



AP Women Constituency intervention on Progress in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 17 on Means of Implementation

Presented by Shaila Shahid/ International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)

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Means of Implementation

Greetings! I am Shaila Shahid from International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Bangladesh, today, representing the Women Constituency of APRCEM.

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development came at a time when our world was facing multiple and interconnected crisis of worsening inequalities, increasing climate threats, food and energy price, rising insecurity, attacks on participatory democracy and growing fundamentalisms. Finance, fair and equitable trade, technology, capacities, partnerships and data are among the primary tools for achieving global partnership, gender equality and all other dimensions of sustainable development. They define whether or not services are provided to reduce women's burden of unpaid care and improve their access to decent work. If we look deeply into the key financing strategies that have been prioritised and promoted, we see it fundamentally is in contradiction with the commitments with even a risk to jeopardise any progress feminist and women's rights movements have been able to achieve to date.

It is therefore necessary to strengthen, and promote and invest in effective, meaningful and transparent public policy that integrates a human rights and gender perspective and support the mainstreaming of people aspects in financing, budgeting and taxation. Public private partnerships and other forms of corporate engagement have so far failed to address implementation, legitimacy and participation gaps in sustainable development policy making and can compromise objective public governance. We are wary of a "socialization of costs and privatization of profits". Evidently, we find it reprehensible that trade rules are so lopsided the corporations can now sue governments under the Investor State Dispute Settlement Mechanism! We call for Human Rights Impact Assessments and SDG Compatibility Impact Assessments of trade and investment agreements in the region.

On the technology aspects, we call for the re-energising of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and to fulfil its mandate equally from a gendered dimension. SDGs MOI recognized the roles of civil societies as representatives of the peoples and downward accountability. However, accountability can only happen when data are made available and public. When peoples' and CSOs can demand answers and transparency on state policies, budget allocation, on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Without means that match the ends in ambition, the SDGs goals will be 'aspirational' not in the best sense -of something that will inspire all people to act to bring it about, but in the worst sense -a distant, remote, with no visible path. Member states must collectively rise to this challenge: they must affirm the means to achieve these ends, and so prove themselves serious about a global partnership for development in the interests of all the world's people.

Therefore, We demand State Parties to:

- Invest, as a priority, in the formulation, generation and analysis of sex- and gender-disaggregated data, including commitment to collection and reporting on deliberate action to mainstream a gender perspective in the Voluntary National Reviews.
- Empower women to decolonize local governments to value women's traditional roles free of foreign economic pressure and prejudice.
- Support the development of a legally binding treaty on the responsibilities of transnational corporations, including in the field of environmental human rights.