

**Intervention by Dorah Lebelo, GenderCC
on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency in the opening
session of the AWG-LCA on 'Financing' (01 June 2010)**

Thank you Chair, for giving me the opportunity to address the floor.

My name is Dorah Lebelo from South Africa and I am speaking on behalf of the Women and Gender Constituency as well as many poor women who are disproportionately impacted by the adverse effects of climate change and who are looking forward to just climate solutions.

Firstly, we would like to congratulate Christiana Figueres on her new post as the next Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC. We hope she will bring with her a fresh and gender sensitive approach to the UNFCCC process.

If we want to overcome gender inequalities, we need to have women in climate change decision-making processes. The same applies to the provisions and bodies on financing, such as the potential Finance Board.

Moreover, these bodies should also include aspects of social and gender justice into their guiding principles. Gender justice must be incorporated into the section “Enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment”. It must be ensured that the architecture of funds guarantees just, effective and equitable access to financial resources.

For instance, finance for adaptation must reach the most vulnerable groups, and finance for mitigation must reach women and men who can contribute to low carbon development in their daily lives. To this end, gender sensitive criteria, indicators and evaluation methods including gender budgeting must be applied. This will help to reveal that neither climate change, nor the policies and measures to address it are gender neutral.

Finally, a certain amount of all donor funds related to UNFCCC should be earmarked for activities and projects explicitly addressing women, and designed and implemented by women and gender experts.

Chair, distinguished delegates, climate justice (as well as effective mitigation or adaptation) will not be possible as long as women are not recognized as equal stakeholders and as long as gender equity is not ensured at all levels of policy-making and implementation.

Thank You