

# *UN Praises Cuban Women Policies*

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Santiago de Chile, November 21 (RHC) — The President of the Regional Conference for Women, Alejandrina German, recently extolled Cuba's efforts to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment, teleSUR news reported.

Speaking at the closing session of the Beijing+20 Special Session at the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) in Santiago de Chile, German said that Cuba has always been a leader in pro-women policies.

German, who is also the Dominican Minister for Women Affairs, highlighted the work being done by the Cuban Women's Federation (FMC) and the importance of education to tackle gender inequality.

On the other hand, the Secretary General of the FMC, Teresa Amarelle, talked about the economic independence of Cuban women and their influence in decision-making within the Cuban society.

She also explained why Cuba has been an example of gender equality for decades.

“Cuba was the first country to sign and the second to ratify the ‘Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women’, and already had a comprehensive legal framework to protect the rights of women and girls,” said Amarelle.

Earlier this year, Mariela Castro, a member of the Cuban Parliament, called on the international community to strengthen legal frameworks to guarantee gender equality.

“Gender equality and the women’s right to life and to free and quality services are keys for development,” said Castro at the United Nations General Assembly.

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