

Regional Preparatory Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Meeting of the member countries of the Platform from Rio de Janeiro to Johannesburg 2002: Latin America and the Caribbean to Rio de Janeiro 2012

Santiago 7 to 10 in September 2011

On behalf of the women's major group

Women are a diverse group in opinion and culture, we represent 50% of humanity, but we agree on the search for equity, equality, and social and environmental justice as these are cornerstones for achieving sustainable development. We share the concerns of other major groups over the use of the term "green economy." It is clear to us that a vision oriented towards sustainable development cannot focus solely on an economic agenda, it must necessarily address social, cultural, environmental and policy agendas that have not been implemented since our last meeting in Rio. We want to form a clear front against dollarization of life, we pledge to make real change that will take us beyond the "green" and other makeup colors to address the real issues that you and we know will change the paradigm of development in our Planet. This agenda needs to rescue what has been agreed and said in many global, sectoral and women's forums in, amongst others, Rio, Barbados, Cairo, Beijing, Monterrey and Manaus: We want to see an analysis of the issues of health and nutrition of women, the role of cultures for a full life. We want to comprehensively and concretely address the rights, roles, needs and vulnerabilities of indigenous and Afro-descendent women.

Specifically we ask for:

- 1.-An evaluation of the implementation of the Rio Principles and Agenda XXI, this time using clear indicators that demonstrate gender differentiation and equity in general. This assessment should be the basis for discussions in Rio ... What has been accomplished?, What has not been accomplished and why? What is the role of financial institutions and private banks? Why has it been so difficult to finance and implement a sustainable development in which women take part?
- 2.- We must ensure access to land and sea and control over natural resources for women. We must ensure education, information and access to environmental justice and embrace basic principles of social security, reproductive health and care for the healthy integration of women in a world in balance with nature, which requires adequate funding.
- 3.- We must value traditional knowledge on the issues of adaptation, mitigation, biodiversity conservation that indigenous women have always been implemented, and promote and strengthen their role as agents of change, promoting the 'buen vivir' of indigenous peoples.
- 4.- We do not want development without equity, not even if it is "green". We support strong policies to ensure sustainable production and consumption. But we say a firm no to a "green economy" that impoverishes, segregates, and hurts the most vulnerable

sectors of the planet.

5 – We ask for more technical and political participation of women in Rio, not as an isolated sector, but integrated and mainstreamed in all the issues to be discussed for the sake of a world that aspires to Sustainable Development.

Our commitment to sustainable development necessarily involves the elimination of all occasions of gender discrimination as we know well that we still face. Without a comprehensive approach to development where our contribution as Latin American and Caribbean women is recognized, valued and positioned in its rightful place, we will not reach the sustainable development to which humanity aspires and which will be discussed in Rio 2012

Women's Group