

WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

Intervention Resumed High-Level Segment

For the ones alive who are not here, and for the ones who have been murdered for protecting our land and water.

Thank you Chair, I am Zainab Yunusa, a gender and youth advocate from Nigeria, speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

We speak to you today from our hearts, burdened by the plight of our peoples, communities and ecosystems facing worsening climate impacts every single day. Here today, we urge leaders to invoke their humanity and deliver real actions for transformative and gender-just solutions that embody human rights.

The tragedy of the COVID-19 pandemic should have been a moment for us to act as one community inhabiting this one planet - for global solidarity. Instead, we have seen this crisis deepen inequalities, across communities and countries upholding systems of power. If we do not learn the lessons from our failure to respond collectively - to center care, human rights and gender equality - we simply cannot solve this climate crisis.

Human rights are central to climate justice. We urge Parties to translate the lofty rhetoric to concrete action protecting human rights, and safeguarding the environment and the frontline indigenous women putting their lives at risk defending their lands and people. This is especially needed in relation to any new market mechanism under Article 6. We will not allow you to repeat the mistake of the past - and the ongoing crisis that endangers our ecosystems and the lives of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous women, land and water defenders.

Solutions that fail to protect and uphold human rights are false solutions.

We are shifting and transforming our communities, with solutions that demand investment, support, scaling up, and replication around the world. Not false solutions of greenwashing, risky technologies, negative emissions technologies, and offsetting mechanisms.

We, feminists, reject these false solutions and stand in solidarity with frontline, Indigenous and grassroots leaders demanding feminist solutions for real transformation.

People
Power
Climate Justice