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

We want congratulate Parties on the adoption of the first Gender Action Plan under the UNFCCC. We hope it will serve as an accelerator in advancing the multiple mandates for gender equality that exist under the UNFCCC and support to achieve women’s full and equal participation in this process, as well as the development and implementation of gender-responsive and human rights based climate policies. To that end, the implementation of the GAP needs to be closely monitored and fully funded, and we urge Parties to come forward with generous voluntary contributions.

The real test however, will be how the GAP feeds into and inform other negotiation streams crucial for gender mainstreaming progress in the UNFCCC, such as the frameworks and mechanisms for finance, technology, and transparency. While the GAP is a critical tool, we must continue to demand climate and gender justice from the entire process. Developed countries have to provide serious public financing allowing for gender-responsive low-carbon and climate-resilient development, while all countries have to integrate human and gender rights in their climate plans and commitments.

With regards to the Local communities and indigenous peoples platform: We fully support the proposals of the Indigenous Forum and urge Parties not to undermine the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that clearly recognizes the right of Indigenous Peoples to participate fully and effectively in decision-making that impacts on their territories.

Regarding, SBSTA on Article 6, we urge Parties to consider our views when organising the next roundtable discussions to ensure transparency and to listen to our expertise on safeguards for women, indigenous people, human rights and on environmental integrity. We reiterate our strong opposition to proposals to include agriculture, forests and other forms of land use into global carbon markets. We also oppose false solutions like carbon capture and storage or geoengineering that undermine the environmental integrity. In the past these mechanisms have not been able to prove their additionality. There is no space for offsetting in a 1.5C scenario.

Thank you!