

Open Letter to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon
12 March 2010

His Excellency Secretary General Ban Ki-moon,

We, the signatories of this letter, write to you to express our disappointment in your recent nomination of an all-male High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing. This appointment made during CSW-54, which also marks the fifteenth anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, is of great concern to gender equality advocates everywhere.

On Monday, 8 March 2010, women and men around the world celebrated advancements towards securing women's rights and gender equality on International Women's Day. Unfortunately, while activism, advocacy, research, policies, budgets and programmes have contributed to progress in gender equality, there is much work yet to do. Women still make up the poorest of the poor, have unequal access to land, loans, education and resources, and are underrepresented in decision-making bodies. The appointment of nineteen men to the new High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing proves this point.

While we applaud your initiative in establishing such an esteemed group of advisors to address climate change finance – surely one of the most critical issues of our time, we are deeply concerned that the panel neglects to include even a single woman. The panel is representative of North and South, industrialized and developing, public and private; but it is not representative of women and men.

This year, tremendous strides have been made in increasing women's participation – both on national delegations to negotiating meetings, as well as among civil society groups engaged in the issue of climate change – and gender equality text was integrated into UNFCCC negotiating documents for the first time. Women and men feel the impacts of climate change differently, and women and men both have capacities, expertise and roles to play in responding to the threats of climate change effectively and efficiently. Moreover, climate change is a threat to sustainable development, to which gender equality and equity is a well-known prerequisite.

You have highlighted the importance of women's participation at all levels of climate change decision-making throughout your tenure as Secretary-General. We urge you now to match your actions to your words by appointing qualified women to the High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing now.

The undersigned organizations respectfully and urgently request your appointment of an equitable representation of women and men on your crucial High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing.

Organizations listed alphabetically

1	ABANTU for Development	Ghana
2	ActionAid International	Global
3	Africa Women's Development and Communication Network	Africa
4	AMIHAN, National Federation of Peasant Women	Philippines
5	AnneofCarversvill.com	U.S.
6	Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development	Thailand
7	Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women	Malaysia
8	Association Catholique Internationale de Services pour la Jeunesse Feminine	France
9	Association National AL HIDN	Morocco
10	Association of War Affected Women	Sri Lanka
11	Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.	Australia
12	Australian NGO Delegation of WILPF Australia	Australia
13	Australian Women in Agriculture	Australia
14	Australian Women's Intra Network	Australia
15	Austria Network for Women in Development Europe	Austria
16	BDI Associates	New Zealand
17	BPW Australia	Australia
18	Bread for the World	Global
19	Canadian Federation of University Women	Canada
20	CARE International	Global
21	Center for Gender, Culture and Development, Kigali Institute of Education	Rwanda
22	Center for International Environmental Law	Global
23	Center for Women's Global Leadership	Global
24	Center of Concern	U.S.
25	CHE NL Center for Human Emergence	Netherlands
26	Church World Service	Global
27	Codepink Long Island	U.S.
28	Collectif Sénégalais des Africaines pour la Promotion de l'Éducation Relative à l'Environnement	Senegal
29	Consortium of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations	Russia
30	Coordination Office of the Austrian Episcopal Conference on International Development and Mission	Austria
31	Development Alternatives	India
32	Development Initiatives for a New Era	Global
33	Development of Biotechnology & Environmental Conservation Centre	Bangladesh
34	DKA Austria	Austria
35	Dominican Leadership Conference	U.S.
36	Enterprising and Professional Women New York	U.S.
37	E-quality	Netherlands

38	Equality Now	U.S.
39	European Women's Lobby	Brussels and Belgium
40	Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America	U.S. and Canada
41	Feminist Peace Network	U.S.
42	Feminist Task Force of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty	Global
43	femLINKPACIFIC	Fiji
44	Fijian Association of Women Graduates	Fiji
45	Finn Church Aid	Finland
46	FOKUS-Forum for Women and Development	Norway
47	Friends of the Earth	U.S.
48	Friends of the Earth Australia	Australia
49	Gender and Disaster Network	Global
50	Gender and Environment, Zed Books	London
51	Gender CC - Women for Climate Justice	Germany
52	Girls' Power Initiative	Nigeria
53	Global Sisterhood	U.S.
54	Gray Panthers	U.S.
55	Green Economics Institute	U.K.
56	Green Women	Sweden
57	Grupo de Informacion en Reproduccion Elegida	Mexico
58	Instituto de Comunicação Solidaria	Brazil
59	Instituto de Investigaciones Económicas de la UNAM	Mexico
60	International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences	Global
61	International Alliance of Women	Global
62	International Council of Jewish Women	Global
63	International Federation of Business and Professional Women	Global
64	International Forum on Rural Transport and Development	Global
65	International Network of Liberal Women	Global
66	International Peace Research Association	Global
67	International Planned Parenthood Federation	Global
68	International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation	Global
69	International Women's Anthropology Conference	Global
70	International Women's Tribune Center	Global
71	Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange	Global
72	K.U.L.U. Women and Development, Denmark	Denmark
73	Klimafairbessem!	Austria
74	Kukindiho Rwanda - Orphans Support Project	Rwanda
75	Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre	Nigeria
76	Lang Michener LLP	Canada
77	League of Women Voters	U.S.
78	LIFE - Equality Environment Education	Germany

79	Lipan Apache Women Defense Indigenous People's Organization	Texas-Mexico Border
80	MADRE	Global
81	Mahila Dakshata Samiti	India
82	Maryknoll's Office for Global Concerns	U.S.
83	Migrant in Diaspora Development Platform the Netherlands	Netherlands
84	Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa	Ghana
85	Ñaa te Kuni	Mexico
86	National Alliance of Women	India
87	Network for Women's Rights	Ghana
88	NGO Sustainability	U.S.
89	OkogunOdigie Safewomb International foundation	Nigeria
90	One Voice Alliance of Women	U.S.
91	Oxfam International	Global
92	Passionists International	Global
93	Pathfinder International	Global
94	People and Development	Nepal
95	Population Action International	Global
96	Prevention and Controlled Program	Bangladesh
97	RACA Institute	Indonesia
98	Refugees International	Global
99	Réseau Malien des Femmes Elues pour la Démocratie Participative	Mali
100	Resource Conflict Institute	Kenya
101	Resource Management Foundation	Bangladesh
102	Rwanda Association of University Women	Rwanda
103	Sahajeevan	India
104	Secretariat for International Landcare, Inc.	Australia
105	Security4Women Incorporated	Australia
106	Society for International Development	Rome
107	Soroptimist International	Global
108	South Asian Women's Watch	South Asia
109	Sudanese Women General Union	Sudan
110	Sustainability & Climate Research Center of Erasmus University	The Netherlands
111	Swiss Alliance of Development Organizations	Switzerland
112	Tearfund	England
113	Temple of Understanding	U.S.
114	Teresa Valdes	Chile
115	The African European Women's Movement in the Netherlands "Sophiedela"	Netherlands
116	The Grail	Global
117	The Human Orientation Movement for Environment and Climate Change Network	Nigeria
118	Tiye International	Netherlands

119	Toronto Women's City Alliance	Canada
120	U.S. Women Connect	U.S.
121	Uganda Community Based Association for Child Welfare	Uganda
122	U-lansforeningen Svalerne (Swallows in Denmark)	Denmark
123	UNANIMA International	Global
124	United Methodist Women	U.S.
125	United States Climate Action Network	U.S.
126	United Students for Fair Trade	U.S.
127	Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund	Global
128	Widows for Peace through Democracy	U.S.
129	WIRE-Women's Information	Australia
130	Women and Child Watch Initiatives	Nigeria
131	Women Dutch Gender Platform	Netherlands
132	Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and NRM	Global
133	Women's 2020 Leadership Caucus	U.S.
134	Women's Climate Initiative	U.S.
135	Women's Environment and Development Organization	Global
136	Women's Environmental Network	England
137	Women's Federation for World Peace International	Global
138	Women's Health in the North	Australia
139	Women's Intercultural Network	U.S.
140	Women's Interest, Women's Work, Equal Citizenship	Netherlands
141	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom	Global
142	Women's International Zionist Organization	Austria
143	Women's Resource and Advocacy Centre	India
144	Women's Resource Center	United Kingdom
145	Women's Web - Women's Stories, Women's Actions	Australia
146	World Ambassadors of Hope Foundations	Sweden
147	World Christian Life Community	Global
148	World Federation for Mental Health	Global
149	World YWCA	Global
150	Worldwide Organization for Women	Global
151	Zambia Media Women Association	Zambia
152	Zenab for Women in Development	Sudan
153	Zonta International	Global