sexual exploitation. Through its participation in the CNDM, ABL carefully examines (annexed document) the development of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights’ digital platform of human rights violation allegations. A specific focus is placed on the demands of gender and sexuality, in order to ensure that no formal complaint is seen as impossible to rectify, that no victim is made invisible, and that the data generated by the government is reliable and up to date. Dependable information allows for results in de facto public policies, and in the process acknowledges the reality of women in each region of Brazil as well as their needs. Within this line of work, ABL is actively participating in the construction of the 5th National Conference on Policies for Women, which aims to bring together women from all over Brazil in a broad, full, and democratic way. This conference (date undefined due to the COVID-19 pandemic) will release a new National Plan of Policies for Women, in a document that will serve as a guide for future political and social constructions.

In the Inter-sector Commission on Women’s Health (CISMU), of the National Health Council (CNS), of which ABL is a part of, it is likely information will account for the health demands of lesbian women.