

INTERVENTION WOMEN's MAJOR GROUP at UNEP 12th GC/GMEF

Thank you chair for giving the floor to the Major Group Women.
We have followed the discussion with great interest

No sustainable development is possible **without equal rights for women**.

Today, we would like to focus on the rush for resources.

We see the rush for agro-fuels, for mining products, uranium, and rare metals, often negatively affects those who are already marginalized and living in poverty, - in majority women and children

Resource extraction **often** goes hand in hand with destruction of habitats and also violence against women.

Furthermore, **environmental policies** and climate change mitigation and adaptation measures which were put in place during the last years, have mostly not **reached them nor protected them**, or have negative side effects.

We have been concerned about trends to discuss the Green Economy in a way that is simplified according to existing **inequitable economic** models and is **failing to address a framework of rights**, the link to **MDGs, poverty** eradication, in short without addressing sustainable development.

One important step to **mend these shortcomings** and prevent the threat of increased injustice is the establishment of strong and **binding safeguards and rights** for women, local communities and indigenous peoples. This should be assured, for any outcomes of Rio – be it Sustainable Development Goal strategy or Green Economy road map.

Thank you chair