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Opening of the 46 Session of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI)

Ndivile Mokoena

Thank you Chair, my name is Ndivile Mokoena and I am speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

We look forward to robust discussions at the in-session workshop on the development of a Gender Action Plan under the UNFCCC which will hopefully take concrete steps towards developing a comprehensive Gender Action Plan. This plan should address greater coherence among the thematic areas, boards and bodies of the UNFCCC, on efforts to implement gender-responsive climate policy, as well as making progress on ensuring women's full and equal participation in all levels of decision-making.

We also look forward to a productive in-session workshop on opportunities to further enhance the effective engagement of non-Party stakeholders, in particular civil society. The UNFCCC should be inspired by other intergovernmental processes, like the CBD, FAO, RCEM, that have provided civil society organizations with meaningful participatory roles in multilateral decision-making. We particularly would like to point out to the fact that the terminology of 'non-Party stakeholders' should be questioned, as it cannot not be applied to all stakeholders equally: some actors represent individuals that are right holders, whereas others are representing private economic interests, which may be conflicting with the ultimate goal of the Convention.

Concerning finance, we express our deep concern about the increasing tendency of the Green Climate Fund, the Climate Investment Funds and other climate funds to support climate actions that actually undermine the climate resilience of countries, like monoculture tree plantations, and major hydro-electricity projects. Also we stress again that finance has to be 100%-gender responsive and accessible to community groups and grassroots women leaders.

Finally, regarding the development and transfer of technologies, and looking at the PCCB process, we would like to emphasize some of the recommendations made in civil-society submissions that the work of the technology mechanism should include support for indigenous knowledge, technologies, and gender considerations, as well as "effectiveness of protections for human rights and mechanisms for consultation with stakeholders."

Thank you!