

Intervention of Women Major Group in the Regional Discussions: UN ECE region UN ESCAP region

Diversity difference and the importance of Asia and the Pacific in the global context lead us to consider the ways in which we could make the green growth a reality. The RIM report and the Fiji statement indicated the importance of gender in energy development. Green growth without jeopardising the environment, ensuring gender equity is a key issue to be taken into consideration. The reason is that in many countries, equity remains on the periphery of natural resource management. This includes energy resource management as well. Similarly women energy needs for cooking energy remains in the periphery of the energy paradigm. In many areas in developing countries cultural barriers limit the opportunities for women to play equal roles in energy resource management. Lack of resource ownership is a constraint for women in many communities to undertake the challenging task related to energy development and extend their partnership for the future. Under the same circumstances access to modern energy has become a practical difficulty for women. Economic opportunities enabling women to make use of modern energy is central to the achievement of development goals. Sustainable management of energy resources is central to the proposed green growth movement in Asia and the Pacific. Green growth for energy enterprise could be taken as an example from this region. There are two reasons:

- 1) In the majority of countries in Asia, women manage the biomass energy resources as customary users of land.
- 2) The same group needs to be considered as a social capital for sustainable production and consumption and to make green growth a reality.

Gender integrated strategic planning by individual nations considering women as equal and equally responsible citizens is essential to meet the sustainable development goals and for realising the MGDs in Asia and the Pacific.