

## **Comments from Women as a Major Group on the Chair's Draft**

From the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (IPM)  
Before the 15<sup>th</sup> Session on the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)

**2 March 2007**

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Women as a Major Group would like to thank the Chair for preparing this draft negotiating document and are pleased to see included significant points regarding indoor air pollution and involving women in climate change decision making. In our intervention, Women as a Major Group associate itself with South Africa, Nigeria and Switzerland.

In keeping with the objective of distinguished representatives and Major Groups participation in this meeting, we would like the Chair's draft to reflect concrete policy options and actions to mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies, programs and decision making processes on expanding access to energy for sustainable development. Moreover, we would also like to see emphasized, the need to integrate a gender approach to energy access into plans for implementing the MDGs and national poverty reduction strategies.

Mr Chair, particular tools for mainstreaming gender issues that require greater emphasis in the draft should include:

- investments in capacity building and enterprise development for women,
- innovative financing measures that enhance women's access to credit,
- and the use of gender budgets, audits and gender disaggregated data to inform national energy and development policy and implementation strategies.

Finally, Mr Chair the interventions made by major groups this week articulate in their richness the concrete policy actions we refer to and we invite the Chair and the bureau to reflect on the key issues raised.

Thank you.