Intervention
Stocktaking Plenary

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

Thank you Chair, I am Floridea Di Ciommo from Italy speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency.

We will come straight to the point as we are running out of time here.

Concerning the COP cover decision. Simply hoping Parties do more - have more ambitious NDCs next year is not enough. References to net zero are risking to undermine the 1.5° goal and exacerbate existing structural inequalities. We also oppose the language on Nature Based Solutions - instead the focus should be on ecosystem-based Approaches and solutions, currently the text seems to imply that Nature based solutions do not need to be eco-systems based, and that can shelter false solutions and further undermine the climate goals.

On Article 6, we do see your efforts in coming to a decision text that will operationalize Article 6 here in Glasgow. However, a weak text on Article 6 risks undermining the Paris Agreement entirely regarding overall emission reductions and safeguarding Human Rights, the rights of Indigenous Peoples and gender equality, a just transition and ensuring gender responsive climate action in all Article 6 activities.

For 6.4 mechanism, we urge some Parties to not invent creative bridging proposals that issue different kinds of certificates for use to fulfill NDCs and for other international mitigation purposes respectively and thus undermine ambition. All certificates must apply to the same standards. Certificates that do not uphold the highest standards will actively bias the market towards cheaper and unsustainable activities.

We welcome the decision that the Supervisory Body of 6.4 will take into consideration the enhanced Gender Action Plan in its work on 6.4 mechanism. We urge you to remove the brackets and acknowledge the agreed language on human rights and gender considerations throughout Article 6 and in particular as responsibility of the Supervisory Body in Art.6.4 as well as in the Activity design.

All Art. 6 activities must include stakeholder engagement, in particular the local communities and indigenous peoples, women, and persons with disabilities and based on the principles of free, prior and informed consent - being always applicable and appropriate.

Learning from the past, Parties do need to establish an independent grievance mechanism for 6.4 to ensure that the grievances of women, the local communities and Indigenous Peoples whose rights may be violated resulting in 6.4 activities are addressed in an independent, transparent, equitable and accessible way.
We underline here today: No outcome is better than a bad outcome!

We have yet to see ambition and justice reflected in the climate finance negotiations here. We absolutely need a continuation of the Long-term-finance work program as the USD 100 billion in long-promised climate finance will not be delivered until 2023 --developed countries need to be held to account under the COP for their continued failure to deliver long-promised finance support. At the same time, we expect agreement here in Glasgow on an inclusive and transparent process which includes civil society for a new quantified climate finance goal that addresses quantity and quality of climate finance, must be multiple times the 100 billion target, is based on the needs and priorities of those most affected by climate change in developing countries, and sets firm targets for delivering 50% of scaled-up finance for adaptation and the majority of contributions in grants. The process must also ensure the accessibility of scaled up climate finance for women and their communities, especially from the Global South.

We would like to see as one outcome here in Glasgow an agreement to increase adaptation finance provided significantly from too-low levels. Even calls for doubling in the aggregate adaptation finance support is not enough, but would be a minimum requirement.

We are disappointed with the failure of parties so far to unite behind the need to provide finance for addressing loss and damage that is additional to mitigation and adaptation support, commit designated funding for that purpose and to start a process for setting up a loss and damage facility.

Every single day of delay in providing long promised and needed finance, lives across the world are being devastated with women on the frontlines facing the worst impacts of the COVID and climate crisis, crises that have exacerbated and deepened existing inequalities for women and marginalized communities.

We need scaled-up, adequate and predictable climate finance that is accessible to women and local communities to address loss and damage and adaptation as a matter of urgency and climate justice, and we need delivery right now.

People power, climate justice.

Thank you
NOTES:OLD: Last week has shown that Observer access to consultations is critical to ensure that the Human Rights principles adopted in the Paris Agreement as well as the 1.5°C target are kept alive. Human rights are not an add on to ambition. They drive ambition and effective climate policy and must be strongly safeguarded, across all climate actions - specifically under Article 6. Moreover, all rules established for Article 6 must not undermine the Paris Agreement. No decision remains better than a bad decision.

While we discuss where finance will come from and when it will be delivered, every single day lives across the world are being devastated with women on the frontlines facing the worst impacts of the COVID and climate crisis, crises that have exacerbated and deepened existing inequalities for women and marginalized communities. It’s been 6 years too long, and we need climate finance to address loss and damage, and adaptation right now.

Finally, we as a Constituency reject the global rallying cry to sustain “business as usual” through offsetting loopholes. Private corporations undermine global climate action by marketing false solutions, unproven techno-fixes, risky technologies, negative emissions technologies and offsetting mechanisms. As such, we ask you to note the stark contrast between large delegations from private corporations and shrinking space for civil society at COP26.

To keep people safe, we need immediate large and sustained cuts to carbon emissions. Feminists are rising to tell countries that greenwashing, offsets, carbon markets, and net zero delusions will not cut it. We have real, transformative, gender-just solutions that demand investment, support and replication in communities around the world.

Oceans & Water Resilience:

• Three separate declarations from across society have called for greater support and protection for the ocean. In the first, youth voices advocated for a Global Blue New Deal, recognizing the role the ocean plays in regulating the climate; providing food, oxygen and ecosystem services; and supporting over 250 million livelihoods.

• In the second - the Ocean for Climate Declaration - more than 100 local and international public and private sector actors called on governments and businesses to scale up ocean-based climate solutions and action. They include local communities, UN organizations, NGOs, businesses and scientific institutions.

• In the third, 16 countries have signed the Because the Ocean declaration since it launched on Monday, pledging to tackle shipping emissions, develop clean ocean renewable energy and advocate for stronger public and private support for oceans.
Public and private financial institutions committed nearly $13 million of new investment in the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance, which pioneers finance and insurance products that incentivize investment into nature-based solutions in coastal and marine areas.

The Great Blue Wall initiative, launching next week, will champion an Africa-led 2030 roadmap to conserve and restore marine and coastal biodiversity, while building the resilience of coastal communities and unlocking the development of a regenerative blue economy that benefits at least 70 million people.

The International Water Association, Aguas Andinas and CDP came together to launch a new water sector initiative - 50 to 1 billion - in which the 50 largest water utilities will accelerate work to build resilient water supplies and wastewater services for more than 1.2 billion people by 2030.

A series of new water programmes announced at COP26 will bring water, climate, economic development, human health, ecosystem restoration and poverty reduction under the same roof. Among them, the Resilient Water Accelerator aims to boost water security for 30 climate hotspots by 2030 and the Urban Water Resilience Initiative aims to develop water action plans in 25 African cities.

The Network for Greening the Financial System and CDP came together at COP26 to explore how transparency can shift the global financial system towards a water secure, resilient world and announce the first disclosure mechanism to catalyze this shift.

Latin America and the Caribbean received their first blue bond - with IDB Invest issuing an A$50 million, 10-year fixed rate bond. The proceeds will support projects that expand clean water and sanitation for people in the region.

Prioritize public health and equity

Leaders must show genuine commitment under the UNFCCC framework and not pledges and declarations in a long list of weak promises. We urge you to allow for access and interventions of observers into consultations of the COP26 cover decision. You need to keep your Paris promise and commit to a rights-based approach for all climate action in that decision. It is time to show true and just leadership now.
People power, climate justice.

Thank you