

DRAFT Decision _____

Promoting gender equality by improving the participation of women in UNFCCC negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol¹

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision 36/CP.7 on improving the participation of women in the representation of Parties in bodies established under the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol,

Acknowledging the recent progress made under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol in advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in international climate change policy under the guidance of decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan), and decisions taken at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions,² as well as in various bodies and programmes under the Convention,

Recognizing that women need to be represented in all aspects of the negotiations including membership of their national delegations and the chairing and facilitation of formal and informal negotiating groups, in order to inform gender-responsive climate policy,

Noting that notwithstanding the efforts made by Parties to implement decision 36/CP.7, women continue to be underrepresented in bodies established pursuant to the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,

Considering the importance of ensuring coherence between climate change negotiations and other relevant multilateral processes, namely the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which recognize the importance of women's empowerment and their full participation on equal terms with men in all spheres of society, including participation in decision-making processes and access to power,

Acknowledging the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in particular, the recognition of women's leadership and their vital role in achieving sustainable development and the emphasis on the impact of setting specific targets and implementing temporary measures, as appropriate, for substantially increasing the number of women in leadership positions, with the aim of achieving gender parity,³

Recognizing the advances made by Parties in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women,

¹ The Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol would need to endorse the decision by the Conference of the Parties on the issue as it is relevant to constituted bodies under the Protocol.

² Including, for example, decisions 1/CP.16, 6/CP.16, 7/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 3/CP.17, 4/CP.17, 5/CP.17, 6/CP.17, 12/CP.17 and 13/CP.17.

³ *The Future We Want*, outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, adopted on 21 June 2012 (United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/288, para. 237).

1. *Agrees* that additional efforts need to be made by all Parties to improve the participation of women in bodies established pursuant to the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol as envisaged in decision 36/CP.7;
2. *Decides* to enhance decision 36/CP.7 by adopting a goal of gender balance in bodies established pursuant to the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol in order to improve women's participation and inform more effective climate change policy that addresses the needs of both women and men equally;
3. *Invites* current and future chairs of such bodies to be guided by the goal of gender balance when setting up informal negotiating groups and consultation mechanisms such as contact groups, spin-off groups and panels to ensure that facilitators, chairs and coordinators of such informal groups reflect the goal of gender balance;
4. Also *invites* other institutions established pursuant to the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol to ensure that the goal of gender balance is reflected in their governance;
5. *Invites* Parties to commit to meeting the goal of gender balance inter alia, by nominating women to existing and future bodies established under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, including in the context of all future climate agreements;
6. *Invites* Parties to encourage more women to apply for positions and to give due consideration to nominating female representatives to these bodies;
7. *Invites* Parties to strive for gender balance in their delegations to sessions under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol;
8. *Requests* the secretariat to maintain information on the gender composition of constituted bodies established under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol as well as of informal negotiation bodies, to gather information on the gender composition of delegations to sessions under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol and to forward this to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration on an annual basis, in order to enable the tracking of progress made towards the goal of gender balance and gender-sensitive climate policy;
9. *Decides* to add the issues of gender and climate change to the agenda to COP to consider the annual report request from the secretariat;
10. *Requests* the secretariat to convene, at its nineteenth session, an in-session workshop to initiate an exchange of views on how to advance the goal of gender balance and gender-sensitive climate policy, subject to the availability of available resources.

11. Also *requests* Parties and observer organizations to submit, by 31 September 2013, their views on options and ways to advance the above-mentioned goal.