

WOMEN & GENDER CONSTITUENCY

Submission from the Women and Gender Constituency on the format and scope of the in-session technical workshop to be held at SB62 (June 2025) to facilitate the design of gender action plan activities

Submission Request: *Invites Parties and observers to submit via the submission portal by 31 March 2025 views on the format and scope of the in-session technical workshop referred to in paragraph 14 above. Also requests the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to organize, with the support of the secretariat, a technical workshop, to be held at the sixty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, to facilitate the design of gender action plan activities, taking into account, inter alia, the progress, challenges, gaps and priorities identified by Parties and observers during the review referred to in paragraph 13 above and the information presented in the synthesis report referred to in paragraph 1 above, with a view to informing the development of the new gender action plan referred to in paragraph 13 above;*

Mandate: UNFCCC/COP29/2024/ para. 15

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A. Introduction

The world is in a state of crisis. Each year, we witness record-breaking extremes—scorching heat waves, devastating floods, prolonged droughts, and escalating conflicts—all compounded by widening social and economic inequalities. The year 2024, marked by an unprecedented election super-cycle across more than 70 countries, has profoundly reshaped global geopolitics. The rise of conservative, anti-rights and climate-denial governments has accelerated a rollback on fundamental human rights, particularly gender equality and environmental justice.

Against this backdrop, the Gender Action Plan (GAP) to be adopted at COP30 must serve as a bulwark against these regressive forces. It must not only safeguard the rights already won but also

push forward transformative, rights-based solutions in the face of the climate emergency. Now, more than ever, a strong and intersectional GAP is essential to ensuring that climate action upholds gender justice, centers the leadership of frontline communities, and resists the growing influence of anti-rights actors seeking to undermine progress.

This submission therefore aims to provide the Women and Gender Constituency¹ (WGC) views and concrete recommendations on the content, format, and scope of the in-session technical workshop to be held at the sixty-second session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SB62), to facilitate the design of Gender Action Plan activities, taking into account, inter alia, progress, challenges, gaps, and priorities. It is structured in four sections: first outlining what the GAP must deliver; then detailing eleven critical elements with specific activity recommendations; followed by proposed workshop formats; and concluding with final recommendations.

B. What the GAP must deliver

The WGC believes that the overarching goal of this GAP must be contributing to dismantling the existing patriarchal structures, including the fossil fuel patriarchy, and the profit-driven model of capitalist globalization, which fuels inequalities through its polluting, growth-imperative logic. Recognizing that this inhibits gender-just climate action that is effective, efficient, and centers on those most impacted and most often forgotten, the GAP should champion awareness at global, national, sub-national and local levels about the differentiated impacts of the climate crisis on persons of different genders. This includes the often overlooked intersections of climate change and gender-based violence and climate change, health and sexual and reproductive health rights, peace and security, pollution, and biodiversity loss.

The GAP should protect, promote, and advance the rights of women, girls, and gender-diverse people, while actively involving men and boys in dismantling patriarchal structures and ideals of masculinities that promote domination and unchecked consumption, such as petro-masculinities, and promote values of care, cooperation, and justice in climate action. Moreover, it must outline concrete activities to ensure gender equality is not considered a siloed issue within UNFCCC and beyond but an integral part of climate action at all levels, leading to climate policies that reduce vulnerabilities, remove barriers, and genuinely improve the lives of those most impacted.

C. Critical Elements for the GAP

An ambitious GAP must go beyond a set of one-off activities, functioning as an implementable framework that guides and champions gender-transformative climate action. Below, the WGC outlines eleven critical elements it believes are essential to achieve this systemic change, alongside key activity recommendations. The previous GAP was organized around five priority areas:

¹ The [Women and Gender Constituency](#) is one of the nine stakeholder constituencies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), representing 64 members that formally engage within this process.

- A) Capacity-building, knowledge management and communication;
- B) Gender balance, participation and women's leadership;
- C) Coherence;
- D) Gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation; and
- E) Monitoring and reporting.

The eleven critical elements proposed below ought to fit under these 5 priority areas, ensuring continuity while addressing challenges and implementation gaps.

1. Strengthen and increase participation and leadership of women, girls and gender-diverse people in climate action.

At its core, an ambitious GAP must guarantee meaningful and effective participation of women, girls, and gender-diverse people in climate decision-making, with particular attention to the inclusion of intersecting identities that might enhance participation. Enhancing participation alone, however, is insufficient. A fundamental structural shift is necessary to deliver agreed targets that ensure women and traditionally marginalized groups have decisive voices in shaping climate policies, rather than mere token representation. This requires concrete action to dismantle structural barriers to equal participation, including harmful social norms and unequal capacity-building opportunities, as well as action that leads to an enabling environment. In this sense, an ambitious and fit-for-purpose GAP must explicitly recognize gender-based violence as a critical barrier to participation in climate processes and establish concrete strategies to address and prevent it. As advocates engage in national, regional, or global processes, robust protection mechanisms must be established for those most at risk, particularly women environmental human rights defenders (WEHRDs) and Indigenous women, who face threats and violence for their climate activism. The renewed GAP must promote their voices, agency, and leadership in environmental and climate decision-making at all levels, while firmly upholding their rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Continue strengthening Activities B.1, B.2, and B.3 as part of the GAP, with a particular focus on B.3 and extending this to consider WEHRDs. For B.2, consider implementing a minimum quota for women's and gender-diverse people's participation within their delegations.
- Request the secretariat to define a protocol to facilitate the full and effective participation of people with care responsibilities in UNFCCC meetings.
- Consider that meetings on the Subsidiary Bodies are hosted by different countries on a rotating basis to increase access, particularly in consideration of the prohibitive visa restrictions that prevent activists from visiting Global North countries such as Germany. In

parallel, emphasize the integration of a hybrid component to guarantee access of observers and others who cannot attend in person due to financial and logistical constraints.

2. Center and outline specific actions for Party-level implementation at national and sub-national levels.

Any future GAP must provide support to and outline national level actions, in ways that are detailed, specific, and connected to existing processes and resources. Thus, the next GAP should support the integration and implementation of gender considerations in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This could be achieved, in part, through a stronger provision of UNFCCC guidance on the NDC design, implementation, and monitoring as related to gender. The design, implementation, and monitoring functions could be supported through the integration of an intersectional gender perspective and clear gender equality objectives and targets, including through gender machineries, gender negotiators, and/or National Gender & Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs). Gender considerations must be a part of the coordination and development mechanisms of all national-level climate policy, including NDCs as well as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and other policy instruments. Additionally, to ensure that these policy instruments are relevant and practical, the GAP should encourage structured engagement with civil society organizations. Governments should create mechanisms to integrate civil society and women's rights organizations input into national climate planning, ensuring that policies are informed by those most affected by the climate crisis and by organizations with expertise in gender-responsive climate action. Another important avenue from the previous GAP for this work is to continue supporting NGCCFPs towards greater institutionalization of their roles, as well as anchoring their capacity, as their continued integration could encourage them to lead on party-level action.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Strengthen Activity A.1 by inviting Parties to encourage civil society engagement, requesting governments to get input from civil society organizations to ensure the relevance and practicality of national climate change policies, plans, strategies, and actions.
- Likewise, under the same activity, encourage Parties to integrate gender-responsive and intersectional approaches in their national climate policies and instruments, namely Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), for example specifically requesting Parties to ensure this integration, and holding exchanges on best practices.
- Strengthening of Activity A.2 on the role of National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs), mentioning their inlinking roles within ministries and their role within their delegations.

3. Enhance the use, production, and collection of gender-disaggregated data to measure the effective implementation of gender-transformative climate action and the GAP, including through indicators.

Gender-disaggregated data is fundamental for measuring progress within the GAP, as robust generation and strategic use of gender-climate data to visualize the complex intersections between gender issues and climate change causes, impacts, and responses. This evidence base is essential for transformative and targeted policymaking. To transcend its predecessor's limitations, this GAP should establish rigorous monitoring and accountability through clearly defined indicators, robust learning mechanisms, and an effective reporting framework that balances thoroughness with practicality, recognizing the capacity and budgetary constraints faced by Global South governments. This structural approach must be reinforced by dedicated resources for developing centralized monitoring platforms or dashboards and strengthening initiatives at regional and global levels, like the Global Conference on Gender and Environment Data to ensure consistent progress tracking, meaningful transparency, and genuine accountability. As the first nine-year GAP with a structured five-year review cycle, this extended timeline creates an unprecedented opportunity for strategic execution, comprehensive assessment, and evidence-based course correction in areas showing insufficient progress. Furthermore, the GAP must deliberately align with and feed into critical UNFCCC processes, specifically providing gender-responsive data for the next Global Stocktake and enhancing biennial reporting requirements to systematically capture gender dimensions of climate action, ensuring gender considerations are mainstreamed throughout the Convention's accountability mechanisms.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Strengthen Activity D.7 by reframing the activity to read “Enhance the availability of gender-disaggregated data for intersectional gender analysis, taking into consideration multidimensional factors to better inform gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate”.
 - In order to collect, analyze and apply gender-differentiated data, the WGC suggests to develop and implement specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) targets and indicators across all priority areas, including both collective metrics and those disaggregated by Parties or constituted bodies to accurately track fulfillment of obligations and pinpoint implementation challenges.
 - Strengthen monitoring and reporting through key reporting mechanisms under the UNFCCC, notably the biennial transparency reports (BTRs) and National Communications.
- 4. Strengthen greater understanding of and action on intersectionality and diversity and its mainstreaming in climate action.**

It is essential to refine our collective understanding of intersectionality and diversity to ensure that all groups in marginalized positions are meaningfully included in climate policy discussions and decisions, leading to its mainstreaming in climate action. An ambitious iteration of the GAP should thoroughly assess and report on the impacts, needs, and experiences of people with intersecting identities such as, but not limited to, race, disability, ethnicity, class, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, sexual expression and characteristics, education, and Indigeneity. This has been lacking from previous iterations, as well as the inclusion of their specific expertise and integration of existing mandates and recommendations across UN bodies, particularly among the UNFCCC, the UN General Assembly, and the Human Rights Commission. This would allow Parties to better understand diverse needs and priorities of different groups in communities and design relevant activities responding to their unique needs.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Adding a deliverable under Activity A.4 that invites Parties to document their progress, impacts, and main challenges in applying intersectionality within climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as well as exchange information on best practices, with the aim that the Secretariat produces a report that informs the remainder of the GAP cycle.
- Adding an activity under Priority Area C that requests the Secretariat to organize a workshop to facilitate the exchange of views and best practices on how to incorporate gender-responsive and intersectional approaches to National Adaptation Plans as mandated by decision 2/CMA.5 on the Global goal on adaptation.

5. Protect and promote human rights and rights-based approaches in climate action implementation.

The protection and promotion of human rights within the GAP is critical to ensuring it delivers on ambitious commitments that can advance substantive gender equality. Firstly, as stipulated above, this iteration of the GAP must not, under any circumstances, backtrack on already agreed human rights language. Secondly, it should go beyond already agreed language to integrate rights-based activities, actions, and indicators addressing additional human and rights-based approaches, including gender-based discrimination and violences. Thirdly, human rights are legally binding obligations that must underpin all responses to the climate emergency to ensure they do not replicate or worsen inequalities or abuses but contribute to advancing well-being and justice.

As a cross-cutting issue, the protection and enhancement of human rights is demonstrated throughout several of the proposed activities in this submission.

6. Recognize and address interlinkages between sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender-based violence and climate change.

Climate change disproportionately threatens the health and wellbeing of women, girls, and gender-diverse people, with distinct impacts on their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). An ambitious and fit for purpose GAP must explicitly recognize climate change as a health crisis with gendered dimensions, including increased maternal mortality, pregnancy complications, disrupted access to menstrual hygiene management, and diminished access to essential reproductive health services during climate disasters. The GAP must also acknowledge the alarming escalation of gender-based violence (GBV) during and after extreme weather events, resource scarcity, and displacement, as well as increase in child marriage, sexual violence and sex trafficking, where existing protection mechanisms often collapse precisely when they are most needed. It must recognize the interlinkages between the climate crisis and violence against women, girls, and gender-diverse people, including and specifying the protection of WEHRDs, many of whom are Indigenous People. To address climate-induced GBV and child marriage, engaging men and boys in challenging harmful masculinities and promoting non-violence is essential. A gender-transformative, whole of society approach is key.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Under activity A.1, recommend Parties to include climate-related health and in particular SRHR and gender-based violence considerations in their NAPs and NDCs, with guidance provided by the Secretariat and relevant UN partners, such as UNFPA.²
- Add an activity that requests the Secretariat to facilitate a technical/expert dialogue on Addressing Climate Impacts on SRHR, GBV and Harmful Practices for Parties and observers, leveraging the expertise of relevant UN partners particularly UNFPA, under Priority Area A1.
- As per the Convention on Biological Diversity's Gender Plan of Action, integrate an activity that invites Parties to seek to develop and deploy data, tools and strategies to understand and address GBV and climate linkages, including with a focus on the protection of WEHRD, to support climate policy and programming development and implementation.³

7. Advance a gender-just transition through key provisions in the GAP.

The transition to low-carbon economies is imperative but risks exacerbating gender inequality when climate and just transition policies don't center diverse needs. A just and equitable transition requires systemic change, ensuring meaningful participation in decision-making, particularly for women, girls and gender-diverse people, youth, trade and labor unions, Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendants, people with disabilities, migrants and displaced people, and local communities. It

² UNFPA (2023), [Taking Stock: Sexual and Reproductive and Health and Rights in Climate Commitments: A Global Review](#).

³ Convention on Biological Diversity, Gender Plan of Action. Expected Outcome 1.5: "Develop and deploy data, tools and strategies to understand and address gender based violence and climate linkages, including with a focus on the protection of women environmental human rights defenders, to support climate policy and programming development and implementation."

must uphold social justice, feminist alternative economies centered on care, collective human and labour rights, poverty eradication, and decent work. Women, who are overrepresented in informal sectors and both paid and unpaid care sectors, are less likely to have access to social security and formal just transition protections for workers. A gender-just transition requires policies and financing that recognize and address gendered work differences, tackle structural inequality by providing education and employment opportunities in emerging economies, redistribute care responsibilities, and ensure women's full and meaningful participation in climate decision-making. This transition, particularly in the Global South, demands gender-responsive budgeting, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) frameworks, and disaggregated data. Success depends on addressing barriers to women's and gender-diverse people participation in all sectors, including tailored interventions for domestic and agricultural contexts, implementing capacity-building programs, adopting inclusive leadership models, and embedding gender analysis and impact assessments throughout planning and implementation.

As just transition is not addressed in the current GAP, the WGC proposes the following new activities:

- Add an activity that convenes workshops with Parties, academics, INGOs (including, in particular, the ILO), labor unions and civil society to share best practice on integrating gender into national just transition policies, including the next iteration of NDCs. These could be convened at the global level initially and then at the national level, ensuring to draw on the expertise of civil society and communities, who must be recognized as experts and practitioners in their own right. Work with the ILO to leverage these workshops to share guidance and best practices on gender, equality and inclusion for a just transition.
- Add an activity that holds a workshop and produces subsequent guidelines on gender-just public services and social protection for a just transition, in partnership with the ILO and avoiding duplication of work.

8. Systematically integrate care into climate action.

Care work is essential for the functioning of our communities, the wellbeing of our planet and underpins all other productive economies. The vast majority of paid and unpaid care workers are women and girls whose work and resources are directly impacted by climate change and disaster. Climate-resilient care infrastructure, robust care policies, and social protection measures can support caregivers, and contribute to sustainable fuel, food and agricultural practices, improved air quality and water sources. A gender-transformative GAP would support care for people and the planet and do so by strengthening care systems, recognizing the role of care work and the care economy in shaping climate resilience, integrating these considerations into UNFCCC processes, decision-making, and climate action. Care work is integral to all economies and climate policies, including for a gender-just transition. The WGC has consistently highlighted that current systems commodify, profit from, exploit, invisibilize, and marginalize life-sustaining care work.⁴ We have

⁴ WGC (2024), [WGC submission on Ensuring support for people-centric and equitable just transition pathways with a focus on the whole-of-society approach and the workforce](#).

furthermore advocated that care work must not act as the unpaid, undervalued, and ignored scaffolding that allows present and future economies to operate. By recognizing and centering care within the GAP, it creates language that can be integrated into other work programs, recognizes care policies as supportive of climate ambition, broadens conceptualisations of workers to include many who are historically left out of such definitions, and drives climate action that is cognizant of the lived realities of communities, women in all their diversity, and gender-diverse people all around the world and in particular those at the frontlines of the climate emergency.

Since care is currently not found through the current GAP, the WGC proposes new activities that could lead to its integration:

- In order to build the capacity of NGCCFPs, add an activity that organizes an expert-led webinar on mainstreaming care work considerations in national and international climate policies (including expertise from civil society), led by relevant organizations.
- Add an activity that develops guidelines for national governments for incorporating care into climate policies, and climate into care policies, including NDCs, NAPs, and just transition policies, led by relevant INGOs.
- Add an activity that indicates to the Secretariat to host a webinar on how to mainstream care within the different UNFCCC workstreams.

9. Promote coherence across negotiation streams, thematic areas, and UNFCCC processes.

In terms of enhancing coherence, a well-designed GAP would also strengthen links between gender equality and other crucial dimensions of climate action. It would acknowledge the connections between gender and other thematic areas, from biodiversity and health, to education, energy, and economic resilience. By drawing from scientific research, such as findings from the [IPCC](#), the GAP could further bridge the gap between gender-responsive policies and evidence-based climate strategies. This GAP must recognize the triple planetary crisis interlinkages to address the mutually reinforcing climate, biodiversity loss, and pollution crises, which were lost in the negotiations on the LWPG. An effective GAP is a coherent GAP, not only across the Rio Conventions but also with other processes, such as the Ramsar Convention, Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna Conventions, and the [UNGA resolution 68/182 on the protection of women human rights defenders](#) and [UNGA resolution 40/11 on the contribution of EHRD to the enjoyment of human rights, environmental protection and sustainable development](#), Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), as well as the UNSCR 2242 from the normative Women Peace and Security framework, which maps out new avenues for WPS work and incorporates climate change into the agenda, while building flexibility and adaptability for the future as circumstances change. Its activities must be designed to support progress on already established but so far neglected interlinkages, such as health and gender, including sexual and reproductive health and rights;

gender-based violence; care; environmental education, women, peace and security⁵, and the role of human rights defenders, within the context of climate change.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Add an activity that facilitates events convening gender leads across the three Rio conventions, to foster synergies, learn from different processes and drive coherence across them.
- Strengthen Activity C.3 by supporting synergies beyond the SDGs towards human rights bodies. For example, inviting Parties and the secretariat to take into account the recommendations of the special rapporteur on environment and human rights, and ensuring coherence with the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

10. Unlock finance for gender just climate action.

The next GAP cannot be operationalized without being resourced, and the GAP itself should mandate activities to understand and explore innovative ways in which resources can be continually provided, mobilized and channelled toward gender-transformative climate action.

The operationalization of the GAP should be funded through a dedicated budget, allocated as part of the core budget of the Secretariat, to ensure the lead, responsible actors have the capacity to drive forward activities. The Secretariat's Gender Team must be fully funded to host various workshops, facilitate capacity-strengthening, and communicate clearly and effectively about opportunities for advancing gender-responsive climate finance and action. Parties must have access to funding to strengthen their capacity and enact policy to implement gender-responsive climate action. Other institutional actors with funding should be clear about how their funding can be accessed to support capacity-strengthening, planning, policymaking, and programming in alignment with the GAP activities.

The GAP must have activities that aim to strengthen the relationship, communication, and collaboration among NGCCFPs, national gender machineries, other relevant actors supporting gender-responsive climate action, and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism-GEF, the GCF, Fund for responding to Loss and Damage –and the Adaptation Fund, including the SCCF and the LCDF. These are the funds that under the UNFCCC that are supposed to triple their outflows as specified in the New Collective Quantified Goal para. 16, providing funding that is more concessional and grant-based, flowing to LDCs, SIDS, and African states, and the entirety of the

⁵ The triple nexus of gender, climate and security is now well-established, and needs to be addressed in the GAP. Climate change exacerbates resource scarcity and insecurity, which disproportionately affects women and marginalised groups, particularly in fragile and conflict affected states. The WPS agenda provides a useful framework to advance climate action and push for women's meaningful participation in climate negotiations and policy-making.

current and future flows should be fully gender-responsive. Climate finance readiness must integrate the Parties' commitment to gender-responsive climate action throughout readiness activities, in particular for country planning and institutional capacity strengthening, including implementation of NDCs, NAPs, NAPAs, and other climate plans, including for addressing loss and damage. GAP activities should also enhance linkages between these multilateral climate funds' gender policies, programming guidelines and approaches, and monitoring and evaluation activities and those of the GAP.

The GAP must advance solid approaches to monitor and hold accountable the delivery of gender responsive climate finance under various UNFCCC climate finance mechanisms and bilateral funding from developed to developing countries to women, girls, gender-diverse people and other structurally marginalized groups in the Global South. The primacy of public funding provided through various public channels to ensure human-rights based gender responsive action must be maintained, and this has limitations to what extent private finance can support and align with gender-responsive climate action. Its mandate should cover both public and private finance, including assessing ex-ante and ex-post, especially given the rising influence and push to leverage private finance. Many countries, especially in the Global South, still lack strong mechanisms to ensure that private sector finance or investment can be effectively regulated to ensure that gender equality is upheld.

The WGC considers that the following activities can be organized and strengthened to advance the above mentioned element:

- Requests the Secretariat to host a workshop to strengthen capacity-building on gender budgeting, including the integration of gender-responsive budgeting of climate finance at national level to advance gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action, as appropriate capacity-building on resource mobilization and accessing climate funds (practical actions like strengthening proposal writing skills, collaboration between ministries of gender and others and the Nat. Designated Authorities, to develop pipelines of project proposals for say GCF, AF etc).
- Host a workshop for Nationally Designated Authorities of countries to learn about gender-responsive climate finance and its modalities, share best practices on how to meaningfully engage civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities in climate finance planning and programming, and how to access funding for gender-responsive climate finance planning, policymaking, and programming.
- Convene a technical expert group on reimagining decolonized funding and finance access modalities with Parties and observers, including representatives from the GCF, Adaptation Fund, Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, the SCF, the Women and Gender Constituency, and a variety of implementing entities such as UNDP and national implementing entities to strengthen collaboration, to enhance access to climate finance for grassroots organizations and Indigenous Peoples and local communities. This group's work

will explore linking existing parallel financing modalities, such as regional and national women's funds to partner in implementing gender-responsive climate action.

11. Advance gender-responsive and just technology development and transfer.

The new iteration of the GAP should focus on supporting governments and various stakeholders on designing, developing, and deploying technology that is just and gender-responsive. While often treated as a neutral and standalone matter, technology is a gendered and colonial issue. Local and Indigenous knowledge and resources continue to be extracted, commodified, and sold back to communities without consent, recognition, or compensation. Biopiracy not only restricts the use and availability of these resources by its own custodians, particularly women, but perpetuates inequality, infringes on local sovereignty, and disempowers communities. Gender-responsive technology must not only prevent harm such as displacement and exploitation, but actively bridge gender divides and reap transformative benefits. Across the Global South, women and gender-diverse people remain largely absent from technological innovation, positioned instead as passive consumers or, worse, as victims of technology facilitated gender based violence (TFGBV). This exclusion is structural, rooted in patriarchal systems that dictate who designs, owns, and benefits from technological advancements. The next GAP must address and stop these exploitative practices, promote gender-transformative approaches, and ensure gender-responsive accessibility, user-friendliness, affordability, sustainability, and effectiveness of technology. The GAP should serve as a transformative tool to promote community sovereignty, respect, recognition, and compensation of Indigenous and local knowledge and resources as well as position women, girls, and gender-diverse people as active agents in technology from design to deployment rather than subjects.

We also urge the GAP to recognize the growing threat of gendered disinformation and its intersection with artificial intelligence (AI) and the climate crisis. Climate denialism, anti-gender rhetoric, and digital manipulation are increasingly interlinked, driven by powerful actors seeking to undermine science, stall climate action, and attack feminist and environmental human rights defenders. AI tools are being weaponized to spread climate mis/disinformation and to target women and gender-diverse individuals – especially those at the forefront of climate justice movements – with coordinated online harassment, deepfakes, and reputational attacks. This not only limits public participation but exacerbates existing power imbalances in environmental decision-making spaces.

The WGC believes Activity D.3 should be maintained and enhanced, and in order to advance this agenda, recommends the inclusion of the following activities:

- Ensure meaningful participation of local, grassroots, and marginalized communities including women, girls, and gender diverse people in all stages of climate technology development and transfer.

- Encourage Parties to participate actively and collaborate with the Technology Mechanism to develop gender-responsive frameworks and gender mainstreaming guidelines for the development and transfer of climate technology.
- Promote the inclusion of women and girls in all their diversity, and local communities in the national processes of climate innovation.
- Explicitly include actions to promote information integrity, education, and support strong, independent, media ecosystems, particularly in regions where civic space is shrinking.
- Host capacity strengthening sessions on digital safety, investment in gender-transformative AI governance, and clear mechanisms for combating coordinated disinformation campaigns.

D. Workshops

The WGC recommends at least two in-person workshops. Overall objectives of the workshops would be to create the foundations that will allow for a successful adoption of a new GAP at COP30 that is transformative, progressive and robust. The following section details the proposed content, scope and format for the workshop at SB62 and a pre-COP30 workshop, as per the roadmap indicated in the latest gender decision from COP29.

1. Workshop at SB62 (June 2025)

The mandated workshop at SB62 should be future-oriented, towards the discussion and definition of activities that will guide the actual negotiations to be undertaken at SB62 and COP30. It should give clarity and strive to build consensus from a technical standpoint, enhancing understanding and finding common ground even before the start of the negotiations.

Similarly to SB60's [in-session workshop on progress, challenges, gaps and priorities in implementing the GAP](#), this workshop should provide key documents in advance, including a detailed agenda and any preparatory materials starter pack (e.g. previous GAPs, reading materials), to enhance accessibility and encourage proactive participation from Parties. The workshop should be directed towards National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points and gender negotiators, but it should also make intentional space for observers to guarantee civil society's participation and inputs. It should be held within a conducive setting, to avoid replicating the acoustic issues that occurred during the previous GAP workshop, as well as be considerate of scheduling clashes with the other negotiation streams (such as ACE, which frequently has the same negotiators as gender).

First component: As we've seen in the last negotiations, there are several areas that have caused a continued rift between Parties, including: language, national implementation and finance. To lessen the dissenting gaps in these areas, and in preparation for this workshop, the Secretariat should send out a survey on what thematic areas would Parties be interested in for a teach-in. The purpose of these teach-ins are not to align delegates with an idea but rather to provide clarity to what each of these components mean in their specific context, to attempt to close knowledge gaps

and unpack concepts to move forward in conversations. Each teach-in should be co-facilitated by representatives from different regional/political groups to model collaborative understanding and balanced perspectives. This could include inviting gender experts from other UN bodies to help explain how this language has been incorporated into these other processes, including but not limited to, other UNFCCC Constituted Bodies and Secretariat, CBD, IUCN, GEF, GCF, Adaptation Fund, OHCHR, UN Women, UNFPA, as well as UN independent experts and Special Rapporteurs. A structured documentation process should capture relevant consensus definitions and frameworks, compiling them into a shared language document that can serve as a reference during subsequent negotiations. These teach-ins could discuss terminology, concepts and expected outcomes. One of these teach-ins should occur right after this initial presentation.

Second component: The second component of the workshop should provide some brief context setting and reflections on the past negotiations and last GAP workshops. It should begin by agreeing and reaffirming the overall objective and vision of the GAP, as well as establishing clear outcomes guided by the Subsidiary Body of Implementation's recommendations. This should include a concrete timeline with specific benchmarks and deliverables for the entire process from SB62 to COP30, clearly indicating what constitutes sufficient progress at each stage. It should, above all, seek to set a tone of camaraderie and trust between all involved, both Parties and observers, and should be clear about game rules/common agreements, including guidelines for listening to dissenting opinions, moving forward to not stall negotiations, addressing inflection points, and finding middle ground (and seeking meditation when that doesn't seem possible).

Afterwards, the Secretariat can provide a brief presentation, focusing on the road from Baku (COP29) to Belém (COP30). In this presentation, the Secretariat should also link the previous GAP to the new work program, clarifying the interlinkages, gaps and new areas brought forth by this decision. Based on the previous report, the Secretariat should also highlight the activities that have been undertaken successfully, and which activities have not been delivered to give parties a sense of where the gaps in the implementation and potentially a sense of what kind of activities can be implemented successfully. The Secretariat should also present the summary of the reported Parties' activities that were undertaken but that were not part of the GAP. The Secretariat should highlight these activities to allow parties to find suitable home/reporting anchors in the new iteration of the GAP. It should also reflect on the previous gender workshop, particularly using the inputs from Annex II of the 2024 gender workshop synthesis report by the secretariat - [FCCC/SBI/2024/11](#)).

Third component: The third component of the workshop should be breakout sessions, consisting of five sessions across the five Priority Areas, with a pair of facilitators (Party and no-Party) for each. Each Priority Area should also have a pre-assigned reviewer tasked with identifying potential implementation challenges and cross-cutting issues. The first question for each group should be around the delimitations of the Priority Area itself, requesting minimal adjustments, if any, for the sake of covering as much ground as possible. The second question, and where the focus should be, will center the activities, asking:

- Which activity needs to be reworked?
- Which activity would be worth keeping for this new version of the GAP?
- Which activity should be removed, and why?
- What new activities should be added?
- How could the impact of these activities be measured?

A scoring matrix should be provided to consider implementation feasibility, measurability, potential and resource consideration.

Fourth component: This then should be followed by a writing workshop with the same groups from the previous day, and with each group taking different activities and exercises to do actual write ups on activities per priority area. A standardized reporting template should be used to capture activities description and outputs across different Priority Areas, as well as to avoid having inconsistent write-ups of activities across groups. Groups should be supported to deliver the level of detail required for effective implementation, particularly by making activities specific, measurable and with clear accountability elements.

Fifth component: The room opens to a world café type structure, allowing delegates and observers to listen, reflect and input on outcomes of each Priority Area group work, guided by group co-facilitators. Each station should include a structured stress testing component where proposed activities are evaluated against different regional/national contexts to identify potential implementation barriers before they reach formal negotiations (e.g. feasibility, measurability, potential for growth). This will be a space to also review and provide constructive feedback on each other's work. This cross-pollination ensures coherence across the GAP while building mutual accountability, and allows all delegates to feel included in the process. The day should end with all delegates coming back together for a presentation by a designated rapporteur to present the work done by Parties in each of the groups.

At the end of the in-session workshop, Parties should have their first informal, and in this informal Parties should give mandate to the Secretariat to use the workshop inputs and other written inputs from Parties and observers to develop a first draft of the GAP, ideally before the end of the SB62. This way Parties have enough time to familiarize with the proposed activities and constructively engage in consultations with different groups ahead of COP30.

2. Additional Workshop (before COP30)

It is crucial Parties meet between SBs and COP30. This workshop should be a critical bridge between SB62 workshop and negotiations and COP30 negotiations. This second in-person workshop should focus on trust-building, bringing negotiators and observers together in a neutral environment suitable for nurturing and building a strong bond between gender negotiators and advocates, critically needed for negotiations to be successful. Ideally this workshop should have

two hosts from different negotiating groups to create a collaborative, constructive, and trusting environment.

First component: The workshop should begin by inviting Parties to set a shared vision and sets of workshop principles separating delegates from their country flags and positions. Parties should commit to collaborate, learn, exchange, and listen. A vision exercise should help and guide participants to articulate their gender climate justice aspirations beyond official positions. The Secretariat should present a brief review of progress since the SB62 workshop.

Second component: This component will seek to address key contentious topics that emerged during SB62 negotiations through a teach-in. Technical experts (drawn from both Parties and observer organizations) will lead 45-minute sessions on topics such as gender-responsive finance mechanisms, indicators, terminology, and party-level action. Participants will rotate through at least two teach-ins of their choice, with each session concluding with a brief Q&A. The final hour will transition to an exercise where facilitators present anonymized summaries of core disagreements from SB62, and participants work in mixed groups to propose at least three potential compromise solutions for each point of contention.

Third component: After the session there should be an energizer or icebreaker activity, such as a whisper activity to foster active and intentional listening. This session will begin with five inspirational speakers, spanning local leaders, implementers of gender just and transformative climate action. They will address the questions:

- What are you facing in the region?
- How can the GAP best cater to the needs of the communities that you represent?
- What would an ideal GAP look like for you?

This should be followed by a structured Q&A focusing on regional challenges, GAP applications, and transformative visions.

Fourth component: Begin with a detailed technical review of the SB62 draft text (provided the text is made available), presented by the Secretariat with visual highlighting of sections requiring further refinement. Participants will then engage in a collaborative writing workshop, divided in groups by Priority Areas. Each group will be provided with the specific text sections from each Priority Area and from SB62 needing revision, along with compiled Party submissions and observer inputs related to that section. Using a structured editing protocol, groups will develop consensus language for problematic paragraphs, with facilitators tracking revisions in real-time on shared screens. Groups must provide written rationales for substantive changes, ensuring transparency in the editing process.

Fifth component (Second half of Day 2): This final technical component will have a session focused on text integration where designated rapporteurs from each Priority Area present their revised texts to the plenary. After each presentation, participants will use a digital polling system

(could be created in Mentimeter, Typeform, or a Google Form) to indicate sections where they: fully support the text, can live with the text with minor reservations, or have substantial concerns requiring further discussion. For sections with substantial concerns, a writing laboratory approach will be used where participants with differing views work directly with drafting experts to craft compromise language on the spot. The workshop will conclude with a comprehensive review of the integrated text, identifying remaining gaps for COP30 negotiations and developing a specific roadmap for resolving pending issues prior to Belém, including potentially scheduling targeted virtual technical sessions on narrowly defined topics.

The outcomes from this workshop should include: a substantially refined GAP text with significantly fewer disagreements, technical briefing documents addressing commonly misunderstood concepts, a clear inventory of remaining disagreements with proposed pathways to resolution, and a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie between negotiators that can facilitate informal problem-solving at COP30.

3. Virtual Workshops

We also propose two virtual teach-in workshops to address remaining knowledge gaps identified during the SB62 session and the aforementioned survey, done in collaboration with civil society. The first teach-in, should focus on one of the remaining subjects that wasn't addressed during SB62 (e.g. finance, intersectionality, national-level action). Each topic would be presented by subject matter experts with practical implementation experience, allowing participants to build technical competency in areas critical for effective GAP implementation. The second virtual teach-in, should address remaining areas of divergence that emerged during in-person workshops, with facilitated discussions aimed at building shared understanding.

E. Concluding Recommendations

To be effective, the GAP must go beyond aspirations and be grounded in real implementation at national and local levels. It should not be merely a guiding document or plan to be implemented by the UNFCCC Secretariat alone, parties need to lead implementation with clear indicators and identified means of implementation and reporting structures that make commitments measurable and enforceable.

Beyond ensuring representation, protection, and financing, the ideal GAP would remain relevant and ambitious over time. It should continue to drive progress even a decade from now. For this to happen, it must be designed as a living instrument, capable of evolving with shifting global challenges while remaining firmly anchored in principles of justice, inclusivity and accountability. A successful GAP would not treat gender as a side issue but would embed it as a fundamental pillar of climate action. It would be bold, binding and deeply transformative, moving the global climate agenda closer to one that is not only more just but also more effective in addressing the interconnected crises of our time.

Above all, we want to reiterate the critical nature of observers. The alarming trend of closing civic space directly undermines the inclusivity and participatory nature that are foundational to legitimate climate governance and multilateral processes. We appreciate and commend the intentional integration of civil society on behalf of certain Parties, and emphasize the continuous integration throughout the next year to develop an ambitious GAP. Without robust civil society involvement, we risk adopting solutions that fail to address the lived realities of frontline communities and compromise our collective ability to achieve gender-transformative climate action.

About the Women and Gender Constituency: *The Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) is one of the nine stakeholder constituencies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Established in 2009, the WGC now consists of 64 members (women's and environmental civil society organizations accredited to the UNFCCC framework), and an advocacy listserv with more than 1,000 advocates. The Constituency works to ensure that human rights and gender equality are firmly anchored in all climate actions under the UNFCCC and to challenge the extractive, exploitative and patriarchal economic model which has resulted in the climate crisis.*