



High-Level Political Forum 2019

Voluntary National Review Session: Africa

**Intervention delivered by Kim Windvogel, FEMMEPROJECTS NPC, on
17th July 2019**

We note that achieving the SDG's is a challenging task. However time is not on our side and the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in South Africa requires a new sense of urgency. How will South Africa demonstrate the urgent implementation of the SDG's by 2030 considering that those who drafted the NDP lacks equitable gender analysis related to SDG 5.

In your statement you mentioned that SOUTH Africa is propoor, but I come from a province that penalizes people who are homeless, by fining them enormous amounts for sleeping on the street.

You mentioned collaboration in your statement, but we express our concern that there was not an inclusive process to consult civil society when preparing the VNR. The SDGs cannot be achieved in South Africa without mobilizing the considerable energies of communities, the youth that make up 60% of our country, various social movements and civil society, this relates to SDG 17 ensuring that no one is left behind through creating enabling environments for transparent and collaborative partnerships.

In the spirit of leaving no one behind how do we reconcile the women empowerment mentioned in your statement when only 7% of Healthcare facilities provide abortions on demand when it is supposed to be a right under the choice on termination of pregnancy act for all South Africans.

We call the government's attention to the 2018 recommendations of the UN Committee for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Committee called on the government to:

- Review fiscal policy, to better mobilize domestic resources and increase its redistributive effect
- Increase levels of funding in the areas of social security, health, quality education
- The Committee also called for the decriminalisation of sex work, the protection of sex workers
- from all forms of harrassment and violence. Which directly relates to SDG 8, decent work, which is enshrined in the constitution of the country that mentions that each person has the right to their own occupation and to be free from all forms of discrimination.

How does the government plan to address these recommendations in a way that is both constitutionally gender responsive, inclusive of the youth of South Africa and sustainable for all?