

I am Tetet Lauron, from the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM), and speaking on behalf of the Women's Major Group.

We thank you for this opportunity to present our views on the current draft. We thank you too, for wearing the blue scarf from the WMG that speaks of WhatWomenWant in the Post 2015: peace and security.

We believe this draft represents a substantial improvement over the previous versions particularly in regard the recognition of gender equality as a cross-cutting concern. We have a long list, but we'd like to stress on some of our key priorities:

(a) The Preamble and Declaration should be viewed as a political document and not as a communications piece. We recommend a strong declaration with a strong focus on gender and human rights as cross-cutting in all areas.

(b) Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) and the Right to Development are key principles that underpin the Agenda and references to these should be retained as in Paragraphs 11,13,14.

(c) Paragraph 28 of the previous draft had the ONLY reference to 'redistribution' and this has been deleted in the current version. We wish to see this back.

(d) Target 15.2 on forests – the Women's Major Group does not support the revisions proposed and instead we propose that you stick to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi targets which timeline is set to 2020.

(e) Paragraph 31 - climate change is a development issue. The Agenda must include a focus on climate change to address the urgency needed and match the ambition by calling to hold global temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels; and to recognize the restoration & protection of ecosystems in Paragraph 10

To conclude, we encourage the co-facilitators to keep the level of ambition high. Keep it up! We need the political will to deliver on a truly transformative agenda and remain committed to gender equality.