

Dear distinguished Co Chairs and colleagues,

My name is Grace Mbugua from Women's Empowerment Link in Kenya and I am speaking on behalf of the Women's Major Group.

I would like to present a brief summary of the main points raised in the Women Major Group. We will submit in writing the full version of our statement.

We recognize and fully support the statements by Sweden, United States, Norway, Japan, Panama, Benin, Nigeria, New Zealand, DRC, , Samoa, Pacific Irelands& Fiji, Canada, Spain, Togo, Cook Island, UK, Burundi, Costa Rica, Federal Republic of Germany, European Union, that have emphasized their commitment in upholding gender equality and women's empowerment in post 2015 DRR framework.

Summary point

Firstly, the document should ***promote gender equality*** through a ***stand-alone guiding principle*** and appear in the Sendai declaration as this is fundamental for Disaster Risk reduction efforts

Secondly, the post 2015 DRR framework must ***recognize the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment and specifically we emphasis the leadership roles of women*** in disaster risk reduction at all levels - in communities, governance and institutions.

Thirdly, to support women's leadership, there is a need to ***institutionalize gender-responsive training and capacity-building*** at all levels to remove barriers from women's participation in DRR.

Fourthly, to comprehensively understand disaster risk, we must engage in ***gender analysis*** that requires the ***ethical collection and use of gender-specific, disaggregated data***.

Fifth, to address underlying risk factors, it is absolutely inherent that we must use a ***human rights-based approach*** in all phases of disaster risk reduction, development, and enhancing resiliency.

Sixth, we must ensure ***diverse and active participation in DRR*** decision-making, programming implementation, evaluation, monitoring and financing processes

Lastly, ***investing equitably*** in 'human resources', so that women and their communities are active in the DRR processes by which we should address environmental and ecosystem resilience.

Thank you! We look forward to adequate consideration of these valuable input by the women major group