



CALL FOR WRITERS

For Release: March 11, 2005
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In honor of “Beijing +10” the IDB announces an essay competition on
Women in Development

COMPETITION TITLE

**“ Gender Equality – Progress I Have Seen in the
Last Ten Years”**

PRIZES AWARDED BY THE IDB CULTURAL CENTER

AND THE WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT UNIT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Beijing +10 global review, coordinated by the UN Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDAW), is being held in March, 2005. The objective of these regional and global processes is to review the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, signed by 189 governments at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China, in 1995.

The IDB Cultural Center and the Women in Development Unit (WID Unit) of the Inter-American Development Bank announce an ***Essay Competition*** to be held in 2005.

The objectives of the competition are to: 1) enhance awareness and broaden the discussion of economic and social factors that affect women in Latin America and the Caribbean; 2) encourage writers to use their creative abilities to formulate

viewpoints, and 3) inspire the public to consider possible alternatives for society to improve and grow.

Rules:

1- The competition is open to men and women ages 18-24. Authors must have been born in and be citizens of one of the 26 borrowing IDB member nations in the Western Hemisphere (Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay, or Venezuela).

2- Essays may be submitted in English, Spanish, French or Portuguese. Essays must be no less 3 pages and no more than 5 pages. They must be typed double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper, using a 12-point font, with 1-inch margins on all sides.

3- Essays must have been written after **March 11, 2005** by one author. Poetry and fiction are not eligible.

4- Content must relate to personal observations of progress in the economic and social reality of women in developing nations in the following areas included in the Beijing Platform for Action: poverty, education, health, domestic violence, leadership and advancement, human rights, and the environment; as well as cultural heritage, cities, multiculturalism, race, and ethnicity – without prejudice to intellectual, artistic, conceptual, philosophical and literary considerations.

5- The IDB Cultural Center and the WID Unit will appoint a jury to award three prizes.

6 - A First Prize will be awarded by the IDB Cultural Center in the amount of US\$1,000; a Second Prize in the amount of US\$750 and a Third Prize in the amount of \$500 will be awarded by the WID Unit. The jury may award an unlimited number of honorable mentions without a financial component. After the contest, the IDB may consider publishing the winning essays along with others recommended by the jury.

7 - Essays must be delivered in a sealed envelope to the IDB Office in each country (see www.iadb.org for the addresses of IDB offices in each country), addressed to the Women in Development Essay Competition, Attention: IDB Cultural Center, Stop W220, Washington DC 20577.

8- Essays **must be accompanied by the following information** on a separate sheet: the writer's full name, date of birth, place of birth, nationality, his/her e-mail address, postal address, telephone, fax, essay title with an abstract that explains the concept of the essay; and a 5 x 7 inch photograph of the writer must be included. Failure to submit the required information and materials may be reason for disqualification.

9- Neither the IDB Cultural Center nor the WID Unit are responsible for items lost in the mail.

10- The deadline for essay submission to the IDB Country Offices is **JUNE 30, 2005**. Only writers selected for prizes will be notified by regular mail or e-mail no later than **SEPTEMBER 30, 2005**. Essays will not be returned and will become part of the IDB Cultural Center and WID archives. Copyright will be shared between the IDB and the writer. The IDB Cultural Center and WID Unit reserve the right to use the finalists' essays in any way they may deem fit for promotion of the competition.

11- Participation in the competition implies acceptance of these rules.

12- IDB employees and their relatives are not eligible to participate.

For information about the IDB Cultural Center, visit: www.iadb.org/cultural

For information on the IDB Women in Development Unit, visit: www.iadb.org/sds/wid