

WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

Closing Intervention COP 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 Mwanahamisi Singano - an African feminist, and passionate advocate of a just, equal, fairer, and sustainable world. I speak on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

As shared in our Peoples Plenary, throughout the existence of the UNFCCC, governments have moved from policies, to empty pledges, to press releases and proclamations made outside the negotiations process that mean they cannot be held to account for failing to meet them. "Net zero" pledges without concrete plans to achieve Real Zero emissions, without adequate legally binding commitments to protect human rights, are simply greenwashing, a smokescreen hiding the intent to continue polluting and digging the graves of our present and future generations with impunity.

People are tired of waiting for governments to prioritize people and the planet over profits while so many lives are being impacted and lost. We are out of time and out of patience.

As feminists, as African feminists, Indigenous peoples, grassroots women leaders. We have been the centers of resistance throughout the history of time. We come to this COP year after year with solutions - solutions that are sustainable, solutions that center food sovereignty, and solutions which embody understanding of our mutual relationship to the land and ecosystems. And year after year, you prioritize large corporations and business as usual approaches that amount to nothing but hot air.

Chair, Our movements for climate justice are louder, bolder and more powerful than ever before - and you will hear from us at home - in our communities and in shifting government policies.

We have learned from this COP not to wait to be invited, involved or engaged. In Egypt, we will show up, claim our agency and own the process.

As an African woman, allow me to welcome all of you to Egypt. As you plan your travel to COP27, kindly be reminded, hypocrisy, false solutions, rhetoric and inaction are strictly prohibited.

People power, climate justice.