



RIO+20

United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development, Gender and SHRH and the Rio+20 negotiations

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WECF | Women in Europe for a Common Future
Women International for a Common Future | **WICF**

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Summary

- Introduction
- Main expected outcomes of Rio+20
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Gender Equality, SHRH and Rio+20
- Gender prioriteiten
- Last 2 months of negotiations

Update: Rio+20

- More than 100 Heads of State expected
 - of which 6 women Heads of State
 - in total 50.000 participants
- 2 weeks negotiations April 23 – May 4 NY, USA
- 3rd PrepCom 13-15 June, Rio, Brazil
- 3,5 days of Brazilian Dialogue Days (non UN) alternative declaration, 16 – 19 June
- Rio+20 Summit 20 – 22 June
- Alternative “People’s Summit” 19 – 23 June

More a Development, Less an Environment Summit

Rio+20 agenda:

- “A **Green Economy** in the context of sustainable development and **poverty eradication**”
- “Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development”

Heads of State Rio+20 draft Declaration

- **Governance of Sustainable Development**
 - UNEP strengthened
 - Extended Ecosoc or Council for SD
 - How link to General Assembly
- **Implementation/Green Economy**
 - «Roadmaps» Green Economy
 - Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs
 - “Voluntary compendium of commitments”

Heads of State Rio+20 draft Declaration

- **6000 pages compilation document**
- **Zero draft 20 pages**
- **After First Reading March: 200 pages**
 - **US: 5-10 pages, in simplistic language, proposing deleting majority of para's, focus on voluntary compendium**
- **Brazil: wants alternative voluntary but ambitious declaration from “Dialogue Days”**

Main Themes of Draft Declaration

- Chapter 1 and 2: **preamble and reaffirming**
- Chapter 3: **Green Economy** (Sustainable or Ecological Economy – G77 opposes GE)
- Chapter 4: **Governance**
 - Right to Information, Participation, Justice
 - High Commissioner Future Generations
- Chapter 5: **Themes and implementation**
 - Food, Energy, Water, Forests, Chemicals
 - **Gender Equality** and Women empowerment
 - ...Decent Jobs, Cities, Education, Finance, Trade, SDGs **Health & Population?**

Results of First Reading March '12

- **Human Rights deleted**
 - USA: delete “equity”
 - EU and CAN: delete human right to (water &) sanitation
 - G77 deleted some references

Results of First Reading March '12

Gender Equality and SRHR

- **Delete „Gender” equality - Holy See**
- So far no support countries – gender equality and women’s empowerment strong
- **Women rights to land tenure – deleted by G77**
- **G77: move all references to women and gender equality into 1 section, at the end**
- **SRHR: deleted Holy See, (US), reformulate G77**

Results of First Reading March '12

Population

- EU, Japan: measures to reduce population pressure
- Women: fear simplistic old fashioned measures, not based on women rights and Cairo/Beijing agreements
- Proposal: Reference to Population pressure only when reaffirming Cairo and Beijing
- G77, USA, Holy See deleted some references to Cairo, Beijing

Sustainable Development Goals - 1

- Universal goals – valid for all
- Therefore, NOT mainly financed from ODA
- In addition to / replacing post 2015 MDGs
- Way for other ministries to co-shape Post 2015 development agenda
- Giving a new place to emerging economies
- New term proposed “middle income countries”

Sustainable Development Goals - 2

- Proposed by Colombia/Guatemala
- Focus on thematic areas Sustainable Development: Sustainable Energy, Water & Sanitation, Oceans, Sustainable Consumption...
- Ban Kee Moon high level panel added social; Decent Jobs, Social Protection
- No mention of Gender Equality or SRHR as stand alone goal, only cross-cutting (as poverty)
- WECF, UN Women, Brazil, Swiss: side event March 2012

Sustainable Development Goals - 3

- Para's 105 – 110

Proposed alternative structure G77:

1. **Vision** on Sustainable Development Goals
2. **Principles** that should guide Sustainable Development Goals
3. **Process**
 - 3.1 Has to be Intergovernmental
 - 3.2 Has to be inclusive, transparent and open-ended
 - 3.3 Has to be under the UN General Assembly

Switzerland, RoK, New Zealand:

- 1 para on characteristics
- 1 para on process
- 1 para on **potential issues**, areas and themes (107)
- 1 para on **measurement** of progress (109)

Sustainable Development Goals - 4

Concern:

- Letter by 21 independent human rights experts: why would SDGs succeed where MDGs thus far failed?
- Should be grounded in human rights – currently not
 - Example India: right to employment, food, participation, information...
- Accountability mechanism needed: e.g. peer reviewed UPRs

Justification:

- Should be universal, acceptable for all, agreed on in Rio June 2012
- e.g. USA, Canada – don't commit to “entitlements”

Other priorities women's group

Women and Poverty eradication:

- **Social Protection Floor**
 - E.g. Bolsa Familia Brazil, 90% beneficiaries women
- **Finance**
 - E.g. women and microfinance
- **Trade**
- **Technology**

Thank You