

Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues,

My name is Carmen Capriles and I speak today on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

We are pleased to share comments and recommendations for Parties to consider in the areas of adaptation, mitigation, capacity building and participation.

First, the Constituency welcomes the report of the 25th meeting of the Least Developed Country Expert Group, which made recommendations on strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs. This included a strong call for sex-disaggregated data in reporting and relevant gender indicators in assessment of the NAP process. We look to see these recommendations further strengthened and incorporated into work under SBI agenda items 7 & 8.

Next, where the SBI reviews work on mitigation and technology, we remind Parties that mitigation policies in general, and for the energy and transport sectors in particular, should build on gender sensitive methodologies to address the energy and transportation needs of women and men, while improving their wellbeing, access to basic services and access to markets. Recognizing women as active participants in the implementation of technological approaches to mitigation, we are supporting the economic empowerment of women. Additionally, we call on Parties to prioritize mitigation initiatives that address short lived climate pollutants, especially those related to the cooking and heating energy needs of poor women and men, which have the greatest potential for obtaining emission reductions and providing multiple co-benefits to the most vulnerable groups, including the reduction of: (i) drudgery, particularly of women who are traditionally in charge of firewood collection, (ii) respiratory illnesses, (iii) physical and sexual attacks on women during firewood collection.

Finally, the Constituency looks forward to engaging with Parties in a Dialogue on Article 6 of the Convention. Disseminated information on climate change should include socio-economic data that is gender-sensitive and the target groups should include women as stakeholders. Women should participate equally with men and youth in public awareness, education and information activities. The guidelines for national awareness raising activities and regional seminar programmes should include the necessary tools to support Parties to integrate gender considerations in their effort to implement article 6 of the Convention. Also, overall, participation is not possible when environmental defenders are being criminalized, so we call to include the human rights and environmental defenders agenda as a central element to increase participation

Thank you.