

Thank you Mr President

Honorable Ministers, distinguished delegates, colleagues

My Name is Andrea Quesada from the Women's Environment and Development Organization speaking on behalf of the women and gender constituency

Last week women from around the world gathered here in Doha in hopes of achieving an ambitious outcome and way forward to urgently respond to the climate crisis. We recognize that efforts have been made, but much work is still needed and we are concerned. Women have spoken, marched, and we have called for

- ambition in closing gigatonne gap, closing gaps between words and action, and closing the gender gap.
- enhanced capacity building and innovative actions that lead to diverse representation
- equitable, socially just and environmentally sound mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change;
- transforming to sustainable livelihoods that are equitable, low-risk and low carbon.
- recognition of human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment as central to the success of these negotiations and the ultimate goal of avoiding dangerous climate change

Our voices echo the voices of women and men around the world who are mitigating and adapting to climate change right now. Some of these voices are reflected in the gender sensitive policies that have been agreed in the decisions from Cancun, Durban, and hopefully in this COP. We thank parties for their support to gender equality. Particularly, SBI decision L.36 on enhancing women's participation, which is an important step towards achieving gender equality. These decisions are taking us in the right direction, and we urge Parties to continue on this track and commit to further gender-sensitive policies and propose actions to fully and effectively implement them.

We have a strong and clear path in front us. Now, we need to start moving towards a just and sustainable world in which gender equality is reality.