

Women's Major Group Statement: 13th May 2011

Moving Towards Sustainable Development: Expectations from Rio+20

Thank you Mr Chair,

In the development of the 10YFP the Women Major Group on behalf of the Major Groups will want to offer the following:

- a) Incorporate a gender perspective in SCP projects and policies
- b) Address differing women's SCP needs and priorities in the North and South
- c) Analyse obstacles to, and opportunities for, scaling up SCP initiatives to benefit women especially grassroots women,
- d) Provide education for girls, vocational and technological training for women, and adult literacy programmes, as part of every intervention
- e) Acknowledge and incorporate women's traditional knowledge and their contribution to green economies.

We urge the UN system and member states to create mechanism to enhance coherence between the CSD and the Commission on the Status of Women.

Sustainable development needs all actors to be fully engaged, including major groups especially women. However, existing funding mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism and GEF have often focussed on inefficient large-scale projects and are not easily accessible for women and community-run projects, due to the bureaucracy and high upfront investments. We urge governments and financial institutions to engage with women's organisations to design financial mechanisms that are directly accessible by communities and households.

Thank you for the opportunity.