



GERMANY, BONN
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Closing of the 23rd Conference of the Parties and Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris

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

We want to thank the Fijian Presidency for their commitment towards making COP23 a success. And to highlight the invaluable contribution of civil society from the Pacific Islands States. They continuously remind us of the urgency to act!

Yet again this COP was characterized by slow progress and insufficient commitments. But amongst its shortcoming, the adoption of the Gender Action Plan is a milestone in our longstanding fight for gender equality in the international climate process. The GAP is here to advance women's full, equal and meaningful participation in all aspects of this process. And to guide the development and implementation of gender-responsive and human rights based climate policies. However, the real challenge is its implementation. In order to live up to its promises, the GAP has to be sufficiently implemented, resourced and monitored. We demand from Parties to commit to it!

The second milestone is the adoption of the Indigenous Peoples Platform: It's been about time for the UNFCCC to acknowledge the leadership of indigenous peoples in the fight against climate change, promote the rights of indigenous peoples and ensure that their voices, and particularly of indigenous women, are no longer silenced and marginalized in this process.

Other matters have unfortunately made less progress. Sufficient funding for loss and damage and real commitment to ending fossil fuels and keeping global warming below 1.5°C is fundamental for climate justice.

We leave COP23 repeating our call for the respect for and consideration of humans rights, gender equality, food security, just transition and decent work in all actions under the Paris Agreement.

We stand in solidarity with all those at the frontlines of the fight against climate change and extractive industries worldwide. We will continue the fight for a just world and for keeping global warming below 1.5°C. We will never give up on this beautiful planet!

Thank you!