

**PARIS, FRANCE (December 2015)**  
**Closing of the 43rd Session of the SBSTA Opening Plenary**  
**Ms. Toan Tran, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)**

Thank you Madam Chair.

I am Toan Tran from Vietnam, member of the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) and I speak on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency (WGC). On adaptation, we would like to stress that for frontline communities, a long term goal on adaptation is critical. Developing countries are lacking capacity to face climate change impacts and yet are impacted the most. Particularly, adaptation is critical to agriculture, and critical to women as in my region, Asia, women constitute 60 % of the subsistent farmers. Small-scale women farmers are extremely impacted by climate change. In the community where I live, in central Vietnam: the salinisation of the fields makes the rice impossible to grow during summer season; changing in weather patterns impacts constantly increases the threat of food insecurity for women and their families.

In this regard, we would like to caution the SBSTA and Parties against the attempts to promote the current industrial agriculture model through climate smart agriculture. These models fail to address both contributions to emissions of the agricultural sector as well as food insecurity, failing to ensure equitable distribution of food to the world, with over 800 million suffering from chronic hunger. The Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture, including big corporations such as Monsanto and Yara, one of the biggest fertiliser companies, threaten the existence and rights of small-scale farmers, as many civil society organizations have raised.

We urge Parties, when negotiating agriculture under the UNFCCC, to adopt and promote agroecology, a model that both meets adaptation and mitigation challenges while protecting ecosystems and communities, including small farmers, and particularly women.

Finally, we'd like to stress the particular importance of loss and damage for the most impacted by climate change.

We urge the Warsaw mechanism to be implemented as soon as possible and provide compensation to the ones suffering the increasing damage due to global warming and the lack of mitigation action. We urge Parties to understand the need for a Loss and Damage mechanism to be strengthened and anchored in the Paris agreement through a standalone section.

Thank you.