



## **Declaration of the Forum of Women's and Feminist NGOs preparatory to CSW 68**

Ms. President and authorities of the Board of Directors of Women, we would like to begin by thanking the Regional Director of UN Women, Ms. Maria Noel Vaeza, for her support in organizing the Forum, together with Ms. Ana Guezmez of the Women's Division of ECLAC and Cecilia Alemany, Deputy Regional Director of UN Women, who accompanied us and gave the opening messages.

The Forum was attended by representatives of the diversity of national, sub-regional and regional women's and feminist groups, organizations and networks in the Region. The main theme of CSW 68 was considered: "Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective". The NGO CSW LAC provided a preliminary text that was enriched with the discussion and contributions of about 90 participants that will allow the elaboration of the final document to be presented at the CSW in March 2024.

The countries of our region are facing a deep and long-standing crisis, which is at the same time economic, political, environmental, alimentary, social and humanitarian, aggravated by the Covid 19 pandemic, from which it has not yet been possible to recover post-pandemic.

In our countries there is a setback in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), women and girls in all their diversity continue to live in the most unequal region of the world, subjected to a development model marked by extractivism, monopolistic appropriation and degradation of natural resources, the accumulation of capital, unfair taxes and corruption that is incompatible with the sustainability of life of our people.

In the face of this situation, we consider its essential to move towards an inclusive development model that transforms gender relations and ensures the achievement of equality and fiscal, economic, social, climate and gender justice, as well as ensuring its financial support and consolidating the political will aimed at gender equity and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 agenda.

In this context, we urge governments to:

Change the international financial architecture with the equitable redistribution of resources towards an inclusive framework for democratic and accountable

governance with the participation of feminist and women's organizations and including the countries of the Global South;

Institute a global debt renegotiation mechanism to change the nature of the external debt burden against human rights, the collective rights of indigenous women, the rights of women and girls in all their diversity and sustainable development;

Eliminate the negative effects of the debt burden on women and girls in all their diversity, communities, indigenous peoples, Afro-descendants and other marginalized groups in developing countries and recognize that sovereign debt is part of a neo-colonial framework of relations that continues to develop in countries suffering from poverty and fuels violence;th

Participate in the feminist New Deal for economic justice to reduce the effects of financial crises.

Create a Global Tax Mechanism to the international capital flow in the world and invest the additional resources to gender equality and climate justice with an intersectoral and create an International Court to control it .

Institutionalize the gender perspective in international financial institutions as a mechanism to guarantee investment in equality policies and prevention of all forms of violence against women defenders of individual and collective rights, especially sexual, political, digital, prostitution, human trafficking, femicide, transfemicide, extractivist violence, among others;

Implement inclusive social protection policies for all women in all their diversity, indigenous women, Afro-descendants, migrants, transgender, domestic workers and sex workers, covering additional costs related to disability and offering incentives to remain in their jobs or create them as in the case of women with disabilities and for women in prostitution, based in comprehensive social and labor policies.

Implement effective policies to fight poverty by strengthening inclusive social protection systems to guarantee access to education, health and social security, to reduce labor gaps for women in all their diversity, promoting strategies for labor inclusion and decent work, for example: for women with disabilities and sex workers, from an intergenerational, intersectional and culturally relevant approach. We demand employment policies that include affirmative action measures to reduce labor segmentation (vertical and horizontal), and eradicate the differential impact of hourly underemployment, unemployment and job insecurity;

Request the adoption of concrete measures recognizing migration and the work of migrant women as a motor for social and economic development. Stop massive deportations and arbitrary arrests that affect principally women and their children. Recognize social, economic, cultural and political rights of all people without any discrimination and independently of the migration status

Ratify and consolidate sexual and reproductive rights, as well as access to sexual and reproductive health services, including access to contraceptive methods, legal and safe abortion and comprehensive sexual education in order to eliminate the process of expansion in the Region of conservative, political, religious and libertarian visions from governments and society;

Invest in policies and programs with a gender perspective that ensure the participation of women, youth and girls in all their diversity in policy decision-making, implementation and monitoring of poverty reduction programs, taking into account the multidimensionality and eradication of inequalities.

Include the cost of care policies and programs by eliminating the biases linked to the patriarchal pattern and promote systems, policies and services aimed at care, and promote care systems, policies and services appropriate to the diversity of contexts including services and policies to help women to remain in their works or create them as women with disabilities and women in prostitution, that include the development of infrastructure for access to drinking water, energy sources and food, and that reduce the unpaid work time of women and girls. Implement campaigns to promote the co-responsibility of care between men and women in the family sphere as well as the roles played by the state and the private sector.

Ratify ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and adopt in intercultural dialogue, measures for the implementation of prior consultation, guaranteeing the free and informed participation of women in public policies and systems related to the care of the environment, the environment of people and communities and the care of the poor.

To finalize, we want to recover the words of ECLAC General Secretary : " NOW is the moment for big and bold transformations, Is not the moment for gradual and shy changes. The challenge now is to act with the sense of urgency , raise the level of ambition and scale in policy efforts"

We claim you ratify this in the agreement you are adopting We need to remain the principal region bringing to CSW

