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Submission on matters to be considered at the in-session workshop (May 2017) to develop possible elements of the gender action plan

Submitted by the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), GenderCC-Women for Climate Justice, Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF), LIFE, Centre for 21st Century Issues (C21st), Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), All India Women's Conference (AIWC) & the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

The COP22 decision on the extension of the Lima Work Programme on Gender: Requests the secretariat to convene, in cooperation with Parties and interested observers and other stakeholders, an in-session workshop during the forty-sixth sessions of the subsidiary bodies to develop possible elements of the gender action plan referred to in 7. This decision also invites submissions from Parties, observers and other stakeholders, by 25 January 2017, on their views on the matters to be addressed at the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 29 above.

I. Views on Structure of the Workshop

In regards to the structure of the workshop, the Constituency makes the following recommendations:

- The workshop should build on lessons learned from previous successful workshops structure, namely, allotted 6 hours, scheduled over two days, with a combination of knowledge inputs on the first day and facilitated working groups with clear action points on the second day;
- Knowledge inputs should have a balance of geographical context, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable countries and societies;
- In line with para. 24 of the gender decision, the workshop should include participation of grassroots and indigenous women, in particular women most affected.

II. Views on Thematic Focus of Inputs for the in-session workshop

Regarding issues to discuss at the workshop:

- Knowledge inputs should review lessons learned from gender action plans or other thematic programmes under the UNFCCC (i.e. the Warsaw Action Plan, Green Climate Fund or others)
 - This may include experiences from the development and implementation of Gender Action Plans within other UN bodies and processes, such as the Climate Investment Funds. Experts who have worked on the development and implementation of these plans could be invited to report on their experiences and their recommendations on key elements, priority areas and instruments. Noting however, it is important to understand in the context of the UNFCCC therefore transferable lessons may be limited.
 - Inputs should include lessons from other bodies on how these 'action plans' can enhance and not limit work done at National level.
 - Inputs into the workshop should highlight, develop and discuss actions on gender responsive climate policy on **both micro and macro levels**.
- Inputs should draw from latest research findings and be geared towards identifying method and process. The in-session workshop should introduce methodologies and ways helpful for the identification of the priority areas, key activities and indicators as well as respective timelines for implementation and for the process of review and monitoring (see Paragraph 27).
 - This includes an understanding of how the gender action plan will be decided - will there be an Executive Committee like for the Warsaw International Mechanism, or can it be a more informal body
- Gender disparities continue to exist both in developing and developed countries. In most societies, there is a gender bias in political power and access to climate relevant resources and services. The workshop should therefore not only address developing countries, but also discuss gender responsive climate policies in Annex I countries as well as gender responsive climate mitigation.
- In addition to discussions on the Gender Action Plan, the in-session workshop should give room for exchange on experiences, challenges and opportunities from national gender focal points, integration of gender into climate policies under the UNFCCC process as well as in national climate policies; gender-responsive national communications; preparation and implementation of gender in NDCs and National Adaptation Plans.
- The workshop should discuss how to operationalize para. 24 of the gender decision on integrating local and traditional knowledge through the inclusion of grassroots and indigenous women in regards to the formulation of the GAP

- The workshop should also provide space to discuss the resource requirements for the action plan especially regarding the funding of actions.
- The workshop should encourage Parties to voluntarily prepare national Gender Action Plans, with concrete timelines and targets, in relation to the implementation of national mitigation and adaptation planning,

III. **Views on possible elements of the Gender Action Plan**

The WGC takes this opportunity to reiterate inputs on possible elements of the GAP, noting that the workshop should cover methodology and process before diving into developing these elements, including timelines, reporting and finances to support implementation. The GAP should be an instrument to plan a transition from a deeply unjust fossil-fuel based economy to a more sustainable and equitable model of development that ensures women’s human rights and gender equality. Consequently, the main objectives of the GAP should be twofold:

- To design, implement and monitor climate policies that simultaneously advance women’s human rights and address climate change
- To design, implement and monitor efforts to address the unequal impact of climate change on women

In fulfilling the above-mentioned objectives, the GAP must incorporate¹:

- Policies that create a ‘just and equitable transition’ of the economy and of labor. These policies should be framed to challenge the existing gendered division of labor by redistributing and promoting decent work in both paid and unpaid care, domestic and community work, sectors that are low-carbon development but indispensable to our societies. The GAP should acknowledge and address the increased burden of unpaid work that results from climate change;
- Outline Parties’ obligations, in accordance with the CBDR principle, to mobilize financial resources needed to fund this just and equitable transition and other elements included in the GAP.
- Develop strategies that allow the implementation of ‘energy democracy’ from a gender equality perspective and within the context of safe and environmentally, socially and economically sound technologies.

¹ Those recommendations are taken from the Report of the Expert Group Meeting, Implementation of gender-responsive climate action in the context of sustainable development, 14-16 October 2015, available here: http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/how%20we%20work/intergovsupport/egmreport_bonn_final_25-november-2015.pdf?vs=2255

- Support the existence of autonomous' feminist movements that are key to both improve climate resilience and advance gender equality and involve them in the design, implementation and review of the plan;
- Outline reporting mechanisms that would allow monitoring and addressing the impacts of countries climate policies, technologies and financial programmes in regards to social, environmental and economic impacts from a gender equality perspective.

ANNEX. Possible Action Areas & Elements

Action area 1: Knowledge and Capacity Building

- Technical support and capacity building on gender-responsive climate change policy included in upcoming regional and national meetings around the planning and implementation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and national communications, and ensuring the full and effective participation of women in these processes; including Gender-Responsive Budgeting and monitoring the impact and utilization of funds allocated to gender-responsive climate change actions;
- Training for all Parties on gender-responsive national communications, working with existing methodologies such as UNDP's 'Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit';
- Ensure space and financial support for participation of gender experts in the organization of upcoming Technical Expert Meetings (TEMs); as well in the TEC /CTCN meetings
- Recognizing that women are key users of technologies and there is need for trainings for all Parties on gender-responsive technology development and transfer as well as development of guidelines needed to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Women also need to be included during the assessment of climate change related technology needed in developing countries in order to speed up the adoption of relevant technology.
- Training all Parties to ensure that the mainstreaming of gender considerations are incorporated fully and effectively throughout the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) process.
- Capacity development and involvement of women on mainstream as well as alternative technologies/climate resilient technologies for example bio-fertilizer; climate resilient cropping, saline resistant vegetables, etc.; fisheries culture & management (e.g. coastal area); homestead gardening, technology for micro-nutrient rich food, where appropriate should be targeted.
- Clear guidelines and tool for targeting women leadership on technology areas at government, national, regional and global level with a multi-year action plan and clear monitoring mechanism as well as identifying indicators to achieve the results.
- For operationalization of the knowledge development and capacity building effort impact on the ground would require connecting different level of stakeholders particularly women-led research organization/institution to tap their valuable knowledge as well as mobilizing political will. There should have also a linkage with the funding mechanism to foster the large-scale action and sustainability and how to achieve the NDCs target.

Action area 2: Monitoring and Tracking Coherence

- Ensure that States' international obligations regarding women's human rights, including the rights to health, are respected in all climate policies, including the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, Beijing Platform for Action, and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Strategic Area K "Women and the Environment". In this regard, track States' progress and enact recommendations for the implementation of the 3 Strategic Objectives that must include climate-related issues, namely (1) involving women actively in environmental decision-making at all levels, (2) integrating gender concerns and perspectives in policies and programmes for sustainable development and (3) strengthening or establishing mechanisms at the national, regional, and international levels to assess the impact of development and environmental policies on women.
- Targeted In-session workshops, specific to reviewing implementation of mandates under UNFCCC boards, mechanisms, operating entities and bodies and producing a set of outcomes, which may cover the following in consecutive years (i.e. Institutional review of financial mechanism, in particular the GEF, GCF and global climate finance landscape; national communications; preparation and implementation of INDCs, technology development and needs assessment; National Adaptation Plans and capacity building; the Technical examination process and Global Stocktake);
- Request the Secretariat, when organizing workshops, preparing technical/guidance papers etc., in any area under the Convention/KP/PA, to consider, incorporate, and highlight linkages between gender and climate change, and other areas under the Convention/KP/PA, including by utilizing the Secretariat's technical paper on gender under the Lima Work Programme;
- Develop mechanisms for reporting and regular analysis of gender dimensions of Parties' INDCs, starting with information provided in the global stocktake.
- Develop gender safeguards including ex ante human rights, environmental, economic and gender impact assessments must be compulsory for all climate / sustainable development projects.
- This may also consider gender-based vulnerability and resilience index and assessment concerning livelihoods aspects, agriculture areas and women's contribution to climate change adaptation.
- In line with guidelines developed for other Gender Action Plan (e.g. OECD/ DAC gender markers) introduce a ranking between actions with a transformative positive gender impact and those that have more limited gender impact

Action area 3: Data, Research and Tools

- Recommendation to IPCC to strengthen inclusion of gender and climate change experts into the panel and to improve its consideration of studies and data sets on the gender dimension of climate change;
- Developing analysis, studies, toolkits and reports for tracking progress on implementing gender-responsive climate policies;
- Conduct gender impact assessments of new provisions and mechanisms developed under the UNFCCC;

- Recognizing the importance of including women-led, community-led participatory action research in enhancing the data and analysis on gender-responsive climate change policy and provide a space for this information to be brought into the process via an in-session workshop on tools and data.
- Enhance the quality and availability of quantitative and qualitative sex-, and gender-disaggregated data and analysis, while realizing that the multiple benefits of applying a gender lens to climate change actions might defy traditional quantification efforts, for example those accounting for GHG emissions.
- Identify tools for gender mainstreaming into agricultural adaptation planning and implementation, with the purpose of integrating gender considerations in the process to formulate and implement NAPAs.
- Adaptation interventions under NAPAs should not exacerbate inequalities and other vulnerabilities, rather it should focus on fulfilment of the specific needs of the most vulnerable like women and children, disabled and indigenous community and it can ensure the equal participation of men and women in the decision-making and implementation phases of these activities.

Action area 4: Gender Balance

- Training and technical capacity building for female delegates, particularly from Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and African States on negotiation skills;
- Targeted resources to support the equal participation of women, including young women, on national delegations from developing countries;
- Targets and deadlines for gender balance on Boards and Bodies of the UNFCCC;
- Timeline to assess progress of women's participation in national delegations.
- Targets for clear gender balance and commitment from the NDCs to include women in any national, regional or global body on climate change. Clear commitment for encouraging women leadership building.

Action area 5: Means of Implementation

- Guidance to the GEF/GCF to specifically address and highlight gender-responsive policy and project/programme implementation in their annual reporting to the COP and work with recipient countries in readiness and technical support to increase national climate and gender capacity;
- Work together with climate funds and other funding agencies to allow and support small, local women's movements and projects to access funds.
- Commitment from Parties to financially support UNFCCC Secretariat, members states and observers to implement the GAP

Action area 6: Rights Holder Engagement

- Continue to track and follow-up the recommendations made by the 2015 Expert Group Meeting, encouraging collaboration among UN entities and the Boards and Bodies of the UNFCCC including the GEF, GCF and CTCN;

- The GAP should be developed and implemented in strong collaboration with the Women and Gender Constituency and other civil stakeholder constituencies as well as international organizations and UN bodies.
- Establishment of regional working groups with a mandate of ensuring appropriate gender balance for sharing context-relevant technologies (need to be gender friendly), strategies, and gender-responsive institutional arrangements.
- Recognize the local and traditional knowledge of grassroots women's groups and indigenous women, and ensure their effective participation in enhancing gender-responsive climate change policy as well as implementation, ensuring Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC);
- Women's work in and large contribution to agriculture should be acknowledged by providing formal recognition of women as farmers, to begin with by the Ministry of Agriculture/by the national Government to access Farmers' Cards, agricultural inputs, irrigation water, credits and land