

**Gender Equality Language in the Cancun Agreements**  
**Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention**  
**Draft decision [-/CP.16]<sup>1</sup>**

*The following is a compilation<sup>2</sup> of gender equality texts retained in the advance version of the Cancun Agreements:*

**Preamble**

*Noting* resolution 10/4 of the United Nations Human Rights Council on ‘Human rights and climate change’, which recognizes that the adverse effects of climate change have a range of direct and indirect implications for the effective enjoyment of human rights and that the effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, **gender**, age, indigenous or minority status and disability;

**I. A shared vision for long-term cooperative action**

7. *Recognizes* the need to engage a broad range of stakeholders at global, regional, national and local levels, be they government, including subnational and local government, private business or civil society, including the youth and persons with disability, and that **gender equality** and the **effective participation of women** and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change;

**II. Enhanced action on Adaptation**

12. *Affirms* that enhanced action on adaptation should be undertaken in accordance with the Convention; follow a country-driven, **gender-sensitive**, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems; and be based on and guided by the best available science, and as appropriate traditional knowledge; with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate;

**III. Enhanced action on Mitigation**

**C. Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries**

72. *Requests* developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plan, to address, inter alia, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, **gender considerations** and the safeguards identified in paragraph 2 of Annex 1 to this decision, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia, indigenous peoples and local communities;

**III. Enhanced action on Mitigation**

**E. Economic and social consequences of response measures**

*Affirming* that responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner, with a view to avoiding adverse impacts on the latter, taking fully into account the legitimate priority needs of developing country Parties for the achievement of sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty, and the **consequences for vulnerable groups, in particular women** and children,

**IV. Finance, technology and capacity-building**

**C. Capacity-building**

130. *Decides* that capacity-building support to developing country Parties should be enhanced with a view to strengthening endogenous capacities at the subnational, national or regional levels, as appropriate, **taking into account gender aspects**, to contribute to the achievement of the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention, through, inter alia:

**Annex IV. Composition and mandate of the Technology Executive Committee**

3. Parties are encouraged to nominate senior experts with a view to achieving, within the membership of the Technology Executive Committee, an appropriate balance of technical, legal, policy, social development and financial expertise relevant to the development and transfer of technology for adaptation and mitigation, taking into account the **need to achieve gender balance in accordance with decision 36/CP.7**;

<sup>1</sup> Advance unedited version of Cancun Agreements, from 11 December 2010, Cancun, Mexico

<sup>2</sup> Compilation of direct quotes from text, courtesy of WEDO on behalf of the GGCA; bold and highlighting of text by WEDO. For more information, please contact [Sandra@wedo.org](mailto:Sandra@wedo.org) or [Rachel@wedo.org](mailto:Rachel@wedo.org).