The Regional Conference about Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the preparatory meeting of Beijing +25 were held last week, from the 27 to the 31st of January, in ECLAC, Chile.

On Monday 27, for the Forum of feminist organizations, gathered more than 240 women representative of feminist’s organizations around Latin America and the Caribbean. The FOF had 4 round table with presentations from different NGOs and networks and later discussion in 4 groups about the same themes of the panels.

On Tuesday, the organizations reached an agreement about the declaration they wanted to present. The declaration was read in the opening session of the Official forum. http://ngocswlac.org/docs/declaracion-feminista-XIV-Conferencia-Regional-sobre-la-mujer-de-America-Latina-y-el-Caribe/

During the opening, the minister of Women and Gender Equality in Chile, Isabel Plá, had to face the rejection of all the feminist representatives, who decided to leave the room just before she began her speech. The feminist were wearing a red eye patch to show their mobilization against the violent repression that is currently taking place in Chile, and that has hurt the view of lots of women (by gazing or balls) during the last months of protest.

Outside the entrance of ECLAC, where the conference was taking place, more than 300 feminists played the performance “Las Tesis”, a feminist choreography denouncing the patriarchal violence by the Chilean government during the pacific demonstration including the rape and sexual harassment of women.

On Wednesday, the central theme of the day was the 25th anniversary of Beijing Declaration, the feminist talked about progress that had been realised since then, and those who still need to be improved.

During the evening, the group of youth activists, which also worked on the project, read their own declaration, it was quite similar from the declaration of the feminist representatives – who also read again their declaration.

On Friday, the last day of the Conference, there was adopted the Consensus of Santiago the governmental agreement, containing 48 points, describing the main objectives that we have to accomplish till the next Regional Conference to be held in 2022. Argentina was elected as the country to develop the next Conference. http://ngocswlac.org/inicio/compromiso-de-santiago-XIV-Conferencia Regional - sobre-la-mujer.

It was surprising that the governmental agreement had a lot in common with the declaration of the feminist representatives, and with the one of the young activists.