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GenderCC Demands for COP23

Decision on a strong Gender Action Plan: Based on the Gender decision of last year's COP22, the first Gender Action Plan under the UNFCCC will be established at this COP23. The Gender Action Plan must be comprehensive in supporting the implementation of existing decisions relating to gender. It should support equal participation and capacity building especially of delegates, parties and national decision makers in order to guarantee a gender-just implementation of these decisions as well as of the actions initiated through the Paris Agreement. A Gender Action Plan can only be implemented if sufficient financial support is dedicated to it. It must also establish a coordination mechanism that allows for joint action and building synergies between UN agencies, national and local governments as well as gender and women non-governmental organisations and grassroots women. Measurable aims and an effective monitoring will support the achievement of these demands and identify gaps.

Raising ambition: We continue to strongly demand that ambitions to cut greenhouse gases emissions must be raised and that measures to achieve these targets must be outlined clearly in order to access a zero emission pathway. In order to take responsibility for their historical emissions, industrial countries must take particular efforts in cutting emissions and providing financial and non-financial support to countries having fewer capacities. The wide failure of states to reach their emission reduction targets until 2020 proves that current efforts are not ambitious enough.

Progress on the Paris work plan and implementation guidelines: COP23 must show particular efforts in mainstreaming the principles of the preamble of the Paris Agreement into all work streams. The implementation guidelines must ensure that human rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity are the base of all climate action by Parties. We also demand that all but in particular industrial countries finally mainstream gender into their NDCs as gender justice is not only relevant for developing countries!

Ensure an inclusive and transparent process: At the intersessionals in Bonn a number of Parties and observer organisations started a discussion on the conflict of interest and demand that companies having an interest in the continuation of fossil fuels should be excluded from the negotiations. Therefore, we call on the establishment of rules for the engagement of non-Party stakeholders that define and differentiate opportunities for engagement on the basis of the nature and interests of non-Party stakeholders. In addition, COP23 must be a space for open dialogue and continue the hands-on spirit of Paris. Discussions on the operationalisation of Article 6 and the future mechanisms must be transparent for observer organisations. This is the pre-condition to allow for an exchange of views and prevent the repetition of shortcomings experienced with the Kyoto mechanisms. These have failed to reduce GHG emissions and have often caused human and women's rights violations. Article 6 and especially the sustainable development mechanism must not follow an offsetting logic but should rather support decentralised, community-led, gender-responsive solutions.