

# WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

## Closing Intervention SBI Closing Plenary

*For the ones alive who are not here, and for the ones who have been murdered for protecting our land.*

Thank you Chair, my name is Pat Bohland and I speak on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

All conclusions adopted under SBI must contribute to raising ambition by centering gender equality, Human Rights, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, public participation, intergenerational equity, ecosystem integrity and food security. These principles are not an add on to ambition, they are a driver of ambition and effective climate policy.

This past week has proven that Observer's access to consultations is critical to ensure that these principles adopted in the Paris Agreement and numerous decisions are applied transparently and being kept alive.

Despite the optimistic expectations that civil society and constituencies had put on the review of the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the Convention and a renewed Work Programme on Action for Climate Empowerment, the result is modest and misses the crucial moment to develop a comprehensive work plan taking into account a gender-responsive, intergenerational and rights-based approach. Parties failure to stand up for basic language on being guided by human rights in their work sets a deeply bad precedent for transformative action on the ground - or the seriousness of which Parties take the human rights violations people face everyday in their countries and communities.

A key area of progress at COP25 was the adoption of the updated 5-year Gender Action Plan (GAP). Crucially, the updated GAP aimed to meaningfully shift towards capacity building and enhanced implementation of gender-responsive climate action at all levels. We welcome that the draft conclusion recognizes the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and uneven global response to it in terms of its multidimensional effects and in particular of deepening of pre-existing gender inequalities, but we regret the unwillingness to further recognize how this crisis is also a debt crisis - one that's deepening gender inequalities particularly in SIDs and other developing countries. Significant gaps still persist worldwide to advancing gender responsive climate action - and we remind Parties that we are not here just to ensure workshops and submission timelines, we are looking for real commitment to ambition, finance and emissions reductions- that put human rights and gender equality at the heart of this action.

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We call on Parties to work harder on their Paris Promises next week and allow with their decisions for a just and real transition towards: People power, climate justice.

Thank you