Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Ligue Internationale de Femmes pour la Paix et la Liberté Liga Internacional de Mujeres por la Paz y la Libertad Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC, UNCTAD and UNESCO; Special Consultative Relations with FAO, ILO, and UNICEF



## CEDAW Review of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Periodic Reports of Bolivia

## Suggestions for the List of Issues Prior to Reporting

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) would like to suggest some questions regarding femicide and gender-based violence in Bolivia.

According to data gathered by the Centre of Information and Development of Women, 110 femicides have been reported in 2013 in Bolivia. Between January and June 2014, 59 femicides have been reported, of which 36 were perpetrated by a husband or a partner.

The Bolivian parliament responded to this issue in March 2013 by adopting the Law Nr. 348, which seeks to guarantee women a life free from violence. However, this law has yet to be effectively implemented, and its regulatory decree was adopted only last month. According to a report from the General Prosecutor of Bolivia, 10 579 complaints have been filed since the adoption of the law, but only 30 of them have led to a sentence.

In addition, though Bolivia adopted in September 2013 the Law Nr. 400 on the regulation of firearms and ammunitions, its regulatory decree has not yet been adopted. Yet, it is urgent to address the specific impacts of small arms and light weapons on women and girls, as many femicides have been perpetrated with firearms, including by members of the armed forces and law enforcement officials with their service weapons within the home.

In this context, WILPF would like to suggest the following questions:

- What measures are implemented in order to train law enforcement officials, judges and forensic surgeons in application of law Nr. 348?
- What are the programmes implemented at the national, statewide and local levels in order to raise awareness about gender-based violence and the proliferation and misuse of small arms against women and girls?
- What measures are planned to combat the disproportionate impacts of small arms flow on women in and outside the household?
- What is the follow-up procedure after a woman file a complaint in relation to gender-based violence?