



## **Message to Participants of the 17th COP UNFCCC Durban 2011.**

**From Indigenous Women from Africa with Representatives of (Cameroon, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Senegal, Mali, Rwanda, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Sudan) – Nairobi – Kenya 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

While the world feels the impact of climate change, Women and especially Indigenous and rural women are impacted more than anyone. In Africa women face double work load due to challenges that come with climate change causing them take longer to access basic facilities they require for their daily needs for them and their families. Indigenous women from Africa believe that the only way to tackle some of the critical challenges of climate change is to mainstream Climate Change in all development programmes at all levels. The Indigenous and rural Women should be involved in the decision making processes and in planning, implementation and formulation of development programmes and policies with regard to Climate change.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **1. CAPACITY BUILDING AND PARTICIPATION**

- Indigenous Women should be given equal opportunity to be in the decision making board/body
- Involve women and community members in policy formulation
- Need for more awareness raising to local people of what climate change is all about
- Climate change education should be integrated in school syllabus/curriculum
- Effective and wider dissemination of information on CC at the grassroots level
- Capacity building activities with regard to environmental issues and adaptation mechanisms should be carried out at the local and national levels for the benefit Indigenous women who suffer from the effects of climate change.

#### **2. FINANCE**

- Need to have more information on the Green Climate Fund from National Focal Point on how to access and engaging the Indigenous and rural women and local communities.
- Facilitate access to Green Fund for Indigenous women with a view to help protect themselves from the effects of climate change Green Climate Fund and ensure that other finances should be available and distributed to local level organizations and communities

#### **4. FOREST**

- There is great deforestation that has affected the environment; this has also affected indigenous women due to their dependence on environment. We urge government to provide seedlings for reforestation-support for traditional forest management
- The government should incorporate traditional knowledge on forest management and make it part of the environmental policies
- Governments engaging in the REDD programmes/FCPF should share benefits equitably with the indigenous peoples

- Setting up of research centers focusing on indigenous trees and involve Indigenous women, youth local communities at all levels

## **5. ADAPTATION**

- Facilitate direct access of indigenous women to adaptation funds and technology for Climate change
- Governments should facilitate sharing of best practice regarding coping and adaptation practices amongst communities and IP
- Facilitate the development of appropriate adaptation technologies for IW particularly in agriculture
- Need to introduce alternative livelihoods for indigenous women to help them cope with climatic change

## **6. TECHNOLOGY AND ITS TRANSFER**

- Governments and donors should support capacity building for indigenous women on new technologies and empower Women on the use of alternative fuel e.g. biogas, solar
- Recognize importance of traditional knowledge and its integration with new technology in indigenous communities



# **Indigenous Information Network**

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